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THE APPLICATION OF GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES OF WHITE PEPPER AND FACTORS AFFECTING FARMER PARTICIPATION IN PROVINCE OF BANGKA BELITUNG ISLAND

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ABSTRACT

The international market for agricultural products is increasingly demanding aspects of product safety, product quality and environmentally friendly cultivation practices. Good Agricultural Practices serve as a guide for pepper farmers to meet the demands of the international market. This study aims to deprime the factors that influence farmers in implementing GAP. The study was conducted in the Province of the Barrika Belitung Islands as a center of white pepper production, selected 3 districts namely West Bangka, Central Bangka and South Bangka. The sample in this study was 224 respondents consisting of 142 farmers who applied GAP and 82 farmers who did not apply GAP. Factors that influence farmers in implementing GAP are analyzed using the logit model. The results showed that the age of farmers, the formal education for farmers, the number of family members, the pepper harvest area and the activeness of following the GAP socialization affected the farmers' decision to apply GAP.

Keywords: Good Agricultural Practices, logit, participation, Muntok White Pepper farmers

INTRODUCTION

Increasing production and productivity of sustainable plantations is one of the activities in the 2015-2019 DG Plantation Strategic Program, which is aimed at high-value and competitive plantation commodities. This is in line with the increasing demands of the international market on agricultural products in terms of product safety, product quality and environmentally friendly cultivation practices (Srisopaporn *et al.*, 2015; Amekawa, 2010; Amekawa, 2013; Mergenthaler, Weinberger and Qaim, 2009).

In 2000 Indonesia ranked number 1 in the world, but since Vietnam developed pepper intensively, in 2001 Indonesia's position in the world market was down. This decrease was also due to weak competitiveness due to the low productivity and quality of national pepper. The International Pepper Community (IPC) notes that during 2006-2015, Indonesian pepper occupied the second position under Vietnam in the world pepper trade. The total production of white pepper in the world is 725 000 tons and Indonesia has the second rank in the world after Vietnam with a production share of 12 percent or 87000 tons (UN Comtrade, 2017). The main producer of white pepper is the Bangka Belitung Islands Province, which produces white pepper with an international reputation and is known as Muntok White Pepper. The superiority

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Email : <u>oty.torus72@gmail.com</u> Phone : +62 852-6714-5836 of white pepper Muntok White Pepper which is not owned by white pepper from other countries including Vietnam is that it contains almost no chemical residues, has a distinctive taste, color, strong aroma, and is free of Salmonella bacteria. With these advantages, Muntok White Pepper is used other than as a spice in food, cosmetic ingredients, as well as health.

Efforts to meet the demands of the global market for the control and quality of white pepper products have been carried out by IPC with the assistance of The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in a project "Smallholder Livelihood Enhancement and Income Generation via Improvement of Pepper Production, Processing, Value adding and Marketing System and Enterprise Diversification "in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The application of good pepper cultivation technology (GAP for pepper) is one of the recommendations of the project which must be disseminated to the farmer level (IPC, 2011).

Sustainable cultivation practices pose new challenges because they require more complex technology and knowledge, involve trade-offs between agricultural productivity and sistainability, and have contrasting effects depending on the location of their application (Guerin, 2000; Läpple and Repburg, 2011; Knowler and Bradshaw, 2007). Apart from that what is especially important is the carrying capacity of the bio-physical environment in agriculture to determine sustainable cultivation (Buch Hansen, 2008). Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), promoted by FAO, with the aim of improving quality agricultural practices, farmer income, and environmental health (Premier and Ledger, 2006). In other words the aim is to increase ecological, economic and social sustainability (Akkaya, falcin and Ozkan, 2006). Then it is increasingly emphasized by the agreement of the ASEAN economic community in 2015 that requires all agricultural products from member countries to have the same quality standards.

GAP is one of the most important approaches developed to provide sustainability in agricultural production and trade, and to ensure consumers the quality and safety of products and their origin (Gellynck, 2002).

The application of GAP for pepper plants in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province is specifically aimed at making white pepper produced by farmers able to meet the quality standards required to be marketed internationally so that products that meet these quality standards are entitled to be labeled Muntok White Pepper. This is important because the production of white pepper produced by smallholder plantations shows a declining trend.

Pepper cultivation that is labor intensive and it is cultivated in the form of community plantations. In 2016, there were 280 673 households working on pepper plantations in Indonesia, for white pepper in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province by 49 427 families (Directorate General of Plantation 2017) so that it could be said that pepper plantations were able to absorb a large enough workforce for the community. The large need for labor in managing pepper farming makes pepper farming a business that is able to provide broad employment opportunities for the community. The area and pepper production in each region in Indonesia can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1 Area and Production of pepper per region in Indonesia in 2016

	Area (Hectare)		Producti		Productiv	Number of	
District	Total	plants	on	share	ity	farmer (KK)	
	Total	produce	(Ton)	(%)	(Kg/Ha)	iaimoi (iiii)	
Sumatera	109 909	63 552	62 703	31.12	987	157 029	
Bangka Belitung	45 701	22 367	34 909	39.09	1 561	49 427	
Kalimantan	18 630	11 906	14 742	16.51	1 238	31 519	
Sulawesi	29 141	16 679	9 918	11.11	595	54 841	
Java	5 742	3 286	1 831	2.05	557	36 062	
Nusa Tenggara,	518	294	101	0.11	344	1 189	
Bali							
Maluku, Papua	52	32	7	0.01	232	33	
Indonesia	163 992	95 749	89 302		933	280.673	

Source: Directorate General of Plantation 2017 (processed)

In Table 1 it can be seen that the Bangka Belitung Islands Province is cultivating pepper plants produced as white pepper, with a production share of 39.09 percent of Indonesian pepper production. However, with this large production share, there are problems encountered in pepper farming in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province. This is indicated from the development of production and the total area of pepper in the Bangka Belitung Islands during 2007-2016 in general has increased, but specifically can be seen from the productivity that is still lower, compared to the potential productivity of pepper of 4 tons per hectare per year and lower from the productivity of pepper produced by Vietnam as the main competitor, amounting to 2.5-3.2 tons per hectare per year (IPC, 2016).

Many factors contribute to the decline in production. For example, change of land use, price volatility, climate change, plant diseases, lack of quality seeds, lack of available water supply and lack of knowledge of farmers about GAP, results in low productivity. Educating pepper farmers on this issue is very important to ensure farmers can obtain sustainable income from pepper farming. Based on this background, this study aims to analyze the factors that influence the participation of white pepper farmers in Bangka Belitung Islands Province in the implementation of GAP.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research location was chosen purposively in accordance with the purpose of the study by selecting areas that have implemented Good Agricultural Practices in white pepper farming in 3 districts, namely South Bangka Regency, Central Bangka Regency and West Bangka Regency. The survey to pepper farmers was conducted in April to June 2019.

The sample in this study amounted to 224 respondents consisting of 142 farmers who applied GAP and 82 farmers who did not apply GAP. Farmers who do not apply GAP are pepper farmers in the same area as farmers who apply GAP. Sampling was carried out using a cluster sampling method.

Primary data were obtained directly from pepper farmers through interviews using a structured questionnaire prepared. The end result is a picture of the problem that is displayed through data tables and the variables are analyzed by statistical analysis. In addition, data or information obtained from the results of discussions and interviews with stakeholders of the Management Agency for Pepper Development and Marketing (BP3L) of the Province of Bangka Belitung Islands. Secondary data is also needed, obtained through written information and reports from relevant institutions or agencies such as the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), International Pepper Community (IPC), UN Comtrade, UNCTAD.

Factors affecting pepper farmers in implementing GAP were analyzed using the logit model. The logit model analyzes the response of binary scale independent variables that have values 1 and 0.

$$Ln\frac{P_i}{1-P_i} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_i x_i$$
 (1)

Where: Pi = farmer probability i applying GAP, 0 < Pi < 1; Yi = GAP (y = 1 farmer who applies GAP; y = 0 farmer does not implement GAP); Xi = free variable; $\beta 0$ = constant; βi = estimated parameter; e = natural number (2.7182)

In this study, the factors expected to influence the implementation of GAP by farmers consist of the age of farmers, formal education of farmers , length of experience of farming , number of family members, area of pepper harvest, distance to the market, activeness of following the GAP socialization and income outside of pepper farming. Processing logistic regression models uses Stata 14.

To see the magnitude of the change in the independent variable affecting changes in the dependent variable marginal effects are used. The marginal effect is obtained from the estimated coefficient with the following equation:

$$\delta P_{\underline{i}} / \delta X i j = P i (1 - P i) \beta j$$
, dimana Pi = $\Lambda(x_i' \beta)$ (2)

A goodness of fit test is performed to see how well a model can explain the relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variable. In logistic regression, the parameter seen for the goodness of fit test is Pseudo R2, a mock R-square that is used because there is no equivalent that can replace R-square OLS in the logit model (Greene, 2000). Hosmer and Lemeshow (1989), proposed a goodness of fit test on the logit model with a statistical test of chi-square distribution that divides observations into several groups of the same size according to the predicted probability. Statistical tests with free degrees M - k are:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \frac{(y_j - m_j p_j)^2}{m_j p_j (1 - p_j)}$$
(3)

Where: k = number of independent variables; M = number of covariate patternal between observations N; j = number of covariate patterns where j = 1, ..., M; mj = number of observations that have covariate patternal; mj = number of positive responses between observations with covariate patterns mj = number of positive predicted outcome

Some steps in the logit regression model can answer the research objectives that are analyzing the factors that influence the application of technology as has been done by Basit (1995), Nuralam (2010) and Ejechi (2015).

To analyze the level of GAP application by white pepper farmers, using direct observation in the field and interviews, the analytical method used is descriptive analytic. Observation data on farmers' GAP implementation at the study site were compared with the Guidelines for GAP Implementation (IPC 2011). This method has also been applied by Van Thanh and Yapwattanaphun, (2015). The level of implementation in each GAP component is calculated using the formula:% implementation = average implementation of sub-components in one component.

GAP implementation is divided into 4 score categories. GAP implementation is said to be low if the percentage of implementation is between 0% to 25%; a little low if the percentage of 25.01% to 50.00%; medium if the percentage is 50.01% -75.00%; and implementation is categorized high if the percentage of implementation is 75.01% -100.00%.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Principles and Application of Good Agricultural Practices white pepper

In principle, GAP practice is an effort to apply the rules of sustainability in crop cultivation systems (Tilman et al., 2002). The technology component in the white pepper GAP consists of land use that is free from contamination of hazardous chemical waste, management of growing media according to growing conditions by adding organic material, irrigation water management is ensured to be free from contamination of hazardous substances and pesticide residues and factory waste, use of seed varieties recommended, the use of live climbing poles, regular fertilization, pest control is naturally recommended, harvest and post-harvest pay attention to the criteria for ready-to-pick fruit (IPC, 2011).

The application of GAP depends on farmers' perceptions and participation as a decisive actor in managing their farming. For this reason, in the application of the white pepper GAP, the Regional Government together with the Pepper Development and Marketing Management Agency (BP3L) of the Bangka Belitung Islands Province provide guidance to farmers such as: providing capital assistance in the form of inputs, namely pepper seeds, urea fertilizer, TSP fertilizer and KCL, there is technical guidance from the companion starting from the beginning of farming activities until post-harvest, there is a shelter as well as purchasing production results. The performance of applying white pepper GAP can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Performance of the application of technological components of Good Agricultural Practices white pepper at research location, in 2019

NI-	Table of CAR		Application	Ouitouio	
No	Technology component of GAP	Max	Min	Average	- Criteria
1	Land Selection	100	25	73	medium
2	Land management	100	33	82	High
3	Water management	100	50	95	High
4	Integrated crop management	100	17	72	medium
5	Pest control	100	7	67	medium
6	Harvest	100	50	89	High
7	Post-harvest	100	83	89	High
8	Quality standard	100	50	85	High
Source	a: Primer Data 2010			•	•

Source: Primer Data. 2019

Based on Table 2, it shows that the performance of the implementation of white pepper GAP by pepper farmers in Bangka Belitung Islands Province in 2019 for each component, on average ranged from 67 percent to 95 percent. Based on the interview results it was found that farmers who apply GAP believe that implementing GAP will increase farm productivity, produce agricultural products that are safe for consumption and have better quality. But the aspect of reduced pest attacks, farmers' safety guarantees, and certainty of the sustainability of farming is believed to have little effect. This incomplete level of understanding has caused the application of GAP to be not fully implemented.

In the land selection component, out of 142 farmers, only 119 people have elevations according to GAP guidelines, 91 suitable land slopes, 89 disease-free lands and 120 chemical-free lands.

The use of pepper seeds by farmers at this time is mostly in accordance with recommended varieties, which is applied by 72% of farmers or 103 people, but their productivity is still low at an average of 1.25 tons per hectare or only reaching 30 percent of optimal productivity. Under conditions of optimal growth conditions for productivity, healthy plants will be stable for 3 years or more, for Petaling I and II varieties are 4.5 tons per hectare, while productivity of Lampung Daun Kecil varieties have 3.8 tons per hectare (Research Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, 2011) .

Pepper planting with recommended spacing rules has been done by 83% or 120 farmers, whereas fertilization and pruning are basically not in accordance with GAP guidelines. Farmers do not apply fertilizer recommendations because of the limited capital that is owned by farmers, so the dose of fertilizer used must be reduced.

Farmers rarely weed the weeds that grow around the crop. In this condition the amount of labor used is reduced, but the presence of weeds that are competing nutrients for plants distrub the crop's growth so that crop productivity decreases.

Controlling of stem rot disease (BPB) has not been carried out in accordance with GAP guidelines, the risk that can occur if the plant parts are not completely destroyed then it will be possible to spread to other plants. The costs to be incurred by farmers to deal with the spread of the next disease will be greater because farmers must also add manpower to clean up as soon as possible the infected pepper plants, so as not to spread throughout the farmers' land.

Pepper harvest time has been carried out in accordance with GAP guidelines, that is, after 8-9 months; the exact harvest time determines the quality of pepper to be processed for the next stage.

Pepper processing after harvest is carried out by farmers in the traditional way, relying on a pool around the village for soaking the pepper for 1 to 2 weeks. If the farmer soaks the pepper by making a washing tank and flowing with running water, the pepper results are cleaner and save time of soaking. Pepper which has a moisture content of less than 12%, has a clean white color and is not mixed with dirt will be purchased by collectors at a higher price.

Household and Farm Characteristics

Pepper farming households have different household and farming characteristics. The different characteristics affect farmers' decision to implement GAP. In general, farm

households that apply GAP have an average younger age than non-GAP farmers. Even so, the average age of the head of a farmer's family is still classified as a productive age. A comparison of the characteristics of farm households that apply GAP and those that do not apply GAP is presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Comparison of farm household characteristics applying GAP and non-applying GAP

Variable —	M	n value		
variable —	GAP	Non GAP	p-value	
Age of farmer	45.3	47.8	0.0864	
Farmer's formal education	9.4*	8.4*	0.0140	
Farming Experience	24.9*	28.2*	0.0246	
Number of family members	3.3*	2.9*	0.0149	
Number of man-day in the family	48.3*	17.1*	0.0000	
Number of man-day outside the family	28.5	32.7	0.3892	
Pepper harvest area	0.96	0.87	0.2488	
Number of plants	1511	1286	0.0610	
Market Distance	12.3	12.2	0.9471	
Pepper farm income	42500000*	25000000*	0.0001	
Off-farm income	31200000	29000000	0.8479	

Note:

The level of education of family heads of farmers who apply GAP has a higher average value than farmers who do not apply GAP. The average length of education of farmers who apply GAP is 9.4 years or equivalent to completing junior high school (SMP) education, whereas for farmers who do not apply GAP the average education of family heads is 8.4 years or equivalent to not completing junior high school education. Furthermore, based on the number of household members, farmers who apply GAP and who do not apply GAP have the same average household members as many as 3 people. This figure implies that, on average, pepper farmer households, both farmers who apply GAP and those who do not apply GAP, bear 3 household members so that they are included in the small family category.

Pepper land tenure by farmers who apply GAP is not significantly different from farmers who do not apply GAP. Farmers who apply GAP control land by an average of 0.96 ha, whereas farmers who do not apply the GAP of 0.87 ha. Data from the field shows that all pepper farms are farmers' land. This indicates that pepper farming has been inherited from previous generations; this is a local wisdom to maintain pepper farming as an annual crop which is also an investment commodity for pepper farmer households so that farmers have the discretion to manage resources if they own their land.

White pepper harvested from pepper orchards managed by farmers must go through several stages of post-harvest processing to obtain dried pepper that is ready to be sold to collectors. The distance of the farmer household from the traders and the market influences the farmer's decision to sell the harvest. The average distance for farmers who apply GAP and farmers who don't apply GAP is not too different. This is because the sampling of farmers who do not apply GAP as the control variable in this study is based on the location closest to farmers who apply GAP.

^{*} the difference between GAP and non-GAP farmers is significant at p = 0.05

The average household income of farmers who apply GAP obtained from pepper farming is higher than farmers who do not apply GAP. Based on the calculation, the contribution of pepper farming to the household income of farmers reached 57.6 percent, while the farmers who did not apply GAP pepper farming contributed only 46.2 percent. From the results of observations in the field that the higher income is due to the higher productivity and selling prices received by farmers who apply GAP.

Factors that influence farmers in applying white pepper GAP

The logit model is used to estimate the factors that influence farmers' participation in apply GAP. The results of testing the goodness of the model using the Hosmer-Lemeslow's test obtained the probability value of the chi2 statistical test that is equal to 0.6560, greater than α = 0.05. it means that the model is fit for use in predictions. The ability of the model to predict correctly was 68.51 percent. The results of estimation of factors that influence farmers in implementing GAP are presented in Table 4.

The parameter testing is carried out simultaneously and partially. Simultaneous testing uses the likelihood ratio test. The test results obtained by the LR chi2 value of 47.66 with Prob> chi2 is 0.0000. This shows that the independent variables in the model simultaneously influence the participation of farmers applying GAP. Partial test was carried out using the Wald test. Partial test results indicate that the participation of farmers in implementing GAP is influenced by the age of farmers, formal education of farmers, experience of farming, the number of family members, the area of pepper harvest area, and the activity to participate in GAP socialization.

Table 4. Results of estimation of factors affecting farmers who applies GAP

Variable	Coefisien		S.E	P>IzI	Marginal effects
Age of farmers	0.1792	**	0.0837	0.032	0.0386
Farming experience	-0.1942	**	0.0847	0.022	-0.0418
Formal education for farmers	0.9644	*	0.0577	0.096	0.0208
Number of family members	0.3551	**	0.1681	0.035	0.0765
Pepper harvest area	0.7439	**	0.3085	0.016	0.1604
Distance to market	0.0097		0.2590	0.708	0.0021
The activeness of following	7.5409	***	1.9163	0.000	1.6258
the GAP socialization					
Off-farm income	-0.0063		0.0106	0.552	-0.0013
A constant	-6.1853		1.9811	0.002	
Hosmer-Lemeslow's (prob>chi2)	0.6560			LR chi2	47.66
% of correct prediction	68.51 %		F	Prob > chi2	0.0000

Constant Note:

Farmer age has a positive sign and has a significant effect with p-value $<\alpha=0.05$. It means that as farmers grow older the probability of farmers to apply GAP to their farming will increase. The marginal effect value of the age of the farmer is 0.0386. It means if the average age of farmers increases by 1 year, the probability of farmers to implement GAP increases by 3.86 percent. According to data in the field, it is found that farmers who apply GAP are dominated by age 41-60 years while those aged less than 30 years are only 7 percent. These

^{*} Significant at p = 0.10, ** Significant at p = 0.05, *** Significant at p = 0.01

results are the same as those of Rajendran *et al* (2016), but are different from the results of Terano *et al* (2015).

Farmer formal education has a positive sign and has a significant effect with p-value $<\alpha=0.10$. That means the higher level of education that farmers have, the probability of farmers to apply GAP to their farming will increase. The marginal effect value of the formal education of farmers is obtained by 0.0203, it means that if the average level of formal education of farmers increases by 1 year, the probability of farmers to apply GAP increases by 2.0 percent. These results are the same as those of Srisopaporn *et al*, (2015), the higher the education level of farmers will lead to an increase in the level of farmer participation in the implementation of GAP.

The number of family members has a positive sign and has a significant effect on the p-value $<\alpha=0.05$, it means that the greater the number of family members of the farmer, the probability of farmer participation to implement GAP will increase. The marginal effect value of the number of family members obtained by 0.0734, it means that if the average number of farm family members increases by 1 person, the probability of farmers to implement GAP will increase by 7.34 percent. The facts on the ground are found that pepper farmers have more family members and that will facilitate the availability of labor in plant maintenance activities such as fertilizing, also in harvesting and post-harvesting activities. Whereas farmers, whose family members are, few are forced to seek wage labor. The number of family members is also a significant factor in implementing sustainable certification in green tea in Vietnam (Tran and Goto, 2019).

Farming experience owned by farmers is illustrated by counting the number of years since farmers started pepper farming. The negative influence of the experience of pepper farming shows that more experienced pepper farmers tend to choose to survive with traditional cultivation techniques because it is more practical than GAP which takes more time and energy such as the use of dead climbing poles that are more practical than environmentally friendly climbing poles. The results of research on different commodities carried out by Thapa and Rattanasuteerakul, (2011), who support this statement.

The harvested area has a positive sign and has a significant effect on p-value $<\alpha$ = 0.05, it means that the greater the pepper farms managed by farmers, the probability of farmers participating in implementing GAP will increase. The marginal effect value of the farmers' land area is obtained by 0.1508 and it means if the average farmer's land increases by 1 ha, the probability of farmers participating in implementing GAP increases by 15 percent. This shows that farmers will feel they can have a real influence on good aspects of agriculture if they have sufficient land area. Conversely, when they feel that the land is not economically sufficient and the ecological impact caused is considered to be small, the principles of GAP are ignored. These results are the same as the results of Van Thanh and Yapwattanaphun, (2015) research on farmers in a province in Thailand on the application of sustainable agriculture, which explains that there are only 35% who want to adopt the principles of good and environmentally friendly agriculture due to the land owned by small farmers. In addition it seems that economies of scale also play a major role in determining farmers to implement GAP (Mausch et al., 2006). As a comparison that land area factors can also negatively affect the application of technology in farming, this is evidenced by Yaron, Dinar and Voet, (1992) which concludes that to increase production farmers prefer to use inputs other than land intensively rather than increasing the area of planting farming.

While the positive effect of activeness of farmers in GAP socialization is shown by the marginal effect value of 1,642, which means that the greater the number of farmers attending or participating in GAP socialization activities, the probability of farmers to implement GAP will increase 164 percent. Research by Yaron, Dinar and Voet, 1992; Thapa and Rattanasuteerakul, (2011) supports this statement.

Overall the results of this study can be impared with the results of research on the application of GAP in Thailand, it turns out that in Thailand the adoption of GAP is managed entirely by the government, from setting standards for training, auditing, and issuing certificates (Sarsud, 2007). This reality is far different from what is found in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province, that the application of GAP by farmers is generally done independently, there is counseling and training on the application of GAP attended and participated by a small number of farmers so that farmers do not get too much assistance that they really need in its implementation. In addition, research in China conducted by Luo et al., (2016) shows that many factors can influence farmers' decisions to accept and adopt environmentally friendly farming practices, but the cost factor is the most important, followed by the ease of farmers to observe and risk factors. Whereas in Turkey, it turns out that factors that can hinder or limit the application of GAP are fragmented area structure, small land size, lack of registration by farmers and limited farmer unions (Akkaya, Yalcin and Ozkan, 2006).

Based on this description, the application of GAP depends on various factors that exist at the location of the application but it is important to overcome various obstacles with the right effort according to the conditions that exist in the farm. Research conducted Pongvinyoo, Yamao and Hosono (2014) concluded that to reduce barriers to the adoption of GAP by farmers, collaboration between the government and the private sector is crucial in the adaptation of standards.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

Based on the results of the study it can be concluded that the variables that positively influence farmers in implementing GAP are the age of farmers, formal education of farmers, the number of family members, the area of pepper harvested area and the activeness of farmers in attending GAP socialization. While the variables that negatively affect the experience or the length of time pepper farming has been done by farmers.

Suggestion

Increasing the participation of white pepper farmers in Bangka Belitung Province in implementing GAP requires joint efforts from the parties. In connection with the problem of increasing production costs in this white pepper farming, the government needs to encourage the private sector to act as guarantor for financing and marketing of white pepper so that the price of pepper becomes more fair and profitable. The private sector needs to develop a cooperation model that is able to ensure that farmers receive benefits from the implementation of the GAP. Research on the factors that influence farmers 'participation in implementing GAP can add other variables such as incentive variables received by farmers, farmers' level of trust, and farmer's motivation.

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