ABSTRACT

Analysis on Farmer’s Perception and Attitude toward the Application of Organic Farming System in Eastern Jakarta

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The aims of this study were: 1) to identify and make inventory of the organic farming system management activities in the Municipality of Jakarta, 2) to analyze the farmer’s perception toward the application of organic farming system, 3) to find out the farmer’s attitude level and the factors influencing the application of organic farming system, and 4) to develop the strategies to enhance the application of organic farming system.

The method of study used was survey. The primary data were obtained from respondents through field observation and structured interview using questionnaires, while the secondary data were obtained from desk study on numerous literatures, relevant reports and documents from concerned institutions. The processing of qualitative data was conducted through qualitative descriptive analysis, while the quantitative data were analyzed using non-parametric analysis (Mann Whitney Test and Chi-Quadrate) and factor analysis.

The results of study showed that in a broad outline the organic farming system management activities in the Municipality of Jakarta should: 1) conduct the field school on integrated pest management, 2) conduct the demonstration plot and the testing of production means for organic farming system, and 3) form the organic farming development group. The farmer’s perception toward the application of organic farming system showed a real difference, where organic farmer had higher perception compared to non-organic farmer. The results of factor analysis toward the farmer’s perception were categorized into three factors, i.e. 1) knowledge and availability of organic production means, 2) object superiority, and 3) economic benefit. Meanwhile, the farmer’s attitude toward organic farming system showed a significant difference between organic and non-organic farmers. The attitude level of organic farmer was higher than non-organic farmer. From the results of factor analysis toward the farmer’s attitude, there were four key factor groups, i.e. 1) innovation and availability of supporting means, 2) farmer’s competence, 3) innovation characteristic, and 4) extension quality.

Thus, the strategies to be conducted by the Agricultural and Forestry Services of the Municipality of Jakarta and its concerned institutions are: to increase the frequency of meeting between farm officer and field extension officer; to improve the knowledge and insight of farmers by conducting intensive training on organic farming; to increase the intensity of development and strengthen the institutional of organic farming development group; to provide facilities for supplying the organic farming production means at farmer level; and to provide facilities for integrated cooperation between farmers, agribusiness community, and institutions running in organic farming sector. While some suggestions to follow-up are: 1) it is necessary to conduct further study on the external factors influencing the farmer’s attitude in the application of organic farming system, and 2) there should be a study to obtain information on the consumer’s perception toward the production of organic farming system.