The Profile of Salak Gula Pasir’s Farmer in Pajahan Village – Bali

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Abstract:

The aim of this research is to describe the mapping of agro-tourism planning of salak gula pasir in Pajahan Village, Bali in order to establish the framework of sustainable agriculture. Bali as a tourist destination has great opportunity to develop agro tourism in order to support sustainable agriculture development. The research method is conducted by questionnaire distribution with purposive sampling. The results of questionnaires analyzed with thematic analysis mix method showed that 75% of respondents have sugar palm fruit plantations in plantation as coffee intercrop. Farmers who carry out cultivation of intensive sugarcane barking only 10% of the total respondents, so greatly affect the yield and continuity of production of bark. Whereas if the farmer maintain the plantation seriously, with sustainable fertilization and irrigation, sugar barking plants are able to bear fruit throughout the year. Pajahan village area is hilly with a sustainable environment is very potential to integrate between agriculture with nature tourism. Around 86% of respondents have not understood about agro-tourism and only 14% of respondents want to develop the area into an agro-tourism area. From these results it is necessary to encourage farmer of view about agro-tourism and conduct further studies to do the mapping economically, socially and culturally.

Keywords: Agro tourism, Sustainable Agriculture, Intensive, Integration

Background:

Salak gulapasir is an icon of Karangasem regency in Sibetan agrotourism area. Sibetan village since a decade is very famous as the only producer of salak gulapasir in Bali. However, since 2006 salak gulapasir began to be explored to other areas such as Tabanan regency. The plantation of salak gulapasir also exist in Pupuan District especially Pajahan village. In this village population of salak gulapasir farmer is almost 60% and most of the plantation are exist in garden with no maintenance. But because of the price salak gulapasir is one of sustaining family life villagers of Pajahan. Although it has been long enough cultivated by most of the community but the management of salak gulapasir is still very low both in terms of cultivation techniques and post-harvest management. This phenomenon indicate that the use of salak gulaspar is not optimal to sustain the economic life of the community, especially salak farmers. From that matter, it is still necessary effort empowerment and strategy of exploiting of plantation land of salak gulapasir as agrotourism. The purpose of this study is to map the profile of salak gulapasir farmers in Pajahan village- Pupuan Bali in order to determine the agro-tourism scheme strategy.
Materials and Methods:
This research uses descriptive qualitative method (mix method analysis). The analytical instrument is to use a list of interviews with 30 informants of salak gulapasir farmers both women and men. Data analysis using theme analysis (thematic analysis). Thematic analysis is done by grouping the sentences of interview results into several concepts of thought and then translated back into a topic that will be recapitulated into dominant sentences derived from the results of informant interviews. Sentences that have a frequency spoken more, it will be coded as the hope of the informant to drive the purpose of research.

Results and Discussion:
The result of data analysis shows that the number of informants said the management of salak gulapasir (sugar bark) cultivation is cultivated only in simple management without good cultivation technique. This commodity is only planted as intercrops in coffee plantations. However, of the total interviewed 75% of informants had granulated plants on their plantations. Whereas when the plants produced bear fruit, farmers feel the benefits of increasing the amount of farm income. From this result, the salak gulapasir can increase the income of the farmers in Pajahan Pupuan Village, although the salak gulapasir plant has not been cultivated with good cultivation techniques such as irrigation, fertilization, pests and plant diseases, garden sanitation. From the results of the interviews were the production of salak gulapasir crops in high season (harvest raya) is abundant and 56% of farmers are unable to market it so often suffered losses due to rotting fruits. On the other hand, the opportunity to utilize the salak gulapasir plantation in this village to obtain economic value added is very big because the expanse of plantation is very beautiful, so it is very prospective to be developed into agro-tourism area (75%). This is supported by research results by Martiningsih (2016) that the area of development of salak gulapasir cultivation is increasingly widespread with good production capability. From the results of the study there were three cultivars of salak gulapasir which were able to develop in areas with water stress. This highly prospective opportunity has not been followed by farmers' knowledge of the concept of agro-tourism (84%), only 16% of farmers already understand the general concept of agro-tourism. Whereas in the development of agro-tourism is needed the same understanding of the opportunities and challenges of the development of an area into an area of agrotourism (Main, 2014).

This is because of the development of agrotourism is needed in the cooperation of farmers in the area of agro-tourism, strong railway, the same commitment among farmers in the agro-tourism (Gunawan, 1999). Conditions in the research where only a small percentage of farmers understand the concept of agro-tourism development will certainly require the empowerment of human resources intensive. Moreover, with the understanding of the management of salak gulapasir plantations are still low then it is certainly needed the empowerment of farmers community about the management of good cultivation of salak gulapasir in order to plantation of barking in landscape able to be promoted as a tourist destination.

This is consistent with the opinion of Pitana (2002) that some of the principles of agro-tourism should be known:

1. Suppress the lowest negative influence on nature and culture
2. Provide learning about nature conservation to tourists
3. Emphasizing responsible business between government, society and traveler
4. Directing direct economic benefits to the managing community
5. Protecting the utilization of natural resources intelligently by not carrying out the exploitation of nature.
6. Conducting management between sectors involved transparently, because agro tourism is very often the management is the area covering several different areas. This Conditions is very often and trigger as a conflict of interest.

Furthermore, with the principle that Pitana proposed (2002), it is required a high commitment in the management of agro-tourism areas including the development plan of agro-tourism in Salak village Pajahan Pupuan Bali. In addition to strong commitment, according to Dinas Pertanian (2007), agro-tourism development requires empowerment in several aspects, namely 1) human resources
development aspect, 2) natural resources maintenance aspect, 3) promotion aspect 4) transportation aspect, and 5) institutional aspect.

From the data of ownership of coffee plantation land, all Pajahan villagers have a coffee plantation with an average ownership area of 0.75 hectares. Farm household income 86% from coffee plantation income. Prior to interviews in this study, farmers never included salak gulapasir sales revenue in their estates in household income calculations. In fact, the announcement from the interview when coffee did not produce, the sugar palm bark still produced because the nature of the salak gulapasir production did have the high seasons and interrupted seasons (Sumantra, 2014). At the time salak gulapasir will fruitful and harvest, this season is usually from April to September. During the mid-season, between October and March, salak gulapasir plants continue to bear fruit, although with a smaller amount and farmers are still able to sell with results that can sustain household income. From this condition, salak gulapasir in Pajahan village, Pupuan Bali, swallow it as an intercrop, but it has the potential to become a new icon after the coffee plant for Pajahan village and its surroundings.

Conclusion:
From the description on the results and discussion, some of the following things can be concluded:

1. Farmers in Pajahan village still need to improve their understanding of good salak gulapasir plantation management
2. The potential of salak gulapasir plantation areas to be developed into very large agro tourism area
3. Farmer and communities need an understanding of the concept of developing agro tourism management.
4. Requires the development of research on social studies and culture of salak gulapasir agro tourism.

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