ABSTRACT

The agricultural sector in Indonesia is one of the important sectors in the national economy, contributing to income and foreign exchange earnings. The plantation subsector is the largest contributor to agricultural exports. One of the plantation commodities with export potential is cloves; however, its export contribution remains relatively low despite Indonesia being the largest producer in the world. This indicates a gap between production capacity and export performance. Therefore, analyzing the competitiveness of cloves in the international market is important to determine the ability of this commodity to compete globally. The object of this study is Indonesian clove exports in the international market with India as the main competitor. The data used in this study are secondary data in the form of time series from 2015–2024 obtained from the United Nations Comtrade (Uncomtrade.org), the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), and other related sources. The method used to analyze competitiveness is the Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) approach.
The results show that the average RCA value of Indonesian cloves during 2015–2024 is 21.39 (>1), indicating that Indonesia has a strong comparative advantage and high competitiveness in the international market. Meanwhile, India, as a competing country, has an average RCA value of 0.82 (<1), indicating that it does not have a strong comparative advantage. However, the export values of both countries tend to fluctuate, influenced by production factors, domestic consumption, climate conditions, and global market demand. Thus, Indonesia remains more competitive in clove exports compared to India in the international market.

Keywords: export, cloves, competitiveness, revealed comparative advantage (RCA), Indonesia, India.