ABSTRAK

Petani kelapa sawit di Dusun Dolok Manunggal Kabupaten Tapanuli Selatan masih menghadapi berbagai permasalahan, terutama dalam proses pasca panen dan pengelolaan hasil perkebunan. Berbagai kendala seperti keterbatasan akses transportasi, tingginya biaya distribusi, fluktuasi harga tandan buah segar (TBS), serta keterbatasan pengawasan dalam proses penimbangan menyebabkan pendapatan petani tidak stabil. Secara umum, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis problematika pasca panen yang dihadapi petani kelapa sawit serta menganalisis involusi kesejahteraan petani kelapa sawit di Dusun Dolok Manunggal Kabupaten Tapanuli Selatan. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah kualitatif deskriptif dengan teknik pengumpulan data melalui observasi, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Informan dipilih secara purposive berdasarkan kriteria yang telah ditentukan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa problematika pasca panen petani meliputi ketergantungan terhadap jalur air dalam pengangkutan hasil panen, tingginya biaya transportasi dan bongkar muat, fluktuasi harga TBS, serta keterbatasan petani dalam mengawasi proses penimbangan. Kondisi tersebut semakin berat setelah banjir yang menyebabkan kerusakan kebun dan penurunan hasil panen. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga menunjukkan adanya kondisi kesejahteraan yang stagnan, yaitu aktivitas perkebunan dan tenaga kerja tetap dipertahankan, tetapi peningkatan usaha tersebut belum diikuti peningkatan kesejahteraan yang signifikan. Sebagian besar pendapatan petani kembali digunakan untuk biaya produksi dan operasional kebun, sementara ketergantungan terhadap toke melalui pinjaman modal turut mempertahankan kondisi ekonomi petani. Dengan demikian, dapat disimpulkan bahwa berbagai keterbatasan dalam sistem produksi dan pemasaran menyebabkan petani tetap mempertahankan usaha perkebunan kelapa sawit meskipun peningkatan kesejahteraannya masih terbatas.

Kata kunci: Problematika Pasca Panen, Kesejahteraan Petani, Petani Kelapa Sawit, Tapanuli Selatan

ABSTRACT

Oil palm farmers in Dolok Manunggal Hamlet, South Tapanuli Regency, continue to face various problems, particularly in the post-harvest process and the management of plantation products. Various constraints such as limited transportation access, high distribution costs, fluctuations in fresh fruit bunch (FFB) prices, as well as limited supervision during the weighing process cause farmers' incomes to remain unstable. In general, this study aims to analyze the post-harvest problems faced by oil palm farmers and to analyze the involution of oil palm farmers' welfare in Dolok Manunggal Hamlet, South Tapanuli Regency. The approach used in this study is a descriptive qualitative approach with data collection techniques through observation, interviews, and documentation. Informants were selected purposively based on predetermined criteria. The results of the study indicate that the post-harvest problems faced by farmers include dependence on waterways for transporting harvested products, high transportation and loading and unloading costs, fluctuations in FFB prices, as well as farmers' limited ability to monitor the weighing process. These conditions became more difficult following the flood, which caused damage to plantations and reduced harvest yields. In addition, this study also indicates the existence of stagnant welfare conditions, in which plantation activities and labor efforts continue to be maintained, but these efforts are not accompanied by a significant improvement in welfare. Most of the farmers' income is used again to cover production and plantation operational costs, while dependence on middlemen (toke) through capital loans contributes to maintaining farmers' economic conditions. Thus, it can be concluded that various limitations in the production and marketing systems cause farmers to continue maintaining their oil palm plantations, although improvements in their welfare remain limited.

Keywords: *Post-Harvest Problems, Farmers' Welfare, Oil Palm Farmers, South Tapanuli*