

The Welfare of Corn Farmer in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia

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Abstract: *In the current economic development, corn has a strategic role for the national economy, the second largest contributor of maize after rice in the food crop subsector. The purpose of this study is to assess the welfare of maize farmers in Bulukumba Regency. This research was conducted in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. The time of this research is for 6 (six) months starting from May to October 2016. The population is all farmers in Bulukumba Regency and the sample will be used in this research as much as 50 farmers of respondents. The results of this study indicate that corn farmers in Bulukumba Regency have varied land area, the farmers have experience of farming, then the level of education of the average farmer is still low and the age of the farmer can be said to be still productive. Household expenditure of corn farmers include consumption of rice and side dishes, consumption of beverages and cigarettes, and non-food consumption. Farmers Exchange Rate (FER) is in the market > 100 so it can be said prosperous. The purchasing power of farmers is more to buy transportation tools & water machine as well as non-food expenditure. And last net income of farmers mostly > Rp. 10,000,000.*

Keywords: Welfare; corn; farmer.

1. Introduction

The welfare of the people (peasants) is directed to reach 5 (five) main objectives: 1. poverty reduction and unemployment with economic development strategy that encourages the growth of quality and dimension of equity through the creation of a healthy business environment, 2. decrease in gap between regions with priority on rural development, 3. Increasing the quality of human beings as reflected in the fulfillment of the social issues of the people (education, health, religious life), 4. improving the quality of the environment and management of natural resources with the principle of sustainable development 5. Increased infrastructure support [8].

Social welfare according to Law Number 11 Year 2009 on Social Welfare is the condition of the fulfillment of the material, spiritual, and social needs of citizens in order to live properly and able to develop themselves, so as to carry out its social functions. Welfare can be seen from the distribution of income, accessible education, health quality is increasing and evenly distributed. Equity income is related to employment, business opportunities and conditions, and other economic factors. Employment opportunities and opportunities are needed so that people can turn the wheels of the economy that ultimately can increase the amount of income they receive.

In the current economic development, corn has a strategic role for the national economy, the second largest contributor of maize after rice in the food crop subsector. The contribution of maize to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) continues to increase every year, even in times of economic crisis. This condition indicates the role of corn in spurring growth of food crops subsector and national economy in general [12].

Corn plant is very useful for human life in Indonesia itself, corn is a second food commodity which is very important after the rice plant, even now there are still some small areas that use corn as their staple food everyday [4].

The national demand for maize is estimated to reach 22 million tons, it gives a big enough profit for farmers in Indonesia. It is not surprising that the condition makes corn cultivation business opportunity still profitable, and now it becomes one of the main livelihood for most of Indonesia's population [4].

Increased demand for corn by the corn, corn, and corn derived industries (corn corn industry) has caused domestic demand for corn to increase [10], [15]. The rate of increase in demand for maize is greater than the domestic corn production growth rate, as a result the domestic price of corn continues to increase from year to year [9] Domestic corn production has not been able to meet the needs, so it is still needed. National corn production is projected to grow 4.63% per year. By 2015, corn production is expected to reach 17.93 million tons [13]. Now the position of corn commodity is increasingly complex and strategic, because besides as a buffer of food security, it is also an import substitution commodity that can save foreign exchange [11].

The average per capita consumption of maize for the year 2011 - 2015, ie for consumption of wet corn in 2015 of 1.098 kg / year and for consumption of corn pipelines / rice in 2015 of 0.871 kg / year. While corn flour and corn oil in 2015 does not exist. This indicates that corn commodity as food consumption after rice [1].

Data on the import of food crops, especially maize, is about the Import Duty of Commodities of Food Crops Year 2010 - 2014, that the import of corn commodity as much as 19,008,000 tons and for export 3,348,000 tons. And the

average growth of the year 2010 - 2014 for imports by 0.69% and exports of 1.95% [1].

Related to consumption data and import data of food crops, especially corn commodity, the data of corn commodity imports decreased with fluctuating. This is a potential development of corn commodities in Indonesia, especially supported by the abundant natural resources potential.

Therefore, it can be known that corn production in Indonesia in 2016 [3] is found in 5 provinces as a producer of maize above 1 million tons. The five provinces are: East Java Province produces corn as much as 6.131.163 tons, Central Java Province produces corn as much as 3,212,391 tons, South Sulawesi Province produces corn as much as 1,528,414 tons, Lampung Province produces corn as much as 1,502,800 tons, and the last province of North Sumatra produces corn as much as 1,519,407 tons.

Based on the data of corn commodities nationally, it is necessary to know maize commodity by district, which shows that there are five regencies of maize producer, Bulukumba Regency, Bantaeng Regency, Jeneponto Regency, Gowa Regency and Bone Regency [3]. Of the five districts, Bulukumba Regency (as a producer of corn other than for animal feed also for consumption such as marning corn products) both have potential for corn commodity development.

There are 5 regencies in South Sulawesi Province which have the most production such as Bulukumba Regency, Bantaeng Regency, Jeneponto Regency, Gowa Regency and Bone Regency [3]. This indicates a fluctuating increase in maize production for each of these districts. Related to that matter, South Sulawesi Province has potential in developing corn production.

This research is to know the welfare of corn farmers in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia.

2. Material and Methods

This research is quantitative descriptive research. The population is all farmers in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi, Indonesia. The sample that will be used in this research is 50 farmers of respondents.

Data collection through library research and field research using data collection method in research that is by interview, observation, questionnaire and documentation.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Characteristics of Farmers in Kabupaten Bulukumba

Farmers of respondents are the main actors in the activities of farming, especially in doing corn farming. Some aspects that can support the activities of corn farming for farmers of respondents, including: land area, experience of farming, age level, education level, and productive family.

a) Land area

Land Area of Bulukumba Regency shows that the largest land use is the area of 0.07 - 1 ha of 29 farmers respondents or reaches 58.00%, then the land area 1 - 2 ha of 19 farmers

respondents or reaches 38.00% and widespread land > 2 ha as much as 2 farmers respondents or reach 4.00%. This shows that farmers in Bulukumba Regency have varied land area.

Results of PATANAS (National Farmers' Panel) 2010 conducted by the Center for Socio-Economic and Agriculture, during the period 2007 to 2010 show that this country has decreased, especially in Java, while villages outside Java experience the opposite of a sharp increase in ownership. This indicates that the National Farmers Panel for 3 (three) years, indicates that in that period there has been a fluctuation of land ownership. While the changes are not so prominent, but also tunakisma (unconditional) in rural areas tend to continue to grow. This, of course, has implications for changing socio-economic conditions for the rural community concerned, similar to changing the status of the land tenure community. This paper is part of a research focusing on PATANAS 2010 based on rice-producing villages as national [7].

b) Farming Experience

Bulukumba Regency shows that the experience of farming for 1 - 20 years for the farmers of respondents is in the first rank with the number of farmers as many as 29 people or reaching 58.00%, then > 30 years with the number of farmers respondents as many as 15 people or reach 30.00% and 20 - 30 years with 6 farmers or 12.00%.

The results showed the average of 15.6 years of farmer experience, the lowest 4 years and 30 years of age. The higher the farming experience the more selective to adopt an innovation, whereas the experienced farmers are still low will actively seek information related to the farming [5].

c) Age Level

Bulukumba Regency shows that the age of farmers of respondents in Bulukumba Regency is between 25 - 55 years. For farmers of respondents with the first group that is between > 45 years with the number of 24 people or reach 48.00%, then farmers respondents aged 35-45 years with the number of 19 people or 38.00%, and last respondent farmers with age between 25 - 35 years totaling 7 people or reaching 14.00%. This indicates that the average age of farmers is at the level of productive age in which the spirit of business and production is still high and also easier in accepting new innovations.

National employment opportunity is dominated by productive age group with age range 25-54 years. Meanwhile, the proportion of young age group (15-24 years) decreased, and the age group (> 54 years) was constant. Problems in the agricultural sector with the composition of the age group of old age will be a heavy burden with low productivity [14].

d) Level of education

Bulukumba Regency shows that the highest level of education is junior and senior high school education with 17 people each or reaching 34.00%, then elementary school with the number of 11 people or reach 22.00% and no school with the number of 5 people or reach 10, 00%.

The highest education level of respondents is SD 16 people (44.44%), junior high school (14) (38.89%) and SMA (6) (16.67%). The average education level of sweet corn farmers is still low because of the highest percentage of farmers who have primary school education (SD). So it is known that in managing their farming they only rely on experience that is not accompanied by adequate knowledge [6].

e) Family Productive

Bulukumba Regency, shows that the number of dependents of the family ranged from 2 to 4 people with the number of farmers respondents as many as 25 people or reached 50.00%, then the number of family dependents 0-2 people with the number of farmers respondents as many as 16 people or reached 32.00% the number of dependents of families between > 4 people with the number of farmers respondents as many as 9 people or reach 18.00%.

The number of dependents of the respondent's family household will influence the respondent actions in supporting his family. The number of dependents of respondent's family households ranged from 2 to 4 people with an average family dependent of 3 people. The amount of family dependent also affects the operational activities of farming, on the other hand the more the number of dependents of the family the higher the expenditure or the cost required so that the smaller the capital that can be used for the production process [2].

3.2 Level of Welfare

The level of welfare of corn farmers in Bulukumba Regency includes household expenditure, Farmers Exchange Rate (FER), purchasing power and income.

a) Household Expenditure

Table 1: Number of Maize Farmers by Level of Household Expenditure of Farmers in Bulukumba Regency

No	Household Expenditure	Amount (person)	%
1	Consumption of rice & Side dishes:		
	a. Rp. 4.000.000 – Rp. 8.000.000	20	40,00
	b. Rp. 8.000.000 – Rp. 12.000.000	21	42,00
	c. > Rp. 12.000.000	9	18,00
	amount	50	100,00
2.	Other Consumption:		
	a. Rp. 500.000 – Rp. 3.000.000	20	40,00
	b. Rp. 3.000.000 – Rp. 5.500.000	17	34,00
	c. > Rp. 5.500.000	13	26,00
	amount	50	100,00
3.	Non-Food Expenditure:		
	a. Rp. 1.000.000 – Rp. 5.000.000	12	24,00
	b. Rp. 5.000.000 – Rp. 10.000.000	26	52,00
	c. > Rp. 10.000.000	12	24,00
	amount	50	100,00

Based on Table 1, it shows that household expenditure of corn farmers for the cost of rice and side dishes is between Rp. 8,000,000 - Rp. 12 million with 21 farmers (42.00%). Then the household expenditure of corn farmers for the cost of rice consumption and the biggest side dish is the range between Rp. 4,000,000 - Rp. 8.000.000 with the number of farmers 20 people (40.00%). And the last expenditure of household corn farmers for the cost of rice consumption and

the largest side dish is > Rp. 12.000.000 with the number of farmers 9 people (18.00%).

b) Farmers Exchange Rate (NTP)

Table 2: Number of Maize Farmers by Farmers Exchange Rate (FER) in Bulukumba Regency

No	Farmers Exchange Rate (FER)	Amount (person)	%
1	70 – 90	3	6,00
2	90 – 120	4	8,00
3	> 120	43	86,00
	amount	50	100,00

Based on Table 2, shows that the exchange rate of farmers with the largest FER value of 70 - 90 (<100) amounted to 3 peasants or 6.00%, then the FER value 90 - 120 (= 100) amounted to 4 peasants or 8.00 %, and the last value of FER > 120 (> 100) amounted to 43 peasants or 86.00%.

c) Purchasing Power

Table 3: Average Purchasing Power Per Maize Farmer in Bulukumba Regency

No	Purchasing Power	amount (Rp / person)	%
1	Buying household appliances	9,167,917	19,66
2	and furniture	4,595,331	9,85
3	Electronic devices	13,942,647	29,89
4	Transport Equipment & Water	8,886,353	19,05
5	Pump Machine	10,048,208	21,55
	Food expenditure		
	Non-food expenditure		
	amount	46,640,456	100,00

Based on Table 3, shows that the purchasing power of farmers with the largest expenditure is the purchase of transportation equipment and water machines of Rp. 13,942.647 (29.89%), then non-food expenditure of Rp. 10,048,208 (21,55%), then expenditure to buy household appliance and furniture amounting to Rp. 9,167,917 (19,66%), then food expenditure equal to Rp. 8,886,353 (19,05%) and last expenditure to buy electronic appliance Rp. 4,595,331 (9.85%). With total purchasing power reached Rp. 46,640,456.

d) Net Income

Table 4: Number of Maize Farmers Based on Net Income used by Farmers in Bulukumba Regency

No	Net Income	Amount (person)	%
1	< 1.000.000	5	10,00
2	1.000.000 – 5.000.000	2	8,00
3	5.000.000 – 10.000.000	6	12,00
4	> 10.000.000	37	74,00
	amount	50	100,00

Based on Table 4, shows that the number of farmers with the highest income is > Rp. 10.000.000 with percentage 74.00%, then income between Rp. 5,000,000 - Rp. 10.000.000 with percentage 12.00%, then income <Rp. 1,000,000 with a percentage of 10.00%. Last income is Rp. 1,000,000 - Rp. 5.000.000 with a percentage of 8.00%. This indicates that the income of corn farmers in Bulukumba Regency can be categorized as prosperous.

4. Conclusion

The results of this study indicate that corn farmers in Bulukumba Regency have varied land area, farmers have experience in farming, then the level of education of average farmers is still low and the age of farmers can be said to be still productive. Household expenditure of corn farmers include rice and side dishes, consumption of beverages and cigarettes, and non-food consumption. Farmers exchange rate is in the market > 100 so it can be said prosperous. Furthermore, purchasing power of farmers buy more transportation & water machine and non food expenditure. And last net income of farmers mostly > Rp. 10,000,000.

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