

Development of Chili Farming in Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village

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ABSTRACT

Chili farming is a type of agriculture that brings in a lot of money and helps farmers earn more income. Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village, Plandaan District, Jombang Regency is a place where the majority of the people are involved in farming chilies. But farmers still have many issues that impact how much they can produce and how well their businesses run. This research looks into how productive chili farming is and finds out the challenges that farmers face. The research used a qualitative descriptive approach. The research area was chosen on purpose, and the people involved were selected through a snowball sampling method, which included 26 chili farmers. The main information came from interviews and watching things happen on-site, and the additional information was gathered from books and other places where similar information is kept. The data analysis involved a descriptive analysis that included looking at farm costs, revenues, incomes, and the return to cost ratio. The results indicate that growing chili in Pojok Hamlet is a good financial decision because the return on capital is more than one. Productivity depends on the size of the land, the types of seeds used, and how the production is managed. Main problems are changing prices, harm from bugs and illnesses, weather that isn't reliable, and not enough money.

Keywords: chili farming; productivity; R/C ratio; agribusiness; farm feasibility

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is still a key part of developing the economy in rural areas, especially when it comes to growing things like chili. The agricultural sector plays a big role in creating jobs, helping to reduce poverty, and increasing income for families in rural areas (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2023). In many villages, farming is not just a way to make money but also the main support for the local economy. Chili is considered a valuable vegetable crop that has a consistent need in the market all year round. However, its price changes a lot and can be affected by things like how much is available compared to how much people want it, the time of year it's produced, and difficulties in getting it to where it needs to go (Kementerian Pertanian, 2022). These traits mean that growing chili can be both a good way to make money and a risky way to spend it.

In Klitih Village, Plandaan District, most families rely on growing chili as their main source of income. The commodity helps keep household income stable and supports local economic activities like providing jobs, supplying resources, and trading in agriculture. Even so, income can become unstable because of sudden changes in prices and varying levels of production.

Even though chili farming has good chances for making money, it still has many problems. These include prices that keep changing, problems with pests and diseases, weather that's hard to predict, and not managing the things needed to grow chilies properly. Price changes often happen because of a big harvest in certain seasons and farmers not having easy access to markets, which makes it harder for them to negotiate better prices (Hidayati & Anindita, 2021). Climate change has made it harder to predict when crops will grow well because of unpredictable rain and severe weather, which lowers the amount of food crops can produce and raises the cost of growing them. Using fertilizers, pesticides, and labor in a way that isn't effective can reduce how well a farm runs and its overall results (Mulyani & Rosanti, 2018). These conditions lead to a difference between what farmers expect from their fields and what they actually get, especially for small farmers who don't have much money or access to new farming tools.

Earlier research shows that a farmer's income depends on how much they produce, how much they

can sell their goods for, and how efficiently they manage their costs (Soekartawi, 2002). Farm feasibility analysis is important because it helps find out if farming makes enough money compared to the costs of producing the crops or raising the animals. One often used measure is the Revenue Cost Ratio (R/C ratio), which compares total revenue with total production cost (Yusdja, 2010). If the R/C ratio is more than one, it means farming is making money and can keep going. Efficiency analysis helps show how well farmers use their resources to make the most profit while working within their current limits, as mentioned in Rahman et al., 2020.

However, there are not many research studies that look closely at how chili farming is developing, how productive it is, and what challenges farmers in Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village, face. Most previous studies look at bigger areas like regions or whole countries, but they don't go into small details at the village level. This study tries to address the lack of research in this area by thoroughly examining chili farming in a local context, looking at how productive it is, the challenges farmers face, and whether it's a financially viable option.

Therefore, this study aims to:

1. Study how productive chili farming is in Pojok Hamlet.
2. Find out the biggest problems that chili farmers have to deal with.
3. Evaluate farm feasibility using R/C ratio analysis.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a qualitative descriptive approach to look at how productive and practical chili farming is in Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village, Plandaan District, Jombang Regency. The research area was chosen on purpose because most families there grow chili, which makes the study closely related to its goals.

The study included 26 chili farmers who were chosen through the snowball sampling method. This method was picked to find people who really take care of chili farming and have enough experience in growing chilies. The people chosen are small- and medium-sized farmers who have different amounts of land and different levels of production.

Data was gathered from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data was collected using detailed interviews based on structured and semi-structured questionnaires, direct observations in the field, and records of farming activities. The interviews included topics like who owns the land, what materials are used to grow crops, how the crops are grown, how much is produced, how much the crops are sold for, how much it costs to grow them, and the challenges farmers face. Secondary data was gathered from various sources like books, government documents, statistical reports, and earlier studies that focused on chili farming and analyzing the feasibility of farming.

Data analysis was done using descriptive analysis along with farm income analysis. Farm income is found by taking the total money made from selling crops or livestock and then subtracting all the costs needed to grow or raise them. Total revenue was calculated by multiplying the total amount produced in kilograms by the price per kilogram that the product was sold for. The total production costs included both fixed costs and variable costs. Fixed costs involved paying for land rent and losing value of equipment over time, while variable costs covered things like buying seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, paying workers, and other day-to-day running expenses.

To check if a farm is a good idea, the Revenue Cost Ratio (R/C ratio) was calculated using this formula:

$$\text{R/C Ratio} = \text{Total Revenue} / \text{Total Cost}$$

The interpretation criteria are as follows:

- $\text{R/C} > 1$ indicates that the farm is economically feasible and profitable.
- $\text{R/C} = 1$ indicates break-even conditions.
- $\text{R/C} < 1$ indicates that the farm is not economically feasible.

To make sure the qualitative data was reliable, they used triangulation. This meant checking the interview results against what was seen during field observations and also comparing answers from different people to see if they matched up. This method was meant to improve the trustworthiness and consistency of the research results.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

1. Characteristics of Respondents

A study of 26 chili farmers in Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village found that most of them were between the ages of 21 and 52. This shows that chili farming is still mainly done by people who are physically fit and have good experience in farming.

Table 1. Characteristics of Chili Farmer Respondents in Pojok Hamlet

Characteristics	Category	Number (People)	Percentage (%)
Age (years)	21–30	6	23,08
	31–40	10	38,46
	41–52	10	38,46
	Total	26	100
Education Level	Elementary School	8	30,77
	Junior High School	7	26,92
	Senior High School	11	42,31
	Total	26	100
Years of Chili Farming	2–5 years	5	19,23
	6–10 years	9	34,62
	> 10 years	12	46,15
	Total	26	100
Land Area	1.000–2.000 m ²	11	42,31
	2.001–3.000 m ²	15	57,69
	Total	26	100

Most farmers had more than five years of experience in farming, which helped them know how to grow crops, use fertilizers, control pests, and plan how to sell their produce. Because of different sizes of land and how inputs were managed, there were differences in how much was produced and how much money was earned.

Most respondents had a high school education, followed by junior high and elementary school, and no respondents had a higher education. This situation indicates that the farmers' education level is still relatively low, which may affect their speed in adopting modern agricultural technology. Their chili farming experience ranged from 2 to 20 years, with the majority of respondents having more than 5 years of experience, thus it can be said that farmers have sufficient experience in managing chili farming businesses. The land area they manage ranged from 1,000 m² to 3,000 m², indicating that the scale of chili farming businesses in the study area is included in the small to medium category, as shown in Table 1.

2. Production Cost, Revenue, and Income Analysis

Production costs for growing chilies include both fixed costs and variable costs. Fixed costs are things like the depreciation of farming equipment, while variable costs include items such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, wages for workers, and other day-to-day expenses. Most people answered that they spend between IDR 5,000,000 and IDR 10,000,000 each planting season, and the amount depends on how big the land is and how much they produce.

Table 2. Average Production Cost, Revenue, and Net Income of Chili Farming per Season
 (26 Respondents)

Description	Average (IDR)
Total Production Cost	7,850,000
Total Revenue	13,650,000
Net Income	5,800,000

Source: Primary data processed, 2025

Table 2 shows that farmers made an average total revenue of IDR 13,650,000 each season, but their average production costs were IDR 7,850,000. On average, farmers made about IDR 5,800,000 each season from their crops. The results show that farming chili in Pojok Hamlet still brings in good money, but the amount of income can change a lot because of shifting prices and risks involved in growing the crop.

3. Farm Feasibility Analysis (R/C Ratio)

Farm viability was checked using the Revenue-Cost Ratio (R/C Ratio), which is calculated like this:

$$R/C = \frac{\text{Total Cost}}{\text{Total Revenue}}$$

The interpretation criteria are:

- R/C > 1 → Profitable and feasible
- R/C = 1 → Break-even
- R/C < 1 → Not feasible

Table 3. Average R/C Ratio of Chili Farming (26 Respondents)

Indicator	Value
Average R/C Ratio	1.74
Minimum R/C Ratio	1.32
Maximum R/C Ratio	2.10

Source: Primary data processed, 2025

Looking at Table 3, the average R/C Ratio came out to be 1.74. Every IDR 1.00 spent on production brought in IDR 1.74 in revenue. So, growing chili in Pojok Hamlet is a good idea because it can bring in a lot of money and work well for the farmers.

The minimum R/C Ratio of 1.32 shows that every person surveyed was still working within manageable limits, but their profits differed based on how much they produced, how much they sold their products for, and how efficiently they kept costs under control.

Discussion

The findings show that growing chili in Pojok Hamlet is a good way to make money. How profitable a business is depends on a few important things like the size of the land, how well inputs are used, how the production is managed, and how prices in the market change. Farmers are still dealing with the main problem of fluctuating prices. When the price goes below IDR 25,000 per kilogram, the profit margins drop a lot. On the other hand, when the price is between IDR 25,000 and 35,000 per kilogram, farmers see a big rise in their income. These results match what farm feasibility theory says. This theory says a farming business works well if the R/C Ratio is more than one (Soekartawi, 2002). The average R/C Ratio of 1.74 shows that farming chili in Klitih Village gives back more money than it costs to produce.

The study also backs up the idea that how much money farmers make depends a lot on how efficiently they produce their goods and how well they control their costs. Farmers who make smart choices about how much fertilizer to use, how to control pests, and how to manage their workers usually end up being more productive and making more profit. However, some challenges were found, like problems with pests and diseases, changing weather patterns, not having enough money to start or grow the business, and prices in the market that keep going up and down. These challenges impact how consistently production runs and whether income can be kept steady over time. From a business that deals with farming and agriculture, making it easier for farmers to get information about markets, helping them form stronger groups, and finding better ways to save money can help them make more profit and lower the risks they face.

CONCLUSIONS

Chili farming in Pojok Hamlet, Klitih Village, is a good investment and brings in more money, as shown by the R/C Ratio being higher than one. How much a farmer earns and how much they can produce depends on the size of the land they have, how they use resources like seeds and fertilizers, their experience in farming, and the prices they get when they sell their crops.

However, changes in prices, problems with pests and diseases, unexpected weather conditions, and not enough money are big issues that make it hard to have steady income. To keep and grow profits, it's important to boost production efficiency, make it easier for products to reach the market, and provide better support for farmers through institutions.

Future research should include bigger samples and a wider range of regions to give better advice for developing chili farming businesses.

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