

Farmer Group of Sukawening, the First Winner of Fisheries at Provincial Level

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I warmly welcome the first Friday Tour (Jumling) in Sukawening. "I hope with this Friday Tour the aspirations of the community can be facilitated by IPB for their solutions," said the village Chief of Sukawening Husen in the Jumling (30/9). His statement indicates the waiting and strong hopes for the activities of Jumling in 17 villages around the campus. The majority of Sukawening villagers have the livelihoods in the forms of farming, livestock breeding, aquaculture and small and medium businesses such as selling taro lunkhead. The obstacle they often face is a limited capital. This situation is made use of by mobile banks to tie people. "They seemed to help, but actually trap the people into high interest rates," Husen said.

A pride for the villagers is, said Husen, that the farmer group of fisheries in the village won the first championship at the provincial level. "Both breeding, disease control, harvesting and feeding done by the farmers here can be compared to the skills of IPB students. Unfortunately, for some unknown reasons, last year we suffered some loss in fishery. Many healthy fish suddenly died," said Husen. Fish farmers have requested IPB researchers for assistance to examine the causes of these fish deaths.

Responding to the problem, IPB researcher of Faculty of Animal Husbandry, Dr. Tatag Budiardi said that the death of fish kills was possibly because of two things: a disease (viral) and poor water quality. "If such a case happens again, please send water samples to IPB. The fish died probably not due to diseases but poor water quality, that is, because of lack of oxygen, contaminated water, or anything else," said Dr. Tatag.

Meanwhile, Head of Darmaga District, Arom Munandar said that Husen is an example of a village chief who was always complaining why his village was not included in the program of IPB Friday Tour. "With his initiative, the Sukawening village was finally put into the Program," he said.

In his speech, Vice Head for the Community Services of the Institute for Research and Community Service (LPPM) IPB, Dr. Prastowo said that the purpose of Jumling is to establish communication between IPB and the villages surrounding the campus. "We can not help with all problems. However, we will facilitate to solve the problems faced by the people of Sukawening especially related to agriculture. With this facilitation, we expect stronger support and the government becomes more motivated to solve the people's problems," continued Dr. Prastowo. (Mtd)