

**PETROKIMIA GRESIK EXPANDS THE BENEFITS  
OF PROJECT 'AGRO SOLUTION' FOR EDAMAME FARMERS IN JEMBER  
WITH AN INCREASE IN REVENUE UP TO RP 5.5 MILLION/HA**

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Petrokimia Gresik Agro Solution Project also targets edamame farmers on demonstration plots in Rowo Tengah Village, Sumberbaru District, Jember Regency. From the harvest of the partnership program with PT Mitratani Dua Tujuh, Monday (26/9), the income of edamame farmers increased to Rp 5.5 million/ha.

Director of Operations and Production of Petrokimia Gresik, Digna Jatningsih said that Petrokimia Gresik will continue to expand the range of benefits of the Agro Solution project. For the first time, the program initiated by Pupuk Indonesia as the holding of Petrokimia Gresik held a plot for edamame commodities.

"The new Petrokimia Gresik Agro Solution Program targeted farmers in Temanggung (Central Java) and Jember. As for the plot, this (Jember, ed) is the first time. *Alhamdulillah*, the productivity and income of farmers have increased," Digna said in front of the media crew.

From the plot harvest, Agro Solution was able to increase the productivity of edamame up to 13.2 tons / Ha, or an increase of 6 percent compared to the previous farmer's cultivation which was only 12.4 tons / Ha. Likewise, with the increasing income of farmers, Jember edamame farmers earned an income of Rp 82.2 million/ha. This income increased by 7 percent or Rp 5.5 million/ha compared to the previous result of around Rp 76.7 million/ha.

This increase in productivity and income was generated from the application of Petrogenic organic fertilizer as much as 480 Kg / Ha, then non-subsidized pupuk Petrocas each 480 Kg / Ha, then Petro Gladiator (2 Kg / Ha), Phonska Plus (200 Kg / Ha), Urea (150 Kg / Ha), ZA Plus (50 Kg / Ha), and Petro Biofertil (40 Kg / Ha).

Meanwhile, ZA Plus is a new product that was launched right on the occasion of the 50th golden year of Petrokimia Gresik. Petro ZA Plus is a form of the company's contribution to the advancement of agriculture in Indonesia and in a joint effort to maintain national food security.

ZA Plus Nitrogen content of 21%, Sulfur of 24%, and Zinc of 1000 ppm. The advantages of this fertilizer can spur the growth of the number of saplings, plant height, and several leaves and make the leaf color appear greener. In addition, it also improves the quality of crop yields by improving the color, aroma, taste, and size of the fruit, as well as making plants more resistant to pest or diseases. In today's harvest, the quality of edamame appears from its physical form, more weighty.

"This plot is also our educational medium for farmers if the use of non-subsidized fertilizers can increase farmers' incomes so that farmers do not rely on subsidized fertilizers whose allocation is very limited. For this reason, we hope that this plot can be imitated by other edamame farmers in Jember and East Java so that it can encourage regional economic growth," said Digna.

Head of the Department of Plantation Food Crops and Horticulture of Jember Regency, Imam Sudarmaji, who was also present at the harvest plot, said that edamame is an icon of the city of Jember because this area has specific agroclimatic and is suitable for edamame cultivation. Jember edamame products are also competitive and in great demand. For this reason, jember edamame production must be increased to meet domestic and foreign needs.

"The socialization of edamame cultivation is very appropriate. This is to help edamame farmers in Jember in increasing their productivity," he said.

Meanwhile, the Director of Mitratani Dua Tujuh, Arif Suhariadi, revealed that his party is an exporter of edamame terbesar in Indonesia to various countries, especially Japan. The Agro Solution program presented by Petrokimia Gresik is very helpful for his company in improving export performance through increased productivity and edamame quality from its fostered farmer.

"Through this program, we hope that the quality of edamame produced by our partner farmers is of the same quality as we expected, and the results from the plot harvest are seen heading in that direction (according to the expected quality, ed). This will be a cultivation plan for new farmers who are our partners because it is very profitable and prosperous," said Arif.

Meanwhile, Agro Solution is presented as a solution to farmers' problems in the field, including low productivity, lack of assistance, unaffordable agro-input prices (fertilizers, pesticides, and seeds), difficulty in access to financial institutions, a limited number of Field Agricultural Extension Officers (PPL), selling prices of crops that tend to fall during the harvest, and farmers have not been facilitated from the risk of crop failure and limited infrastructure.

Agro Solution strives to create a comprehensive agricultural ecosystem, both on the farm and off the farm, starting from providing funds or business capital in synergy with banking institutions, then insurance guarantees, fertilizer availability, and pest control, to off-takers.

For Eastern Java, namely Jember, Banyuwangi, Bondowoso, and Lumajang, the project Agro Solution have targeted an area of 7,599.31 ha involving 3,484 farmers. Meanwhile, the commodities cultivated include rice, sugarcane, and horticulture.

In this program, Petrokimia Gresik has the responsibility of assisting cultivation by providing Test Car Soil services to see the condition of the soil, so that the fertilization composition is accurate with optimal results. Then provide quality fertilizer and pest control.

"Farmers can focus on cultivation because Agro Solution provides solutions for farmers from the beginning of cultivation to post-harvest," concluded Digna.

PT Petrokimia Gresik

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