

The Utilization of Yard with Longan Planting in Klambir Lima Kebun Village

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Abstract. Community service in the form of utilization of yard with longan planting was held in Klambir Lima Kebun Village from May to July 2017. The main purpose of this activity was to plant the fruit in the house yard of villagers. In addition, the specific target was to increase knowledge about the benefits of longan fruit by utilizing yard, and the expected results were the fulfilment of vitamin intake and the beautiful environment for people in the village. It is expected that the implementation of this activity would encourage villagers to utilize land around the yard of their houses. A yard in the village has not been utilized optimally to plant fruits by the villagers. Various sizes and forms of the yard can be used to plant healthy fruits, such as longan fruit. Methods used in this community service were lectures, discussions, and implementation of longan planting. The result of this activity was that the villagers planted longan seedlings in their house yard.

Keywords: Longan, Utilization of Yard

Abstrak: *Pengabdian masyarakat dalam pemanfaatan pekarangan dengan penanaman kelengkeng di desa Klambir Lima Kebun pada bulan Mei sampai dengan Juli 2017. Tujuan pengabdian masyarakat adalah melakukan penanaman buah pada lahan pekarangan rumah. Target khususnya adalah untuk menambah informasi tentang manfaat dari buah kelengkeng dengan pemanfaatan pekarangan yang mana hasilnya bias pemenuhan vitamin dan keindahan lingkungan rumah bagi keluarga di desa. Dalam pelaksanaan pengabdian ini diharapkan pada masyarakat agar dapat memanfaatkan lahan disekitar pekarangan rumahnya. Selama ini pekarangan di Desa kurang dimanfaatkan oleh masyarakat dengan tanaman buah-buahan. Lahan pekarangan dengan berbagai bentuk dan luas dapat dimanfaatkan dengan tanaman buah-buahan yang berguna, salah satunya adalah tanaman kelengkeng. Metode pelaksanaan pengabdian berupa ceramah dan diskusi, praktek penanaman*

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kelengkeng di lahan pekarangan rumah. Hasil dari pengabdian ini adalah masyarakat desa melakukan penanaman bibit kelengkeng pada lahan pekarangan rumah.

Kata kunci: Kelengkeng, Pemanfaatan Pekarangan

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1. Introduction

Klambir Lima Kebun Village is an assisted village which has been appointed by the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Pembangunan Panca Budi in Medan. As part of an Internal Grant Program from LPPM University of Pembangunan Panca Budi in Medan, a team of lecturers from the Faculty of Agriculture would conduct a community service in the assisted village. Therefore, prior to the implementation of community service, the team visited the village several times to observe the situation in the village. After that, the team decided to focus on the utilization of yard with longan planting in Klambir Lima Kebun Village.

Overall, the situation of the yard in this village was diverse. Most yards were only planted with flowers such as paper flowers while the number of fruit plants was very few. The types of fruit planted in their yard were including mango, rambutan, guava, coconut, and papaya. Planting in the yard mostly used a container such as flower pots, or used items such as buckets and vats. Some fruits were also planted directly to the ground in the yard, such as coconut, rambutan, papaya, and mango. However, those types of plants did not grow well because it was never nurtured, either with the use of organic or inorganic fertilization [1].

Yard is commonly known as a piece of land located around a house and has a clear boundary. As its location is near the house, yard could be easily cultivated by family members in their leisure time. Therefore, the utilization of yard might not only because of the results given, but also the beauty aspects. The commodities planted in the yard should be adjusted to the suitability of the area, market opportunities, and its value. Farming in the yard can be done at a cheaper cost because the waste produced can be recycled for the farming purpose [2].

The growth of population affects the availability of land. For example, many productive lands have been changed into residential, buildings, industries, and others. Nevertheless, people began to seek a solution to the problem of land constriction with the use of technology and innovation, such as sustainable use of house yard. This might support people to be creative, independent, and financially advanced. Yard has a high potential in terms of providing food for a family, reducing household expenses, and increasing the household income [3].

2. Method

One effort which can be done by the villagers is by utilizing their house yard optimally in order to obtain satisfying results in terms of quality and quantity. Yard has an important role in the village, such as to produce food and to create a lush atmosphere.

The sustainable use of yard means that yard is not utilized once or only when the local government reminds them, but more on an ongoing basis. This sustainable effort will provide benefits and convenience to the family because the long term purpose of this activity is to support the necessities of life. The role and the utilization of yard vary in each area depending on the level of needs, socio-culture, community education, as well as physical and ecological factors in that area. In Indonesia, the role of yard has not been fully addressed. In fact, if yard is managed properly, it will be able to increase the family income. Thus, the role of yard can affect the household economy indirectly.

Yard is an excellent agro-ecosystem and has a high potential to fulfil people's needs. In addition, if it is developed further, it will improve the household income and the welfare of communities, and the fulfillment of market needs. The utilization of yard is highly influenced by the role of the family in terms of looking at the opportunity, increasing their income, and providing additional value for the households. The role of villagers in the utilization of yard is relatively limited, so the development of various innovations related to the yard has not been much developed.

This community service provides motivation to the community to utilize yard around their houses optimally. Furthermore, the utilization of yard as a place to plant commodities can be used to fulfil the community's daily needs and to empower the community, especially housewives because it can increase their household income.

Yard can provide enormous benefits in supporting nutritional needs of the family as well as in increasing the beauty aspect of the environment (aesthetic) if managed and planned optimally. The use of yard for the maintenance of various commodities simultaneously or sequentially between trees and agricultural commodities is an integrated farming system which does not only provide tangible agricultural products, but also plays a role in the environmental conservation, such as coolness, freshness, and beauty in the residential area sustainably.

Work procedures for longan seedlings planting were:

1. Register group members
2. Lectures and discussions to increase the community's knowledge about longan fruit that would be planted in their house yard
3. Distribution longan seedlings and NPK fertilizer

Lecture topics were:

- Presentation of information and benefits of longan fruit
- Presentation about the utilization of yard
- Presentation about how to plant longan in the yard

Based on data, description of the yard size was collected from the villagers in Hamlet XV, Sedayu 2 Alley, Klambir Lima Kebun Village whose front yard is approximately 4 m², and longan fruit could be planted in the yard. The distribution of longan seedlings and NPK fertilizer was done in the following way. First, the seedlings distributed were 2 seedlings of longan fruit aged approximately 10 months with an average height of one meter and has leafy and fresh green. In other words, the seedlings distributed were in a good condition. Second, blue NPK fertilizer was distributed in a plastic clip containing 10 grams of fertilizer for one longan seedlings. The fertilizer was sprinkled around the stem of longan plant with approximately 10 cm of distance. After that, the plant was watered. Each people was given 2 packs of NPK fertilizer.

The longan planting in the villagers' house yard was done in the following ways:

- A planting hole with a diameter of 20 cm and a depth of 20 cm was made in the house yard determined as the longan planting site.
- After that, the polybag of longan plant seedlings was torn or cut carefully to avoid rupture of soil in the polybag which might damage the roots of the longan plants.
- Then, the seedlings were inserted into the planting hole carefully. Longan plants were positioned upright and not tilted.
- Once arranged, the planting hole was covered with top-soil. The planting hole was covered only up to the neck of the stem.
- The NPK fertilizer was then sprinkled around the stem of the plants and watered on the longan plants.

3. Results and Discussion

In accordance with the timetable, the methods, and the implementation of the program which has been determined, the activities and the results obtained in this activity were:

- a. There were a lecture and a discussion between the community service team and the villagers as participants. After the participants listened to the presentation, they asked about the benefits of longan fruit. Then, the community service team tried to explain that longan fruit is beneficial for health because the fruit contains lots of vitamins. Longan plants could also be used to beautify the yard of the villagers' houses by forming or cutting the plant in accordance with the conditions of the yard. Furthermore, longan plants could be grown in a pot, such as a bonsai tree. Therefore, longan plants are not difficult to be cultivated, and easy to maintain. When the flowering and fruiting periods come, longan plants should be taken care intensively. The fruits should be wrapped in a plastic net to avoid being eaten by animals, such as bats and birds.
- b. After the lectures and discussions, the activity was continued by distributing the NPK fertilizer and 100 longan seedlings to be planted in the yard of the villagers' houses.
- c. Each head of a household was given two seedlings ready for planting and two packs of NPK fertilizer in which one pack contained 10 g. Each of the longan seedlings was sown by one pack of NPK fertilizer around the plant.
- d. The arrangement and the process of longan planting were handed over to the villagers with the provision of the IBM team.
- e. The maintenance process, such as watering, weeding, and keeping the plants was performed by each household who received the longan seedlings.

4. Conclusion

The program of longan planting in Klambir Lima Kebun Village increased the number and variation of plants in the yard of the villagers' houses. The villagers obtained new knowledge about the benefits of longan fruit which could increase vitamin and nutrition in the digestive tract. The villagers could also recognize and understand about longan fruit better. The more diverse the number and the types of plants which are well laid out in the house yard might add the value of the house yard.

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