

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY OF SEAWEED FARMERS (*Chlorophyta*) IN SEJOLI VILLAGE, MOUTONG DISTRICT, PARIGI MOUTONG REGENCY

Studi Sosial Ekonomi Petani Rumput Laut (*Chlorophyta*) di Desa Sejoli Kecamatan Moutong Kabupaten Parigi Moutong

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ABSTRACT

Seaweed cultivation is a fisheries subsector with high economic value and plays an important role in improving the welfare of coastal communities. Sejoli Village, Moutong District, Parigi Moutong Regency has great potential in developing *Chlorophyta* seaweed, but faces obstacles such as limited capital, simple cultivation technology, and weak communication between farmers. This study aims to determine seaweed farmers' social and economic conditions in Sejoli Village. The research method used is descriptive qualitative with 25 respondents, selected based on the criteria of active farmers. Data were obtained through observation, interviews, questionnaires, and documentation, then analyzed descriptively. The results show that socially, the majority of farmers are of productive age (21–50 years), predominantly male (92%), have basic education, and have strong social interactions through cooperation activities and farmer groups. Economically, business capital ranges from IDR 4,000,000 to IDR 20,000,000 per planting season, total production costs IDR 101,160,000, total revenue IDR 197,405,000, and net income IDR 96,245,000 per cycle.

Keywords: Socio-Economic, Seaweed (*Chlorophyta*)

ABSTRAK

Budidaya rumput laut merupakan salah satu subsektor perikanan yang memiliki nilai ekonomi tinggi dan berperan penting dalam meningkatkan kesejahteraan masyarakat pesisir. Desa Sejoli, Kecamatan Moutong, Kabupaten Parigi Moutong memiliki potensi besar dalam pengembangan rumput laut jenis *Chlorophyta*, namun menghadapi kendala seperti keterbatasan modal, teknologi budidaya yang sederhana, dan lemahnya komunikasi antarpetani. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kondisi sosial dan kondisi ekonomi petani rumput laut di Desa Sejoli. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan jumlah responden sebanyak 25 orang, yang dipilih berdasarkan kriteria petani aktif.

Data diperoleh melalui observasi, wawancara, kuesioner, dan dokumentasi, kemudian dianalisis secara deskriptif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa secara sosial, mayoritas petani berada pada usia produktif (21–50 tahun), didominasi laki-laki (92%), berpendidikan dasar, serta memiliki interaksi sosial yang kuat melalui kegiatan gotong royong dan kelompok tani. Secara ekonomi, modal usaha berkisar Rp4.000.000–Rp20.000.000 per musim tanam, total biaya produksi Rp101.160.000, total penerimaan Rp197.405.000, dan pendapatan bersih sebesar Rp96.245.000 per siklus.

Kata Kunci: Sosial Ekonomi, Rumput Laut (*Chlorophyta*)

INTRODUCTION

The marine and fisheries sector plays a crucial role in supporting national economic development, particularly in improving the welfare of coastal communities. Indonesia's geographical location, marked by the second-longest coastline in the world, provides abundant potential for marine biodiversity (KKP, 2020). One rapidly growing subsector with high economic value is seaweed cultivation. This commodity is not only used as a food ingredient but also serves as a raw material for the pharmaceutical, cosmetics, and processed food industries.

The government, through the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (KKP), has positioned seaweed as a leading commodity to strengthen competitive and sustainable marine development. From an international perspective, seaweed is a strategic export commodity. Data from the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN, 2023) shows that approximately 65% of global seaweed production is used for direct consumption, 15% is processed as industrial raw materials (such as carrageenan and agar-agar), and the remainder is processed into fertilizer, paper, and biofuel. This indicates that seaweed has broad market potential and makes a significant contribution to the economy, from the cultivator level to the processor level to the exporter level.

Despite this, the development of seaweed cultivation in various regions of Indonesia still faces obstacles, both socially and economically. These obstacles include limited capital, low levels of farmer education and skills, suboptimal market access, and the use of traditional cultivation technologies. Therefore, a comprehensive understanding of the social and economic conditions of seaweed farmers is necessary to ensure more targeted and sustainable business development strategies.

Preliminary survey findings indicate that the community of Sejoli Village, Moutong District, Parigi Moutong Regency, particularly the Chlorophyta seaweed farmers, has significant prospects for development. The favorable geographical conditions provide opportunities for local communities to make seaweed cultivation their primary livelihood. Although the methods used are relatively simple, almost all villagers are directly involved in these activities. In addition to providing economic benefits, seaweed cultivation also has a positive impact on the environment. Wahda (2021) states that from an economic perspective, seaweed is a high-value commodity with increasing demand in both domestic and international markets. Furthermore, its development can open new job opportunities, increase farmer incomes, and strengthen community food security.

Sejoli Village itself can be categorized as an area with promising seaweed cultivation potential, so many people choose to pursue and maintain this business. However, seaweed farmers in the village still face several obstacles, including limited capital, weak communication between business actors, underdeveloped cultivation technology, and low levels of welfare. Based on these conditions, a socio-economic study of seaweed farmers

(Chlorophyta) in Sejoli Village, Moutong District, Parigi Moutong Regency is needed to obtain a more comprehensive picture of the problems and potential for developing this business.

RESEARCH METHODS

Place and Time

The research activities were carried out from February to July 2025, located in Sejoli Village, Moutong District, Parigi Moutong Regency.

Types and Approaches of Research

This research uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive method. This descriptive qualitative method was chosen because it helps researchers understand phenomena in depth, examine problems comprehensively, and present them in written form. The data collection techniques used include interviews, observations, and document reviews. The purpose of using this method is to obtain objective, accurate, and accountable research results based on the data obtained.

Data Analysis

This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach aimed at analyzing data based on descriptions of field facts. This method emphasizes data processing, interpretation of results, and presentation of research findings (Erlansyah & Mohamad, 2022).

Broadly speaking, data analysis in this study is divided into two main aspects:

1. Social Analysis of Seaweed Farmers
 - a) Level of education
 - b) Health
 - c) Social Interaction Patterns
2. Economic Analysis of Seaweed Farmers
 - a) Fixed Costs
 - b) Variable Costs
 - c) Total Cost
 - d) Income
 - e) Income

Economic analysis is carried out using three main approaches, namely:

a) Cost Analysis

Total cost is the total production expenditure, consisting of fixed costs and variable costs. It is calculated using the formula (Erlansyah & Mohamad, 2022):

$$TC=FC+VC$$

Description:

TC = Total cost

FC = Fixed

VC = Variable cost

b) Acceptance Analysis

Revenue is defined as the product of the quantity produced and the selling price per unit. The formula used (Erlansyah & Mohamad, 2022):

$$TR=P\times Q$$

Description:

TR = Total revenue

P = Selling price per unit

Q = Number of production units

c) Revenue/Profit Analysis

Income or profit is calculated by subtracting total costs from total revenue (Erlansyah & Mohamad, 2022), namely:

$$\pi = TR - TC$$

Description:

TR = Total revenue (Rp)

TC = Total cost (Rp)

RESULT

Social Conditions of Seaweed Farmers

1. Education

The social conditions of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village indicate that most respondents come from low educational backgrounds, which impacts their understanding of farming management. Despite this, support for children's education is quite high. Interviews revealed that the respondents' children are spread across various levels of education, from elementary school (SD), junior high school (SMP), senior high school (SMA), and university. This indicates a growing awareness of the importance of education among farming families.

Table 1. Respondent Characteristics by Education Level

Level of education	Amount	Percentage (%)
Elementary School	11	44.0%
Middle School	7	28.0%
High School	7	28.0%
Total	25	100%

Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Table 4 shows that the respondents' educational level was dominated by elementary school graduates (11 people, or 44%). Meanwhile, 7 people, or 28% of respondents, each completed their education at junior high school (SMP) and senior high school (SMA).

2. Health

Table 4 shows that the respondents' educational level was dominated by elementary school graduates (11 people, or 44%). Meanwhile, 7 people, or 28% of respondents, each completed their education at junior high school (SMP) and senior high school (SMA).

3. Social Interaction

The social life of seaweed farmers is also characterized by close interaction among residents. Farmers actively participate in farmer groups and participate in community activities, such as installing ropes, joint harvesting, and other village social activities. This togetherness serves as a social strength that helps them support each other, both economically and socially.

Economic Conditions of Seaweed Farmers

1. Capital

The economic situation of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village shows variations in capital capacity, income, and business expenses. Interviews revealed that the largest capital expenditures per planting season ranged from IDR 4,000,000 to IDR 20,000,000. This capital is generally used to purchase seeds, rope, fuel, and maintain other production equipment.

2. Family Dependencies

The number of dependents in the family is also a factor influencing farmers' economic conditions. Most respondents have between 3 and 6 dependents in a household, including school-aged children. This is an important consideration in income management, as a significant portion of business income is also used for household needs and children's education.

A high number of dependents results in high routine household expenses, which indirectly reduces farmers' ability to allocate income for cultivation investments, such as purchasing new equipment or increasing production capacity. Furthermore, children's education and other basic needs require farmers to allocate their income carefully to ensure they can meet all family needs.

3. Production Cost Analysis

Production costs in seaweed cultivation consist of two main components: fixed costs and variable costs. Fixed costs are costs incurred for production inputs that are used for a long period of time and are not used up in a single harvest season, such as boats, ropes, main lines, and anchors. Fixed costs are calculated based on the depreciation value of the equipment over its useful life. Meanwhile, variable costs include expenses incurred during each harvest season, such as the purchase of seaweed seeds, fuel, and oil. These cost components directly affect farmers' seasonal expenditures. The total production cost is determined by adding the fixed and variable costs incurred during one cultivation cycle. A breakdown of production costs incurred by seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village can be seen in Table 5 below:

Table 2. Production Costs

No	Name of Seaweed Cultivator	Fixed Costs	Variable Costs	Total Production Cost
1	Sudirman	2.849.000	1.150.000	3.999.000
2	Agus Pagotja	2.845.000	1.555.000	4.400.000
3	Ridwan Rumpadondo	4.049.000	1.550.000	5.599.000
4	Ikram	3.320.000	1.400.000	4.720.000
5	Usuria	2.820.000	650.000	3.470.000
6	Mindrawati	3.349.000	1.550.000	4.899.000
7	Ihwan	2.880.000	1.100.000	3.980.000
8	Juhri Badrun	2.820.000	1.255.000	4.075.000
9	Rahman	2.820.000	660.000	3.480.000
10	Marup Pagoca	2.820.000	660.000	3.480.000
11	Saipul Pagoca	2.820.000	660.000	3.480.000
12	Nasrun Sangkaraja	3.320.000	655.000	3.975.000
13	Nazir Pagoca	2.819.000	1.560.000	4.379.000
14	Kansar	2.820.000	665.000	3.485.000
15	Risman Ismail	2.820.000	1.565.000	4.385.000
16	Sapri Pagoca	2.820.000	655.000	3.475.000
17	Irwan Hadam	2.820.000	1.105.000	3.925.000
18	Yatrin Walangadi	2.820.000	655.000	3.475.000
19	Bahrin Penjini	2.820.000	660.000	3.480.000
20	Basnun Pagoca	2.820.000	1.560.000	4.380.000
21	Kisman	3.320.000	660.000	3.980.000
22	Masnur	2.820.000	660.000	3.480.000
23	Kuruco	2.820.000	655.000	3.475.000
24	Irham	3.349.000	1.550.000	4.899.000
25	Adayan Lembah	2.820.000	1.565.000	4.385.000

	Total Cost	Production	74.400.000	26.760.000	101.160.000
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Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Based on Table 2, the production costs incurred by seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village consist of fixed costs and variable costs. Fixed costs include expenses for boats, becil ropes, span ropes, main ropes, and anchors. Meanwhile, variable costs include the purchase of seaweed seeds, fuel oil (BBM), and oil used during the cultivation process. From the data obtained, the total fixed costs from 25 respondents amounted to Rp 74,400,000, and the total variable costs reached Rp 26,760,000. Thus, the total production costs incurred by all respondents in one cultivation cycle were:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Production Cost} &= \text{Fixed Cost} + \text{Variable Cost} \\ &= \text{Rp } 74.400.000 + \text{Rp } 26.760.000 \\ &= \text{Rp } 101.160.000 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it can be concluded that the total production costs in one seaweed cultivation cycle in Sejoli Village are IDR 101,160,000.

4. Acceptance Analysis

Business revenue is the total sales proceeds from production within a single cultivation cycle. According to Soekartawi (2002), revenue is the total value of products sold before deducting costs and is the primary basis for assessing farming efficiency, as shown in Table 6 below.

Table 3. Total Revenue

No	Name	Production Quantity (Kg)	Price	Revenue
1	Sudirman	700	13.000	9.100.000
2	Agus Pagotja	800	13.000	10.400.000
3	Ridwan Rumpadondo	1.000	13.000	13.000.000
4	Ikram	500	13.000	6.500.000
5	Usuria	400	13.000	5.200.000
6	Mindrawati	600	13.000	7.800.000
7	Ihwan	800	13.000	10.400.000
8	Juhri Badrun	350	13.000	4.550.000
9	Rahman	420	13.000	5.460.000
10	Marup Pagoca	400	13.000	5.200.000
11	Saipul Pagoca	350	13.000	4.550.000
12	Nasrun Sangkaraja	450	13.000	5.850.000
13	Nazir Pagoca	900	13.000	11.700.000
14	Kansar	550	13.000	7.150.000
15	Risman Ismail	700	13.000	9.100.000
16	Sapri Pagoca	650	13.000	8.450.000
17	Irwan Hadam	480	13.000	6.240.000
18	Yatrin Walangadi	550	13.000	7.150.000
19	Bahrin Penjini	350	13.000	4.550.000
20	Basnun Pagoca	1.000	13.000	13.000.000
21	Kisman	680	13.000	8.840.000

22	Masnur	540	13.000	7.020.000
23	Kuruco	725	13.000	9.425.000
24	Irham	490	13.000	6.370.000
25	Adayan Lembah	800	13.000	10.400.000
Total Revenue				197.405.000

Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Based on Table 3, the total income of all respondents in one seaweed cultivation cycle in Sejoli Village reached Rp 197,405,000.00. The highest income was obtained by farmer Ridwan Rumpadondo, namely Rp 13,000,000.00, with a production volume reaching 1,000 kg and a selling price of Rp 13,000/kg. Meanwhile, the lowest income was received by Saipul Pagoca, namely Rp 4,550,000.00, with a production volume of 350 kg and a selling price of Rp 13,000/kg. The calculation of total income was obtained using the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Revenue} &= \text{Production Quantity} \times \text{Selling Price} \\ &= 15.185 \text{ kg} \times \text{Rp } 13.000 \\ &= \text{Rp } 197.405.000 \end{aligned}$$

The total income in one seaweed cultivation cycle by 25 respondents in Sejoli Village was calculated based on seaweed production multiplied by the selling price per kilogram. The recapitulation showed that the total production of all respondents reached 15,185 kg, and the average selling price used was Rp 13,000 per kilogram. Thus, the total income obtained from all respondents was Rp 197,405,000, which is the result of multiplying the total production and the selling price (15,185 kg × Rp 13,000).

5. Income Analysis

Income is the difference between total revenue and total production costs incurred in one cultivation cycle. This income is the primary indicator of the net profit earned by farmers from seaweed cultivation, as seen in Table 7 below.

Table 4. Total Income

No	Name	Revenue	Production cost	Income
1	Sudirman	9.100.000	4.399.000	4.701.000
2	Agus Pagotja	10.400.000	4.400.000	6.000.000
3	Ridwan Rumpadondo	13.000.000	5.599.000	7.401.000
4	Ikram	6.500.000	4.720.000	1.780.000
5	Usuria	5.200.000	3.470.000	1.730.000
6	Mindrawati	7.800.000	4.899.000	2.901.000
7	Ihwan	10.400.000	3.980.000	6.420.000
8	Juhri Badrun	4.550.000	4.075.000	475.000
9	Rahman	5.460.000	3.480.000	1.980.000
10	Marup Pagoca	5.200.000	3.480.000	1.720.000
11	Saipul Pagoca	4.550.000	3.480.000	1.070.000
12	Nasrun Sangkaraja	5.850.000	3.975.000	1.875.000
13	Nazir Pagoca	11.700.000	4.379.000	7.321.000
14	Kansar	7.150.000	3.485.000	3.665.000
15	Risman Ismail	9.100.000	4.385.000	4.715.000

16	Sapri Pagoca	8.450.000	3.475.000	4.975.000
17	Irwan Hadam	6.240.000	3.925.000	2.315.000
18	Yatrin Walangadi	7.150.000	3.475.000	3.675.000
19	Bahrin Penjini	4.550.000	3.480.000	1.070.000
20	Basnun Pagoca	13.000.000	4.380.000	8.620.000
21	Kisman	8.840.000	3.980.000	4.860.000
22	Masnur	7.020.000	3.480.000	3.540.000
23	Kuruco	9.425.000	3.475.000	5.950.000
24	Irham	6.370.000	4.899.000	1.471.000
25	Adayan Lembah	10.400.000	4.385.000	6.015.000
Total Income				96.245.000

Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Table 4 shows the net income data obtained by seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village after deducting the total production costs in one cultivation cycle. Of the 25 respondents, the total income obtained was Rp 96,245,000. The highest income was achieved by Basnun Pagoca, which was Rp 8,620,000, with revenue of Rp 13,000,000 and production costs of Rp 4,380,000. Meanwhile, the lowest income was recorded by Juhri Badrun, who only earned Rp 475,000 with revenue of Rp 4,550,000 and production costs of Rp 4,075,000. Income was obtained using the formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Income} &= \text{Total Revenue} - \text{Total Production Cost} \\
 &= \text{Rp } 197.405.000 - \text{Rp } 101.160.000 \\
 &= \text{Rp } 96.245.000
 \end{aligned}$$

DISCUSSION

Social Conditions of Seaweed Farmers

1. Education

The low level of formal education of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village is one of the challenges in developing more modern and efficient cultivation businesses. Limited education can impact farmers' ability to understand technical information, access government assistance programs, and adopt new technologies in the cultivation process. However, years of experience in the field are often the main asset in maintaining business continuity. According to Suryana (2016), education plays a crucial role in improving the quality of economic decision-making, but in practice, field experience also has a significant influence on entrepreneurial success in the fisheries and marine sector.

According to Suryana (2016), a person's education level influences the effectiveness of economic decision-making and business skills. In the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, farmers with higher education tend to be more open to innovation and new information. However, in practice, field experience also plays a significant role in aquaculture success, especially among farmers with limited formal education.

2. Health

This situation reflects that although awareness of the importance of health insurance is quite good, limited infrastructure and access to medical services remain major obstacles. These limitations can impact farmer productivity, especially when they experience health problems but do not receive adequate treatment promptly. According to Suharto (2010), the quality of public health is closely linked to economic well-being because healthy individuals tend to have higher labor participation rates and a lower risk of productivity

loss. Therefore, improving access to adequate health facilities is crucial to supporting the sustainability of seaweed farming businesses in coastal areas such as Sejoli Village.

According to Wulandari and Dewi (2020), the affordability of health facilities in remote or coastal areas remains a major challenge in public services. Distance, transportation costs, and a lack of healthcare professionals often lead people to only access services when they are already seriously ill. On the other hand, the existence of BPJS Kesehatan (Social Security Agency for Health) significantly supports financial well-being, but its utilization rate still depends on public health literacy.

3. Social Interaction

The power of social interaction not only strengthens solidarity among farmers but also serves as a crucial mechanism for addressing shared challenges, such as extreme weather, crop failures, or shortages of production facilities. Regular mutual cooperation activities create a sense of togetherness and strengthen local social networks, effectively supporting the sustainability of aquaculture businesses. According to Soetomo (2014), social capital, such as trust, norms, and collaborative networks within a community, plays a significant role in increasing the efficiency and economic resilience of local communities. In the context of Sejoli Village, these shared values serve as valuable social capital for maintaining the sustainability of collective seaweed farming.

According to Putra and Astuti (2021), social interaction within the farming community is crucial for the success of collaborative ventures, particularly in the fisheries and coastal aquaculture sectors. Active participation in farmer groups and mutual cooperation activities creates solidarity, strengthens networks, and increases trust among individuals within the community. This social capital is often just as crucial a success factor as financial capital.

Economic Conditions of Seaweed Farmers

1. Capital

The capital owned by each farmer varies significantly depending on the scale of their business and the yields they produce. Farmers with greater capital tend to have more rope spans, larger cultivated land areas, and more adequate production equipment. This enables them to achieve higher yields than farmers with limited capital. However, limited access to formal financing remains a major obstacle. Most farmers rely solely on personal capital without support from financial institutions or government assistance. According to Sari and Hendri (2021), access to adequate financing is a crucial factor in increasing the productivity and sustainability of micro-enterprises in the marine and fisheries sector.

According to Nugroho and Santosa (2020), the amount of capital owned by farmers influences production levels, work efficiency, and their ability to manage business risks. Farmers with greater capital tend to be able to use more complete equipment and have higher production capacities than farmers with limited capital. In the context of seaweed cultivation, capital is a determining factor in sustainability and profitability.

2. Family Dependencies

A high number of dependents in the family results in high routine household expenses, which indirectly reduces farmers' ability to allocate income for cultivation business investments, such as purchasing new equipment or increasing production capacity. Furthermore, children's education and other basic needs require farmers to carefully allocate their income to meet all family needs. According to Suparmoko (2018), the number of dependents in the family is a crucial variable influencing household welfare because it is directly related to the proportion of consumption to total income. Therefore, in the context of seaweed farmers, a large number of dependents requires efficient financial management to ensure the business remains sustainable.

According to Yuliana and Hartono (2018), the greater the number of dependents in the family, the higher the household expenditure burden, especially in farming or fishing families with irregular incomes. This condition can impact farmers' capacity to develop their businesses, as the majority of income is used for consumption rather than for business reinvestment. Therefore, the number of dependents is an important indicator in assessing farmer welfare and the economic stability of their households.

3. Production Cost Analysis

Based on data summarized from 25 respondents, the total production costs for one seaweed cultivation cycle in Sejoli Village consist of fixed and variable costs. Fixed costs include expenses for boats, ropes, spanning ropes, main ropes, and anchors, which, when added together across all respondents, total Rp 74,400,000. Meanwhile, variable costs include the purchase of seeds, fuel, and oil, totaling Rp 26,760,000. Therefore, the total production costs incurred by all respondents in one seaweed cultivation cycle are Rp 101,160,000, obtained by adding fixed and variable costs.

This high total production cost reflects the significant investment required for seaweed cultivation, particularly in fixed costs such as boats and rope equipment. This indicates that to run the business optimally, farmers require sufficient initial capital to cover all operational needs. Although some farmers use pre-owned equipment, routine expenses for seeds, fuel, and oil still have to be incurred each planting season. According to Wibowo (2019), efficient management of production costs significantly impacts farmers' profitability, so sound budget planning is necessary to ensure yields are commensurate with costs. In this context, farmers' understanding of the cost structure is crucial for the sustainability of the seaweed business in Sejoli Village.

According to Soekartawi (2002), production costs in farming activities consist of fixed costs and variable costs, both of which must be considered to determine business feasibility. Fixed costs are typically incurred for tools and equipment used for more than one period, while variable costs are expenses incurred within a single production cycle.

4. Acceptance Analysis

The high revenue figures reflect the promising economic potential of seaweed cultivation in Sejoli Village. However, revenues vary among farmers, depending on production volume and the ability to sell the harvest at optimal prices. Farmers with larger rope spans and better business management tend to achieve higher revenues. Furthermore, external factors such as market price fluctuations and weather conditions also influence production and income levels. According to Haryanto and Wahyuni (2020), revenue from a cultivation business is a key indicator of a business's financial success, and therefore requires support from efficient production and marketing strategies to ensure optimal and sustainable results.

According to Lasena *et al.* (2023), revenue is the primary indicator for measuring the financial success of a cultivation business, before deducting production costs. High revenue reflects success in both production and efficient marketing of the harvest.

5. Revenue Analysis

The high net income of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village, reaching Rp 96,245,000 in one cultivation cycle, is due to several key factors. First, the stable and relatively high selling price of seaweed, at Rp 13,000 per kilogram, significantly contributes to the revenue. Second, the high production volume of most respondents, such as Ridwan Rumpadondo and Basnun Pagoca, who can produce up to 1,000 kg of seaweed, contributes to income accumulation. Furthermore, although total production costs reach Rp 101,160,000, these costs are relatively efficient compared to the total revenue. Other contributing factors are good business management, farmer experience, and social

cooperation within farmer groups, such as mutual cooperation activities for rope installation and collective harvesting, which help reduce labor costs. This combination of high productivity, favorable selling prices, and cost efficiency contributes to the farmers' relatively high net income.

According to Soekartawi (2002), income is the primary indicator for measuring the financial success of a farming business, calculated as the difference between revenue and total production costs. Income is greatly influenced by cost management efficiency and the farmer's ability to increase productivity and the selling price of their harvest.

CONCLUSION

The social conditions of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village, Moutong District, Parigi Moutong Regency show that the majority of farmers are of productive age (21–50 years), with a low level of education, namely that most have only completed elementary school (SD). Despite this, community social relations are quite strong, reflected in participation in mutual cooperation activities, farmer groups, and social care among residents. Farming families generally have 3–6 dependents, and their children have access to formal education ranging from elementary school to university. Health facilities are still limited, but most farmers have health insurance such as BPJS. The economic condition of seaweed farmers in Sejoli Village is stable and has the potential to develop. Business capital ranges from IDR 4,000,000 to IDR 20,000,000 per cultivation season, with total production costs for all respondents amounting to IDR 101,160,000. The total revenue obtained reached IDR 197,405,000, resulting in net income of IDR 96,245,000.

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