

ABSTRACT

LAND USE CONVERSION FROM PADDY FARMING TO RUBBER PLANT IN WAY RAREM IRRIGATION AREA PULUNG KENCANA WEST TULANG BAWANG DISTRICT

By

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This research aims to: (1) determine factors that affect the size of land use conversion from paddy farming to rubber plant; (2) farmers' income and; (3) welfare of farmers who converted the land use.

This research was conducted in the Regional Irrigation area of Way Rarem Pulung Kencana, West Tulang Bawang Regency. Data were taken from March to April 2015. The sample consisted of 54 farmers in three sub-districts taken using Simple Random Sampling Method. They were 27 farmers from Tulang Bawang Tengah sub-district, 15 farmers from Tumijajar sub-district, and 12 farmers from Tulang Bawang Udik sub-district. Data were analyzed using a multiple linear regression, revenue analysis, and the level of welfare based on criteria of Sajogyo and the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The results showed that: (1) The factors that affect the land use conversion is the area of land and the percentage of irrigated paddy field throughout the year; (2) The economic value of the land (land rent) of rubber farming is 2.85 times larger than the land rent of paddy farming; (3) Based on the Sajogyo criteria (1997), 87.04 percent of respondents are categorized prosperous enough, while based on the criteria of the Central Bureau of Statistics (2007), all the farmer respondents belong to prosperous category.

Keywords: land use conversion, factors, income, and welfare.