

PRESS RELEASE

THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND PRODUCTION OF PETROKIMIA GRESIK ASSESSES THE PROGRAM "LITERASI" DIRECTLY TO EVALUATE ITS USEFULNESS FOR MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY

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The Director of Operations and Production of Petrokimia Gresik, a member of the Indonesian Fertilizer Holding's Agroindustry Solution company, Digna Jatiningsih, visited the community development program "Literasi" or Integrated Cattle Farming Environment in Sumbersari Village, Sambeng District, Lamongan. The field inspection on Saturday, November 5th was in the form of monitoring.

During her visit, Digna conveyed that the monitoring was to ensure how far the Literasi program provides benefits and welfare to the group members and surrounding communities. In addition, it was also in preparation for Petrokimia Gresik to face the 2023 PROPER assessment organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia.

"PROPER is important, but what is the priority for Petrokimia Gresik in the Literasi program is the well-being that must be felt by the beneficiaries and the community, so that this program can inspire and become a solution to the same problem elsewhere," said Digna.

Literasi is a community development program established by Petrokimia Gresik to respond to the risks of agriculture and animal husbandry in Sumbersari Village. This program, which was initiated in 2018, has now become a smart agribusiness ecosystem. Through this program, the Farming and Livestock Group "Sumber Rejeki" which manages Literasi has won first place in the East Java Provincial Level Agricultural Business Management Competition in 2022.

Previously, this program was called "Suri Insap" which is an acronym for "Sumbersari Industry Cattle". At the beginning of the accompaniment, Petrokimia Gresik provided a solution for managing agricultural waste into fermented feed or silage. This is the answer to overcoming the problem of burning agricultural waste that harms the environment.

Now the group can process 60 tons of agricultural waste per year into silage, which is not only used for the group's livestock but also sold to several cattle farmers in the Lamongan Regency area.

Then, development began in 2019 to 2020, when group members began to use livestock waste, which has been a source of environmental problems, as a planting medium. This group now has a trademark "Literasi" which has been patented for the planting medium of its production.

The group is now able to process 504 tons of livestock waste per year. Its products are marketed in Lamongan, Jombang, Bojonegoro, Mojokerto, Gresik, Malang, and Tuban.

The "Literasi" planting media is also applied in the experimental garden that utilizes idle land around the group's barn. The garden is planted with various horticultural plants and medicinal plants, such as tomatoes, chili peppers, turmeric, and others.



"The harvest is then used by the farmers' wives as raw materials for catering businesses and turmeric and sour drink businesses so that the women in the Sumbersari village are also empowered and can increase their income," said Digna.

In addition to being a planting media, cow manure is processed into biogas as fuel for stoves and lamps for operational activities in the barn. The liquid biogas residue is then utilized for aquaculture and the solid residue becomes a worm breeding medium which is also economically valuable, so there is no waste left unused (zero waste).

In terms of business management, this group has implemented a Literasi Bank system that provides ease for farmers and rice farmers to access AUTS/K (Livestock Business Insurance/Buffalo) and AUTP (Rice Farming Business Insurance). Farmers only need to deposit 15 bags of cow manure as a replacement for the insurance premium paid by the cooperative for one cow.

In addition to insurance, farmers can also send livestock waste to the cooperative for a fee of IDR 3,000 per bag. For rice farmers who want to register for AUTP, they only need to exchange 15 bags of straw/agricultural waste to insure one hectare of rice fields.

Meanwhile, in 2021, the Literasi program began to focus on the involvement of all sectors, including agriculture, livestock farming, and another potential in the village to synergize in forming an education barn, also known as an edufarm. This development program aims to build a learning place for people of all ages about integrated agricultural-livestock ecosystem management.

In the same year, Petrokimia Gresik also supported the transformation of the organization into the Literasi Sumber Rejeki Agricultural-Livestock Cooperative, so that all business fields in this program have a strong legal umbrella to support future development.

"The Literasi program is not only a comprehensive solution but also provides sustainable empowerment for the surrounding community," Digna concluded.

Meanwhile, regarding PROPER, he added that the evaluation now not only covers the company's compliance in environmental management but also assesses how beneficial the presence of the company is to the community. Literasi is one manifestation of Petrochemical Gresik's commitment in the community development program, which is to develop and grow together with the community.

"Petrochemical Gresik, which has received the PROPER GOLD, continues to strive to improve the standard of environmental management and community development, thus providing a positive and sustainable impact on the community," Digna concluded.

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