

IMPLEMENTATION OF SRI (SYSTEM OF RICE INTENSIFICATION) FOR INCREASING PADDY PRODUCTION AND SMALLHOLDER SELF SUFFICIENCY

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Abstract

This study provides empirical evidence by analyzing SRI adoption in the small farm sector in Citarum river basin, West Java, upstream region represented by Cianjur while the downstream region is represented by Karawang. Rice production will increase by application of the SRI method although there are additional costs related to farm labor. At the same price of rice, in the short run, increasing in production will increase farmers' income and in the long run, maintain the ecological sustainability of land. Increased production and improved soil conditions will ensure self-sufficiency of small farmers. The root problem and key issues in the implementation of SRI method at Cianjur related with lack of incentives for farmers to implement new methods. As in Karawang, the root cause of application SRI method related with no guarantee of market and government policy-related market aspects.

Key words: *rice production, land management, System of Rice Intensification*

Introduction

The efforts to increase rice production associated with seed technology, the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides which often exceed the dose. In the future, the excessive application of chemical inputs will lower soil productivity. One technology that could potentially improve rice production is rice cultivation system calls SRI (System of Rice Intensification). The practice of cropping pattern of SRI is emphasize the cultivation of land management, crop management and water through the empowerment of farmer groups and based on environmentally friendly.

System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is a method of intensive rice cultivation and efficient, with management of the root system based on soil and crop water management, while maintaining productivity and promoting ecological values. Ecological means the harmony and balance with the environment, both biotic and a biotic environment (Rochaedi, 2004; Disperta Tasikmalaya, 2007). In SRI method, the value of ecological is importance because there is a presumption that SRI should use the organic input of

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