

ABSTRAK

PERAN PENYULUH PERTANIAN LAPANGAN (PPL) DALAM PENGEMBANGAN KELAS DAN FUNGSI KELOMPOK WANITA TANI DI KECAMATAN SENDANG AGUNG KABUPATEN LAMPUNG TENGAH

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Pembangunan ekonomi daerah tidak terlepas dari penguatan sektor produktif, salah satunya sektor pertanian yang berperan penting dalam menopang perekonomian nasional (Zuhdi, 2021). Upaya peningkatan kapasitas dan kesejahteraan petani dapat dilakukan melalui pengembangan kelembagaan, salah satunya melalui Kelompok Wanita Tani (KWT) yang berfungsi sebagai kelas belajar, wahana kerja sama, dan unit produksi dalam mendukung pemberdayaan perempuan serta peningkatan ekonomi keluarga (Permentan No. 67 Tahun 2016). Peran Penyuluh Pertanian Lapangan (PPL) menjadi faktor kunci dalam proses tersebut, karena penyuluh bertindak sebagai fasilitator, inovator, motivator, dinamisator, dan edukator dalam membina serta mengembangkan kelompok (Mardikanto, 2009). Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui karakteristik PPL, menganalisis peran PPL dalam pengembangan kelas dan fungsi KWT, serta menguji hubungan antara peran PPL dengan pengembangan fungsi KWT di Kecamatan Sendang Agung, Kabupaten Lampung Tengah. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif dengan metode survei terhadap 6 orang PPL dan 78 anggota KWT yang tersebar dalam 15 kelompok. Data dikumpulkan melalui kuesioner dan dianalisis menggunakan analisis deskriptif kuantitatif serta uji korelasi Rank Spearman. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa peran PPL berada pada kategori tinggi, namun pengembangan kelas KWT masih didominasi pada tingkat pemula. Selain itu, terdapat hubungan positif antara peran PPL dengan pengembangan fungsi KWT, yang menunjukkan bahwa semakin optimal peran penyuluh, maka semakin baik perkembangan fungsi kelompok.

Kata kunci : Peran penyuluh, kelompok wanita tani, fungsi kelompok

ABSTRACT

THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORKERS (PPL) IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLASS LEVELS AND FUNCTIONS OF WOMEN FARMERS GROUPS IN SENDANG AGUNG SUBDISTRICT, CENTRAL LAMPUNG REGENCY

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Regional economic development cannot be separated from the strengthening of productive sectors, particularly the agricultural sector, which plays an important role in supporting the national economy (Zuhdi, 2021). Efforts to improve farmers' capacity and welfare can be carried out through institutional development, one of which is through Women Farmer Groups (KWT), which function as learning classes, cooperation platforms, and production units to support women's empowerment and enhance household economic conditions (Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture No. 67 of 2016). The role of Agricultural Extension Workers (PPL) is a key factor in this process, as they act as facilitators, innovators, motivators, dynamizers, and educators in fostering and developing farmer groups (Mardikanto, 2009). This study aims to identify the characteristics of extension workers, analyze their roles in the development of group classes and functions, and examine the relationship between their roles and the development of Women Farmer Group functions in Sendang Agung District, Central Lampung Regency. The study employed a quantitative approach using a survey method involving 6 extension workers and 78 members of Women Farmer Groups across 15 groups. Data were collected through questionnaires and analyzed using descriptive quantitative analysis and Spearman rank correlation. The results show that the role of extension workers is categorized as high; however, the development of Women Farmer Group classes is still dominated by the beginner level. Furthermore, there is a positive relationship between the role of extension workers and the development of group functions, indicating that the more optimal the role of extension workers, the better the development of group functions.

Keywords: extension worker role, women farmer groups, group functions