Dynamics of Farmers Group in Production of Barangan’s Banana Business (Case Study in Lekke Farmer, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency)

Heliawaty, P Diansari, N Lanuhu, Y Lumoindong, L Fudjaja, R Bakri, and Z Hamzah

Agribusiness Study Program, Faculty of Agriculture, Hasanuddin University, Makassar

E-mail: heliawaty_adriawan@yahoo.com

Abstract. South Sulawesi is one of the provinces with high banana production and one of the most popular types of banana is “Banana Barangan”. Barangan banana is a leading commodity in Bone Regency with the production center located in Lappariaja District which is cultivated by the Lekke Farmer Group. This study aims to determine the dynamics of farmer groups in barangan banana farming. The research was conducted in Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency in June-July 2016. Research respondents were all members of the Lekke Farmers Group. The study used a qualitative analysis using scoring to determine the level of dynamism of the farmer groups. The results of the study show that the dynamics of the Lekke Farmer Group is in the high category, from the six elements or indicators, the group atmosphere gets a high percentage with an average score of 11.4. It is expected to increase group dynamics in order to achieve common goals effectively and efficiently.

1. Introduction

Indonesia is a country that is rich in natural resources which are widespread throughout Indonesia. Indonesia is also famous for its fertile soil so that plants can flourish anywhere. Agriculture is the primary sector in the Indonesian economy. This means that agriculture is the main sector which accounts for almost half of the economy [1]. Implementation of environmentally based farming system is highly dependent on the perception of agriculture practitioners (citizen) and policy makers (government) [2].

Horticultural crops have good development prospects because they have high economic value and a wide open market potential, both at home and abroad. Increase appreciation of various commodities and horticultural products no longer as foodstuffs but also related to their functions, namely as a provision of food, economy, health and socio-culture [3].

Banana as a type of horticultural plant originating from Southeast Asia, especially Indonesia. Almost every yard in Indonesia has banana plants. This is because the plants produce fast, can last a long time, are easy to plant and maintain. Even Indonesia has earned the nickname banana producer in Southeast Asia.

In 2014, South Sulawesi was ranked ninth as one of the banana production centers in Indonesia with a total production of 154,490 tons. In Bone Regency there are many types of bananas, but one type of banana favored by the community is barangan banana. Barangan bananas are nicknamed "Table Bananas" because they are often served as a dessert after a meal.
Barangan banana production center in Bone Regency is located in Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District. Although popular, barangan banana has not been developed to its full potential. The problem faced in developing barangan bananas is the low quality of bananas produced by farmers. The low quality of farmers' banana production can be seen from the appearance of the fruit that is not attractive, and the fruit size is not optimal. Low quality will affect the income received by farmers.

Therefore, to take advantage of existing potentials while increasing farmers' income, the Department of Agriculture as an agency in charge of advancing agriculture strives to always encourage the development of agriculture in a better direction [4].

One of the government's steps to develop agriculture is to form social groups in farming communities, such as farmer groups. The level of farmer group dynamics affects the success of these government steps. The dynamic in question is to always be ready to move forward and to meet the agricultural reforms that are being promoted today [5].

2. Research Methods

This research was conducted in Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency. The location of the research was chosen purposively (purposive sampling) with the consideration that the area is a center for barangan banana production in Bone Regency. The research was conducted for two months, starting in June-July 2016. Determination of sample respondents The study population was a member of a farmer group whose members were 30 people. Therefore, sampling is done using saturated sampling (census), which is a sampling technique if all members of the population are used as samples. So all populations of 30 people were used as samples in the study.

The data collection technique used in this study was the survey method. A survey is an attempt to collect data from members of the population to determine the current status of the population regarding one or more phenomena. The term survey is used as a category with questionnaires and interviews as the specific methodologies used for data collection. The survey was conducted on a sample that had been determined using a questionnaire. This questionnaire uses a closed question and answer format, which asks respondents to make choices between a set of specific alternatives that have been determined by the researcher [6].

Qualitative analysis using a scoring system, namely by giving a score on each question item which states the level of dynamics and the role of farmer groups. The question items in the list of questions or questionnaire consist of three alternative choices or responses, namely Often (score 3), Sometimes (score 2), and never (score 1). The scores are then added up to express the level of dynamics and the role of farmer groups in farming.

3. Results and Discussion

Group dynamics is an orderly group of two or more individuals who have a clear psychological relationship between one member and another. The dynamics of farmer groups in Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency from the results of research in the field were observed from six elements, namely: (1) group goals, (2) group structure, (3) group function, (4) group cohesiveness, (5) group atmosphere, and (6) group pressure.

3.1 Group Goals

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the objectives of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in a good category. Group dynamics on the elements of group goals can be seen in Table 1.
Table 1. Elements of Purpose in Lekke Farmer Group, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone District

| No | Interval Score | Total of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1  | Not Good (4-6) | 0                            | 0              |
| 2  | Enough (7-9)   | 9                            | 30             |
| 3  | Good (10-12)   | 21                           | 70             |
|    | **Total**      | **30**                       | **100**        |

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the objectives of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in a good category. Although not set in writing, most members of the Lekke Farmers Group understand what the objectives of the group were to be formed as a description of the expectations to be achieved. Lekke Farmers Group members understand the objectives formulated by the group because at the meeting to formulate goals most group members attend. The formulation of group goals is the result of joint decisions of the members present. As for members who were not present, the results of the meeting were conveyed and explained directly by the group leader and other group members.

The synergy between the personal goals of group members and group goals is very important because group goals can only be achieved if there is activity from the members. Members of the Lekke Farmer Group stated that they have goals that are in line with the goals of the group, so that members feel motivated to do barangan banana farming.

3.2 Group Structure

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the perception of the function of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in a good category. Group dynamics on the elements of the group structure can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Structural elements of Lekke Farmer Group, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone District

| No | Interval Score | Number of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1  | Not Good (4-6) | 0                             | 0              |
| 2  | Enough (7-9)   | 9                             | 30             |
| 3  | Good (10-12)   | 21                            | 70             |
|    | **Total**      | **30**                        | **100**        |

Based on interviews with members of the Lekke Farmers Group, it was found that members were satisfied with the group management. Although the authority in the Lekke Farmer Group is given by group members to the chairman and staff to coordinate the activities of the farmer group, group members are always involved in the decision-making process. So that members still feel that they have contributed in determining the course of group activities.

From the observations at the research location, the division of labor and group assignments was clear. The chairman, secretary, treasurer and group members know and understand their respective duties. Members of the Lekke Farmers Group stated that the communication between members and group administrators was quite smooth. The committee always opens communication space with group members, especially regarding barangan banana farming both inside and outside group meetings, therefore the members feel satisfied and give trust to to manage the Lekke Farmer Group.

3.3 Group Task Function

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the function of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in a good category. Group dynamics in the elements of group task functions can be seen in Table 3.
Table 3. Elements of the Task Function of the Lekke Farmer Group, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency

| No | Interval Score | Number of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Not Good (4-6) | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Enough (7-9)   | 9 | 30 |
| 3. | Good (10-12)   | 21 | 70 |
| Total | | 30 | 100 |

Group members stated that they felt motivated in carrying out their farming because what they hoped would be obtained by joining the group. They also feel compelled to develop barangan banana farming because they get a lot of input, advice and knowledge from the extension activities that are being followed. In addition, because of their active involvement in the preparation of work plans, the level of awareness of group members to participate in group activities is also high.

3.4 Group Cohesiveness

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the cohesiveness of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in the high category. Group dynamics in the group kekokampakan element can be seen in Table 4

Table 4. Elements of Cohesiveness of Lekke Farmers Group, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency

| No | Interval Score | Total of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Low (4-6)      | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Medium (7-9)   | 2 | 6.67 |
| 3. | Large (10-12)  | 26 | 93.33 |
| Total | | 30 | 100 |

Group members stated that the solidarity within the Lekke Farmer Group was quite high. This is inseparable from the role of the group chairman and administrator who always tries to involve members in every activity so that a sense of belonging and love arises. Together in carrying out the activities it is felt very beneficial because it will feel lighter and can be completed quickly. Apart from carrying out group activities, group members maintain communication and strengthen friendship so that members have a harmonious relationship. This is one of the supporting factors for carrying out group activities well.

3.5 Group Atmosphere

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the atmosphere of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in a good category. Group dynamics in group atmosphere elements can be seen in Table 5

Table 5. Elements of atmosphere the Lekke Farmer Group, Tonronge Village, Lappariaja District, Bone Regency

| No | Interval Score | Total of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Not Good (4-6) | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Enough (7-9)   | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | Good (10-12)   | 30 | 100 |
| Total | | 30 | 100 |
The results of joint formulation can be achieved in line with the activities of the farmer groups. They realize that not all of their needs can be fulfilled by themselves. So that with groups this can be fulfilled. Therefore each member tries to actively participate. Observations at the research location show that a high sense of attachment and togetherness in the Lekke Farmer Group is manifested by the use of deliberation in every decision making in the group. Group administrators do not take decisions unilaterally but still optimize communication with group members so that members feel they have a bond with the group.

The members of the farmer group stated that because of the comfortable atmosphere of the group, the members had the courage to express their opinions in group meetings or convey the problems they were facing in farming. The members of the Lekke Farmers Group were happy with the group. One of the benefits felt by members with a group is that it becomes a forum for farmers to work together and stay in touch with each other, because it was formed on the initiative of the members themselves, each member felt that they wanted to maintain and advance the Lekke Farmer Group so that the goals they formulated together could be achieved along with the activities of the farmer group. They realize that not all of their needs can be fulfilled by themselves. So that with groups this can be fulfilled. Therefore each member tries to actively participate.

3.6 Group Pressure

In general, from the results of this study it can be said that the assessment of the pressure of the Lekke Farmer Group in Tonronge Village is in the high category. Group dynamics on group pressure elements can be seen in Table 6.

| No | Interval Score | Total of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Low (4-6)      | 0                             | 0             |
| 2. | Medium (7-9)   | 7                             | 23,33         |
| 3. | High (10-12)   | 23                            | 76,67         |
| Total |                  | 30                            | 100           |

Group members stated that in groups sometimes problems arise both between members and administrators and with fellow group members. According to the members, the problems that arise can still be resolved in this case the group leader has an important role as an intermediary in the event of such a thing.

For the implementation of the organic village program to date the Lekke Farmers Group has carried out several stages of activities by managing assistance in the form of funds, agricultural tools and machinery, as well as production facilities. It is hoped that this will have a good impact on barangan banana farming so that the farmer groups can achieve their long-term goals.

Group Dynamics

In general, the results of this study indicate that the level of dynamism of farmer groups in the study area is in the high category. The dynamics of the group as a whole group elements can be seen in Table 7.

| No | Interval Score | Total of Respondents (people) | Percentage (%) |
|----|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Low (24-40)    | 0                             | 0             |
| 2. | Medium (41-57) | 0                             | 0             |
From the six indicators of group dynamics, the group atmosphere element obtained the highest percentage with an average score of 11.4. The Lekke farmer group members feel happy to join the group because of the comfortable atmosphere it creates. One of the benefits felt by members with a group is that the group becomes a forum for farmers to work together and stay in touch with each other. Togetherness and kinship that has been established makes the sense of belonging to the group stronger, because it was formed on the initiative of the members themselves, each member feels that they want to maintain and advance the Lekke Farmer Group so that the goals they formulate together can be achieved along with the activities of the farmer group.

4. Conclusion
Based on the description of the research results, it can be concluded that the dynamics of the Lekke Farmer Group of Barangan’s Banana is high. Of the six indicators assessed, all of the indicators are in the high or good category. Of the six indicators, the group atmosphere gets the highest percentage with an average score of 11.4.

References
[1] Darisandi R 2011 Kontribusi Fakultas Pertanian Teknologi Pertanian untuk Negeri (Yogyakarta: Universitas Gadjah Mada Press)
[2] Osak R and Hartono B 2016 Sustainability Status Assessment (SAA) in the integrated farming system of dairy-cattle and horticultural-crops in Indonesia Int. J. ChemTech Res. 9 575–82
[3] Hortikultura D J 2014 Rencana Strategis Direktorat Jenderal Hortikultura 2015-2019 Potensi, Permasalahan dan Tantangan Pengembangan Hortikultura. Direktorat Jenderal Hortik. [4] Purwadi T 2009 Analisis Pendapatan Usahatani Pisang Ambon melalui Program Primatani Fakultas Ekonomi dan Manajemen Skripsi. Inst. Pert. Bogor. Bogor [5] Kukuh 2009 Beras Untuk Keluarga Miskin, Membahas Tentang Bagaimana Kriteria-kriteria Penerima Beras Raskin (Solo: UNS Press) [6] Silalahi U 2012 Metode Penelitian Sosial (Bandung: Unpar Press)