

Motivation of Farmers in Swidden Agriculture in Kulisusu District North Buton Regency

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ABSTRACT

Swidden agriculture is still the choice of most people, especially those who live on small islands. The small island in Southeast Sulawesi holds a large amount of potential, especially the potential of forest resources which, if managed wisely, can provide welfare for people who live around the forest, especially swidden agriculture who cultivate forest land with local wisdom that can guarantee the sustainability of the forest ecosystem also means the survival of human on the island. In fact, the existing forests have suffered a lot of damage due to exploitation for the purpose of opening up plantations and mining land and the occurrence of illegal logging by a number of irresponsible persons. Slowly, forest destruction will threaten the existence and reduce the access of Ladangng farmers to the forest which has been their life support. This research will be carried out in Kulisusu District North Buton Regency namely on Ereke which is a small island in Southeast Sulawesi Province, respondent samples will be taken in all districts. The analytical method used is descriptive qualitative analysis by presenting the data obtained in the form of a frequency distribution table.

Keyword: Motivation, Farmers, Swidden Agriculture, Small Island.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The agricultural sector is a sector that still plays an important role in people's lives in Indonesia. This is based on the fact that the population of this country is still dependent on agricultural activities. Therefore the development of the agricultural sector is an important part that must get serious attention from the government in order to improve the lives of the people, especially farmers who are still categorized as living in poverty and poverty.

One of the agricultural fields that have the potential and are still not widely used is dry land. Dry land agriculture in Indonesia reaches 86.24 percent of the total agricultural land area in Indonesia. Likewise in Southeast Sulawesi Province, dry land area dominates paddy field area. The percentage of dry land area is 74.5 percent while paddy land is 3.17 percent (BPS Southeast Sulawesi Province, 2015). A high percentage of agricultural dry land is an opportunity for regions that have the potential for dry land to develop the agricultural sector, especially dry land, by seeking commodities that are able to adapt to land conditions.

The need for the use of dry land for agricultural activities because the potential for agricultural development on dry land is greater than in paddy fields. That is because: (1) it is possible to develop various kinds of agricultural commodities, (2) it is possible to develop integrated agriculture between livestock and plantation / forestry crops and food crops, (3) open up greater employment opportunities with relatively smaller investments compared to building irrigation facilities for paddy fields, and (4) alleviating poverty and underdevelopment of most of the population currently living on dry land.

Dry land is land that is used for agricultural business using limited water and usually expects from rainfall. This land has diverse agro-ecosystem conditions, generally sloping with land stability conditions that are lacking or sensitive to erosion, especially if the processing does not pay attention to the rules of soil conservation. Dry land farming system consists of several types including swidden agriculture. The people of Kulisusu district are the people who mostly manage the fields for their agricultural activities.

The tendency of the people of Kulisusu district to farm is motivated by local knowledge about the environment which is the philosophy of life of their ancestral heritage. One of the factors that determine success in increasing production and improving farming fields is the motivation of farmers to do this business. The motivation of farmers in Kulisusu district is something that needs to be studied considering it is related to the achievements and success in carrying out an activity. Therefore, motivating farmers in Ladangng to continue to increase productivity is an important thing to do because farmers are the main actors and determinants of farm

success. Increasing the productivity of farming Ladangng means increasing his motivation in addition to increasing his abilities and opportunities. Farmers with high success motivation will have a very large desire to succeed.

1.2. Formulation of the problem

Based on the above background, a research problem can be formulated is how the motivation of farmers in farming in Kulisusu district North Buton Regency.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

2.1. Research Location and Time

This research was conducted in Kulisusu district North Buton Regency, which is one of the small islands in Southeast Sulawesi Province. The location selection is done purposively (purposive) with the consideration that most of the people depend their lives as farmers of swidden agriculture and utilizing existing forest products. The study was conducted in Juni to Juli 2022.

2.2. Method of collecting data

Data collection methods used in this study, namely the method of observation, survey methods, participatory methods and recording methods.

2.3. Data analysis technique

Farmers' motivation in swidden agriculture in this study was measured based on three aspects consisting of economic motivation, ecological motivation and socio-cultural motivation. The analytical tool used to see farmers' motivation is in the form of a questionnaire whose answers are measured using a Likert scale. The measurement scale used is a Likert scale. The data obtained were analyzed descriptively quantitative in order to find out how the level of motivation of farmers in farming fields. The answers that have been given a score of 3 for the highest answer, 2 for the score of the answer is medium, and low with a score of 1. Determination of the level of motivation is based on the average score obtained from respondents' answers analyzed using the interval formula (Sugiyono, 2011) as following:

$$\text{Score interval} = \frac{\text{Highest-lowest score}}{\text{Number of classes}}$$

So that the following intervals are obtained:

1. High motivation : 2.34 - 3
2. Moderate motivation : 1.67 - 2.33
3. Low motivation : 1 - 1.66

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Description of the area and Field Farm

Wawonii Island is located in the southeastern peninsula of Sulawesi (Figure 1). The area of the island is around 650 km². Field farming has been common in Kulisusu district, due to a decrease in soil fertility so that the land is unable to provide results to meet the needs of the local community. The technology used by the Wawonii community for opening fields is generally traditional, namely by slash and burn for food crops and relatively without maintenance and fertilization. Based on the types of plants cultivated, the farming patterns of the Wawonii community can be grouped into 2 they are planted with crops and annuals such as corn (*Zea mays* L.)," cassava { *Manihot esculenta* Crantz}, chili (*Capsicum frutescens* L.)," or plantation crops.

Mixed gardens are cultivated for around 3 years, then they are planted or planted with annual crops or plantations. After a few years the plantation trees or annual crops become tall and this garden for coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.), for cocoa (*Theobroma cacao* L.) and for cashew (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) The results of interviews and observations in the field, it can be seen that the Kulisusu community prefers planting cocoa over other types of plantation crops. this is because the cocoa crop can be harvested several times and the price is high, the cocoa plantations can be intercropped with the "Marisa" / Lada (*Piper nigrum* L.) plant.

3.2 Level of Motivation of Farmers in Farming Field Crops

Farmers' motivation in cultivating crops Farms are grouped into three types based on economic motivation, ecological motivation and socio-cultural motivation. Motivation level is calculated based on the score obtained based on the respondent's answer, each question is given an assessment based on a Likert scale.

3.2.1 Economic Motivation

The economic motivation measured in this study is based on 3 indicators namely the perception that farm farming can increase family income, farm farming can meet the needs of local and even international markets, farm farming is profitable. Farmers' motivation to do farming based on economic motivation is briefly presented in table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1 Economic motivation of farmers in farming fields on Wawonii Island

No.	Economic Motivation	Average	Category score
1.	Farm Farming Increases Income	2.20	Medium
2.	Meeting the market needs Profitable	3.00	High
3.	Farming Height	2.73	Average

Source: Primary data processed, 2022

Based on the above table, overall the economic motivation in the study area with an average score of 2.73 categorized as high motivation with a reference interval of 2.34-3 is the result of the interval with a high category. If discussed one by one, it can be seen that only item 1 is in the medium category with the interval class 1.67 - 2.33, and the rest are included in the high interval class. This indicates that farm farming is still a promising choice for farmers because economically it is still profitable, especially the crops produced from these farms are high-value organic plants on the market.

3.2.2 Ecological Motivation

Ecological motivation is an encouragement arising from farmers to cultivate a farm based on the ecological benefits obtained that farming a farm provides benefits to environmental preservation. The measure of ecological motivation in this study is the perception that Farm Farming can maintain the environment of ecosystem sustainability because in this farm it does not use chemical inputs such as fertilizers or pesticides which can damage the soil and the surrounding environment. Farmers' motivation to farm The fields based on ecological motivation are briefly presented in table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2 Farmers' ecological motivations for farming in Wawonii Island

No.	Economic Motivation	Average	Category score
1.	Farm Farming is easy to cultivate and is adaptive to the environment	2.93	High
2.	Farming keeps the environment cool	2.20	Medium
3.	Farming can fertilize in height	2.93	High

Source: Primary data processed, 2022

Table 4.12 also explains that overall ecological motivation in existing farms in the study area is in the high category with a score of 2.68 (2.34-3). For the low category in item one, farming keeps the environment cool with a score of 2.20 (1.67 - 2.33).

3.3.3 Socio-Cultural Motivation

Socio-Cultural Motivation is an encouragement arising from farmers to cultivate fields, remembering that farming is a farm that has been handed down from generation to generation by the community and is a local wisdom that needs to be preserved. The socio-cultural motivation measure is the perception that this farming is a suggestion and encouragement from the government / extension workers, cultivation activities inherited from the ancestors, can be a legacy or savings on the old days. Farmers' motivation to work in the field based on Socio-cultural motivation is briefly presented in table 3.3 below.

Table 3.3 Socio-Cultural Motivation of farmers in farming fields on Wawonii Island, 2019

No.	Economic Motivation	Average	Category score
1.	Farm Farming is recommended by government / extension agents the environment	3.00	High
2.	Farm Farming is a legacy from ancestors	2.93	High
3.	Farming Farms can be inherited or guaranteed in old age	2.93	High

Source: Primary data after processing, 2022

Table 3.3 above explains that overall and per item of socio-cultural motivation in existing farming in the study area is at 2.34 - 3 which is high category, with scores of 3 for items 1, 2.93 for items 2 and 3. While for the average score of 2.95. Where the number 2.95 is obtained based on the average number of scores divided by 3

3.3.4 Simultaneous Analysis of Farmers' Motivation in Farming

Simultaneous analysis of the motivation of farmers in field farming is used to see the motivation or encouragement that underlies farmers to farm the field as a whole which is a combination of economic, ecological and socio-cultural motivation. Briefly presented in table 3.4 below.

Table 3.4 Motivation Simultaneous analysis of farmers in farming fields on Wawonii Island

No.	Farmer Motivation	Average	Category score
1.	Economic motivation	2.73	High
2.	Ecological Motivation	2.68	High
3.	Socio-Cultural Motivation	2.95	High
The total average		2.78	High

Source: Primary data processed, 2022

Based on the data in the table above, simultaneous motivation of farmers in farming fields in the study area is categorized as high. Where with these categories, the assumptions about farming in the field will be better in the eyes of the community. With the existing interval category scores, it is expected that the existing farms in the field of research are expected to be able to increase farmers' income in running their businesses. The score referred to above is 2.78 which is at an interval of 2.34-3. The highest score is on the motivation of farmers about social culture with a score of 2.95. This illustrates that the farming community in Wawonii Island in doing business is based on the urge to preserve traditions that have been handed down for a long time, namely the tendency of Wawonii island people to farm is motivated by local knowledge about the environment which is the philosophy of life of their ancestral heritage. One of them can be traced to the name "Wawonii" which became the name of the island. The word "Wawonii" (wawo: above, ni'i: coconut becomes "upon coconut" in the local local language) implies as an island overgrown with coconuts along the coast to remote areas and forests.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

4.1 Conclusions

Based on the results of the discussion, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. In general, the motivation of farmers in farming the fields in the study area is in the high category, with a score of 2.78.
2. The value of each for economic motivation is 2.73, ecological motivation is 2.68 and socio-cultural motivation is 2.95 which are all included in the high category with a reference class interval of 2.34 - 3 namely the high category interval class.

4.2 Suggestions

Based on the results of the study, the thing that can be suggested in this study is for the government in this case agricultural extension workers to become facilitators for pepper farmers in terms of determining policies related to improving farm farming

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