

PETROKIMIA GRESIK PROMOTES THE BIRTH OF EDUFARM LITERASI, AN INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL LIVESTOCK ECOSYSTEM IN EAST JAVA

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Petrokimia Gresik continues to increase support for its Social and Environmental Responsibility (TJSL) program by promoting the development of the "Edufarm" in the Summersari Village, Sambeng Sub-district, Lamongan Regency, through the Literasi or Integrated Livestock Environment Program. The Literasi Program implements a smart agribusiness ecosystem that can create solutions for agricultural and livestock risks through the first waste-based insurance and savings in East Java.

Petrokimia Gresik's President Director, Dwi Satriyo Annurogo, on Thursday (10/6), explained that the origin of this program started from the "Suri Insap" or Summersari Cattle Industry run by the Sumber Rejeki Livestock Farmers Group since 2018 when it only focused on managing agricultural waste into fermentation feed or silage.

"Through various sustainable guidance, this program continues to grow and become a solution and provide wider benefits, not only to its practitioners but also to the community," said Dwi Satriyo.

The first development was carried out from 2019 to 2020, when members of the group began to utilize animal waste, which has long been an environmental problem, as a planting medium. Then in 2021, the Literasi Program began to focus on involving all sectors, such as agriculture, livestock, and other potentials in the village to collaborate in forming educational farms, also known as edufarms.

"This year, we support the group in transforming into the Literasi Sumber Rejeki Farmers and Livestock Cooperative, so that all business fields in this program have strong legal coverage to support future development," said Dwi Satriyo.

Meanwhile, a local hero and Chairman of the Literasi Sumber Rejeki Farmers and Livestock Cooperative, Tomi Distianto, said that Edufarm Literasi aims to be a learning place for people of all ages about the management of integrated agricultural-livestock ecosystems.

The first learning is the making of silage, which is the management of agricultural waste into fermented livestock feed. This is a solution offered by Petrokimia Gresik to the group to solve the problem of burning agricultural waste, which harms the environment.

"Currently, the group is capable of processing 60 tons of agricultural waste into silage annually, which is not only used for their livestock but also sold to several cattle farmers in the Lamongan District," Tomi said.

Then, the group is capable of processing 504 tons of livestock waste into planting media under the brand "Literasi," which has been patented. The products are already marketed in Lamongan, Jombang, Bojonegoro, Mojokerto, Gresik, Malang, and Tuban.

Before being marketed, the "Literasi" planting media was applied in a trial farm that utilized idle land around the pens. This farm was planted with various horticultural and foliage crops,



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such as tomatoes, chili, turmeric, and others. The harvested crops were then used by the cattle farmer's wife as raw materials for her catering business and turmeric-tamarind drinks.

"Thus, the women in Summersari Village are also empowered and able to increase their family's income," Tomi added.

In addition to planting media, cow manure is also processed into biogas as a fuel for stoves and lamps for operational activities in the pens. The liquid biogas residue is then utilized in aquaculture and the solid residue is used as a worm culture medium, which also has economic value so that there is no waste left unused (zero waste).

In terms of business management, the community can also learn how to manage a smart agribusiness, which is currently being run by the Literasi Sumber Rejeki Farming and Livestock Cooperative.

This cooperative has implemented a Literasi Bank system that provides convenience for both livestock farmers and rice farmers in accessing livestock insurance (AUTS/buffalo) and rice insurance (AOTP).

In this case, the livestock farmer only needs to deposit 15 sacks of cow manure as a replacement for the insurance premium that is paid by the cooperative for one head of cattle. In addition to insurance, the livestock farmer can also send animal waste to the cooperative with a replacement fee of IDR 3,000 per sack. Meanwhile, for rice farmers who want to register for AOTP, they just need to exchange 15 sacks of straw/rice waste to insure one hectare of rice fields.

Finally, Dwi Satriyo emphasized that as part of a state-owned enterprise (BUMN) with a development agency function, Petrokimia Gresik will continue to increase its commitment to promoting the improvement of community welfare through community empowerment programs like Literasi.

"Through the Literasi program, the community is able to turn problems into solutions, which is in line with the spirit of Petrokimia Gresik as an Agroindustrial Solution company. I hope the Literasi Edufarm can also inspire other livestock farmers and rice farmers in East Java," Dwi Satriyo concluded.

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