

Characterization of Cocoa (*Theobroma cacao* L.) Farming in Nglanggeran Village, Patuk, Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta and Assesment of Their Sustainability

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ABSTRACT

The cocoa tree (*Theobroma cacao* L.) is a producer of chocolate beans which are loved by many people throughout the world. The quality of cocoa beans is greatly influenced by the quality of cultivation and post-harvest handling. Doga Hamlet, Nglanggeran Village, Patuk, Gunungkidul are areas that have the potential for cocoa development. To support the implementation and achievement of high productivity results, an understanding of the socio-economic, ecological and technical characteristics requires a field assessment to determine the readiness of the community and cocoa farmers in the village. This assessment is important to carry out because one of the requirements for an area to become a chocolate production center is the availability of raw materials throughout the year with maintained quantity and quality. The aim is to obtain basic information on local, specific and participatory actions for the sustainability of cocoa production systems and to improve the living conditions of farmers. Four research areas were selected based on different heights, namely lower (263 masl), middle (318 masl & 320 masl), and upper (348 masl) and carried out in April-November 2022. The survey was carried out on 23% (22 people) who had cocoa fields in the area and given an interview questionnaire in the form of: farmer data; soil fertility conditions; condition of cocoa trees; condition of cultivation land; and farmers' knowledge about cultivation and post-harvest cocoa. The stages carried out in data analysis are: (1) data collection, (2) data reduction, (3) data presentation and, (4) drawing conclusions. The results show that the quality of cocoa plantation management in Doga Hamlet is still low. With the potential for a large number of cocoa trees, there needs to be intensive maintenance and rehabilitation of the plantation. Poor management can also be seen from the minimal handling of fruit that is attacked by pests and diseases. This can cause greater production losses and production quality that continues to decline. In general, agricultural land tends to be unsustainable and integrative measures must be taken to change this situation.

Kata Kunci: assessment, cocoa, characterization, Nglanggeran, production