ABSTRACTS

GEORGE S. J. TOMATALA, 2008. The Competence and Powerness of the Cattle farmers to improving beef business (Case on West Seram, Mollucas). Under supervision by BASITA GINTING SUGIHEN as a chief; DJOKO SUSANTO and PANG S. ASNGARI as members.

The research objectives are: (1) To find out and describe the factors related to the competencies and capabilities of farmers due to manage and improving beef business, (2) To find out the level of cattle farmer competencies and develop the product, and (3) To formulate or to design a strategy how to improve cattle farmer powerness in West Seram. Structural Equation Model (SEM) was used to analyze quantitative data. From the five variable used to measure the cattle farmer competencies, it can be showed that only three of the variables significantly effect the farmer’s competencies. Those variable were human capital, physical capital and natural capital. The competencies level of the farmers on semi intensive and intensive care system were higher than extensive care system. The farmer entrepreneur competencies were higher than technical competencies. There’re significant effects of the human capital, social capital, physical capital and local government support to the powerness or capabilities of the farmers.

Two aspects of the cattle farmer competencies, witch was surveyed, where the level of cattle farmer technical competencies which they has mastered and, such as: (1) The used of breed in open area has a high level category, (2) The use of feed has a high level competencies, and (3) Marketing system has resulted middle category. The entrepreneur competencies have been also achieved by the farmers includes: (1) The ability to maintain purpose, (2) Self motivation, (3) Taking risk, (4) Responsibility to the business, (5) Self management and making commitment, (6) Making decision by using authority, and (7) Saving. The condition of natural resources extremely supporte the farmers in increasing farm business, especially cattle production. The management of natural resources as a source to feed the cattle such as green grass or HMT has a high level category, the affordable to manage for the business has a low level category.

The strategy design to empower the farmers in West Seram are: Improving the technical competencies through human capital and natural capital, also supported by physical capital. From the research results, it can be promoted that cattle farmer empowerment in West Seram can be focused on technical competencies as well as enhancing human and physical capitals. To do so, government policy should focus on development program supported by farmer’s behavior transformation trough achievement of motivation program training based on the farmer’s needs.

Keywords: Competency, Powerness/Capability, Business development, Beef cattle Farmer