INVENTORY OF REGIONAL POTENTIAL FOR LEADING COMMODITIES IN SUPPORTING REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS IN LAREH SAGO HALABAN DISTRICT, LIMAPULUH KOTA REGENCY

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Abstract

Commodity development in rural areas is a major concern to support regional economic competitiveness. This regional development aims to build and increase interdependence and interaction between economic systems, humans or communities in the environment and natural resources. Each region has its own advantages in developing commodities which are considered capable of improving the regional economy which is supported by the competitiveness of the commodities in that region. Lareh Sago Halaban district has superior commodities such as rubber, coconut, palm sugar, areca nut and gambier which can be developed for the community to increase economic competitiveness.

Keywords : ***commodity, competitiveness, economic, leading, regional***

1. INTRODUCTION

Development of rural area approach and the development of agricultural activities have recently received more special attention. Efforts to develop the agricultural sector can be made by knowing the level of productivity of each commodity in each region. The needs to be done to find out how much potential and competitiveness the development of each commodity has. Potential and competitiveness can be predicted and measured through the area distribution and level of productivity of each commodity. Geographically, each region has different characteristics which are determined by the process of its formation. These characteristics make each region have different capabilities in terms of potential, diversity of resources and environmental capabilities. To be able to determine the level of environmental capacity and potential possessed by each rural area, regional mapping efforts are needed which include identification, inventory and zoning activities. These efforts are needed to measure the area distribution and level of productivity of each commodity. Mapping activity on commodities in the agricultural sector will be able to estimate how big the potential for developing superior commodities is in each region. The known potential for commodity development will later become a major force in reducing regional disparities that occur between rural and urban areas.

Each village has its own potential which can be utilized for the development of the village itself. Village potential is the power, strength, ability and ability possessed by a village which has the possibility of being developed in order to improve community welfare. The aim of developing village potential is to realize the independence of village communities in utilizing village potential (Soleh, 2017). Village independence will encourage poverty alleviation driven by the abilities of the people within it (Prayitno et al., 2019). Apart from that, village independence will reduce the interest of village people to work outside the village or become migrant workers abroad (Prayitno et al., 2013). Halaban is a village (nagari) in the Lareh Sago Halaban District, Limapuluh Kota Regency, West Sumatra, Indonesia. Halaban has several jorongs including Air Babar, Alang Laweh, Atas Laban, Kabun, Kapalo Koto, Lambuak, Lompek and Padang Tangah.

Table 1. Production of People's Plantation Crops According to Districts in Limapuluh Kota Regency (Ton)

District-Regency	Coconut	Areca Nut	Rubber	Robusta Coffee	Tobacco	Gambier	Clove	Palm Sugar	Cinnamon	Cocoa
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Payakumbuh	505.50	35.55	21.00	0.90	-	210.00	5.85	10.50	28.00	381.65
Akabiluru	131.00	15.60	36.00	60.00	6.00	-	4.50	-	17.60	117.67
Luak	1.70	20.00	3.60	2.00	8.00	-	-	2.00	1.70	9.00
Lareh Sago Halaban	**19.27**	**30.03**	**275.26**	**2.15**	**15.68**	**73.78**	**-**	**29.83**	**14.56**	**20.06**
Situjuah Limo Nagari	227.30	10.78	2.56	7.31	49.56	-	4.24	5.50	5.55	143.22
Harau	303.02	15.18	16.19	2.42	1.82	235.41	0.97	4.50	-	170.54
Guguak	1252.50	101.12	30.90	41.28	16.70	-	14.82	7.28	102.46	198.80
Mungka	1350.00	12.00	95.19	60.00	-	60.00	10.40	320.00	12.00	60.00
Suliki	176.80	5.95	59.00	28.80	10.00	52.80	2.50	72.00	78.00	156.00
Bukik Barisan	138.00	38.75	145.95	86.45	68.00	1312.50	15.30	23.40	-	378.12
Gunuang Omeh	37.50	7.10	1.00	31.00	3.20	-	4.70	20.00	82.00	25.00
Kapur IX	21.90	45.77	3067.90	-	-	3439.35	-	-	-	21.36
Pangkalan Koto Baru	59.01	105.04	2893.55	7.26	-	2442.85	-	-	-	47.00
LimaPuluh Kota	4223.50	442.87	6648.10	332.57	178.96	7826.69	63.28	495.01	341.87	1728.42

Reference: BPS Kabupaten Lima Puluh Kota Tahun 2021

From the table above, it can be seen that Nagari Halaban has potential for plantation commodities including rubber, gambier, palm sugar and cocoa. The presentation of the potential and problems that exist in Nagari Halaban is the basis for conducting research and preparing development plans for Nagari Halaban. Community participation in village development is important when it is based on the belief that the community knows best what is needed. The hope is that by relying on community participation through the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) method, results will be obtained in the form of future village development planning. Nagari Halaban faces a number of problems that underlie the need for inventory, mapping and development strategies for superior plantation commodities. Unclear potential of plantation commodities, without in-depth research and inventory, it is difficult to know the potential of plantation commodities in Nagari Halaban. Lack of information regarding land conditions and its use, accurate information regarding land conditions and its use is very important to develop effective strategies. Without clear mapping, it is difficult to determine what types of plants are suitable for planting in each part of Nagari Halaban. In addition, knowledge about existing land use will help in organizing and managing resources more efficiently.

Apart from the lack of development of superior commodities, without a clear development strategy, the potential of superior commodities in Nagari Halaban may not be fully utilized. Lack of focus on commodities that have competitiveness and comparative advantage can hamper economic growth and development in the region. Challenges in implementing agricultural technology: Current plantation crops can benefit greatly from advances in agricultural technology. However,

applying the right technology requires a deep understanding of the commodity and local conditions. By carrying out inventory and mapping, Nagari Halaban can gain the knowledge necessary to identify the most suitable technology to optimize production and efficiency.

In order to overcome this problem, inventory, mapping and development strategies for superior plantation commodities are important. These steps will provide a better understanding of the potential of plantation commodities in Nagari Halaban, identify development opportunities, and enable efficient use of resources. In addition, a planned development strategy can encourage economic growth and improve the welfare of local communities. Based on the background and problems above, this research aims to inventory superior plantation commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District, Limapuluh Kota Regency and to look for the best efforts that can be made to develop commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District, Limapuluh Kota Regency

2. IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

The research was conducted in Lareh Sago Halaban District, Limapuluh Kota Regency, West Sumatra Province. The choice of research location was carried out purposively with the assumption that Lareh Sago Halaban District is a producing area for cocoa, gambier and rubber as well as other plantation crop commodities. This research activity was carried out from August to October 2023. The data used in this research is secondary data and primary data. Secondary data collection was carried out through literature studies, exploration of available literature and data, conducting in-depth interviews with officials from relevant agencies, farmer groups and community leaders. To achieve the research objectives, approaches were used, namely Desk Study, Survey, and Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Below is an explanation of each of these approaches.

Desk Study

Secondary data collection was carried out through a desk study to obtain data on the potential of plantation crops such as cocoa, gambier, rubber and other plantation crop commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District. This approach is carried out by collecting all documents containing secondary data from relevant agencies and research results on the region's superior commodities.

Survey

Survey dilakukan untuk memperoleh data dan informasi sehubungan dengan pengumpulan data ,luas lahan, posisi kebun, kapasitas petani dan usahatani milik petani. Data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan metoda wawancara dan observasi lapangan. Wawancara akan dilakukan di lokasi kebun atau di tempat yang di sepakati. Instrumen yang digunakan dalam wawancara adalah kuisioner atau daftar pertanyaan serta alat perekam wawancara. Untuk metoda observasi langsung ke lapangan akan digunakan alat bantu berupa kamera set.

Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

This approach was carried out with the aim of obtaining information related to community perceptions regarding the development of superior plantation commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District. Participants in this FGD consisted of heads of farmer groups, community leaders, related agencies, field agricultural instructors. The data analysis method used is qualitative analysis carried out using descriptive methods. The descriptive method is a method used to examine the status of a group of people, an object, a set of conditions, a system of thought, or a class of events in the present (Nazir, 2014). The descriptive method in this research is used to translate secondary data

obtained from the results of data collection so that it can then describe the potential of the Lareh Sago Halaban District area.

To carry out a qualitative descriptive inventory of superior commodities by collecting as much information as is needed to map the commodities at the research location. As well as the resources owned, as a basis for planning, and identifying critical factors for inventory. This requires identifying stakeholders, identifying competition, building monitoring systems, building information systems, identifying key processes.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Geographic Conditions of the Research Area

Lareh Sago Halaban District consists of 8 Nagari, namely: Ampalu, Balai Panjang, Batu Payuang, Bukik Sikumpa, Halaban Labuah Gunuang, Sitanang and Tanjuang Gadang. Based on geographical position, Lareh Sago Halaban District borders 4 regional boundaries, namely, to the north with Harau District and Kampar Regency, Riau Province, to the south, Tanah Datar Regency, to the west, Luak District and to the east, Tanah Datar Regency and Sijunjung Regency. Lareh Sago Halaban District has an area of 394.85 km2, with a population of 37,973 people in 2018. Consisting of 19,185 women and 18,788 men. They live in 8 villages.

3.2 Identification of Regional Leading Commodities

The results of the identification of regional superior agricultural commodities spread across 8 Nagari in Lareh Sago Halaban District from the results of a survey of stakeholders, namely the Head of Lareh Sago Halaban District and Koperindag, show that plantation and horticultural commodities include: Areca nut, sugar palm, and other commodities. To see the amount of harvest production and harvest area, see the following table:

Table 2. Total Area and Harvest Production of Plantation Commodities

Commodities	Harvest Are (Ha)	Production (Ton)
Cinnamon	22	14,56
Coconut	299	19,27
Rubber	719	374,4
Coffee	8	275,26
Cocoa	594	2,15
Clove	23	2,15
Areca Nut	100	30,03
Tobacco	8	15,68

From table 2 above, it can be seen that the cocoa commodity appears to have the highest area but the resulting production is still low compared to other commodities such as coffee and areca nuts. From the results in the field, the current low production is caused by many diseases in the cocoa commodity. It is difficult for farmers to maintain cocoa plants, so many farmers switch to other commodities by leaving the cocoa plants on their land. Based on the results of a literature study (desk study), it explains the leading agricultural commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District in terms of production, area and crop harvest area in 8 Nagari including Nagari Bukik Sikumpa,

Balai Panjang, Batu Payung, Labuah Gunung, Sitanang, Tanjung Gadang, Halaban and Ampalu which consists of horticultural and plantation crops, namely large chilies, eggplant, cucumber, tomatoes, shallots, coconut, areca nut, cocoa, tobacco. In this research area, not only plantation crop commodities are cultivated, there are food and horticultural crop commodities which also provide quite good income for farmers. Among the horticultural crops cultivated are chilies, tomatoes and onions as seen in table 3 below.

Table 3. Total Area and Harvest Production of Horticultural Commodities

Commodities	Harvest Area (Ha)	Production (Ton)
Shallot	6	347
Large Chili	60	16.756
Tomato	39	4.654

From table 3, it can be seen that the chili commodity also has quite good potential for development, as evidenced by the harvest area being quite high compared to shallots and being able to produce higher production compared to shallot production.

Table 4. Total Area and Harvest Production of Medicinal Plant Commodities

Commodities	Harvest Area (m^2)	Production (kg)
Ginger	4250	105.550
Laos	700	3.775
Aromatic Ginger	250	630
Turmeric	850	1.820

Based on table 4 above, the highest harvest area for the ginger commodity was with a production of 105,550 kg, this ginger commodity is one of the leading commodities for medicinal plants in Lareh Sago Halaban District. Furthermore, the turmeric commodity also plays an important role as a superior commodity which has a production of 1,820 kg per year.

3.3 Priority for Development of Leading Commodities

From the results of observations and interviews as well as data received from the Regional Agricultural Extension Center, Lareh Sago Halaban District, there are several superior commodities that are priority development, including Rubber, Coconut, Palm Sugar, Areca Nut and Gambier. The planting area for each commodity can be seen in the following table.

Table 5. Featured Commodities of Lareh Sago Halaban District in 2023

Commodities	Rubber	Coconut	Palm Sugar	Areca Nut	Gambier
Planting Area (Ha)	95	79	2	73	119	6	12

This superior commodity is spread across several villages including Nagari Tanjuang Gadang, Halaban, Ampalu, Labuah Gunuang. Of these five leading commodities, Palm Sugar and Gambier are still commodities that have a fairly high economic lifespan. For this reason, special

attention is needed for the development of other superior commodities. The development of superior commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District is an important step in supporting economic growth and welfare of the local community. In this district, superior commodities such as rubber, coconut, palm sugar, areca nut and gambier have great potential to make a significant contribution. The first step that must be taken is selecting superior varieties that are suitable for local environmental conditions. Furthermore, good agricultural practices, quality plant maintenance, and careful processing of produce are the keys to success. Product diversification can also be a smart strategy to expand markets and farmers' income. It is also important to establish partnerships with various parties, including processing companies and collectors, and ensure a good understanding of the policies that support the development of this commodity. With commitment, hard work and the right support, the development of this superior commodity has great potential to improve economic and social welfare in Lareh Sago Halaban District.

Apart from plantation crop commodities, there are also other commodities such as horticulture and others which also support the economic improvement of the community in the Lareh Sago Halaban District. The community is quite motivated to develop commodities that are superior in this area, especially to improve the local economy. Furthermore, in efforts to develop superior commodities in Lareh Sago Halaban District, investment is needed in infrastructure that supports the production and distribution of these superior commodities. Building a good road network, irrigation, and means of improving product quality such as processing centers, factories, or storage facilities are important steps to increase production efficiency and market access. Apart from that, training and education for local farmers and producers is also a key factor in commodity development. Improving their knowledge and skills in modern agricultural techniques, natural resource management, and sustainable business practices can help improve productivity and product quality. It is also important to promote cooperation between farmers and producers in the form of cooperatives or joint business groups. This can help them gain mutual benefits from joint marketing, cheaper purchasing of agricultural inputs, and access to greater resources and assistance. Additionally, developing local and export markets is an important step in increasing income and increasing economic impact in this area. Facilitating access to regional, national and even international markets through product promotion, improving quality and meeting quality standards is an important step in developing commodities.

Finally, it is also important to consider environmental sustainability in the development of this commodity. Implementing environmentally friendly agricultural practices and considering the environmental impacts of commodity production are important steps to maintain the balance of local ecosystems. With these efforts, it is hoped that the Lareh Sago Halaban District in Limapuluh Kota Regency can experience sustainable economic growth, improve the quality of life of the community, and contribute to overall sustainable development.

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