



Editorial

Dear Readers,

As we are approaching to the end of this precious year, this newsletter would be the last edition of 2012 volume. Everyone could count their respective achievements throughout the year. What has been done and what is left behind entering the new year of 2013? A wise man said that someone should enjoy whatever achievement has been reached and not regret the joyful of the others who have grabbed higher level of achievements.

As usual, this newsletter brings you a number of information, from the summary of research results to the list of publications and information on attendance of scientific events. The research results include the analysis on important agricultural inputs, and the analysis on the competitiveness of Indonesia's horticultural products at global market.

We are happy to announce the return of Dr. Saktyanu Kristyantoadi Dermoredjo who has successfully accomplished his doctoral degree program with honor from Gadjah Mada University. This is good news for ICASEPS as his service which would be resumed shortly should strengthen our research activities.

Thank you and see you next year.

The Editor



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Research Findings

ORGANIC FERTILIZER PROCESSING ASSESSMENT

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Background

Fertilizer is one of the important elements to increase food crop production and it becomes an integral part of farming system. The government continues to encourage the efficient use of fertilizers through fertilizer price policy, procurement, and distribution. Fertilizers production, particularly chemical fertilizers, tends to decline that result in fertilizer shortage in some food crop producing areas. Organic fertilizer development policy is not solely directed to substitute inorganic fertilizer, but also to support a balanced, efficient use of fertilizers.

Organic fertilizer can be produced by manufacturing industry or farmers using raw materials available locally. Business opportunity of organic fertilizer production attracts many parties to participate. Many types and qualities of organic fertilizer distributed in domestic market need tight government's control.

The study was conducted in the provinces of West Java and Central Java. Aims of the study are: (a) to identify potency, opportunity and constraints of organic fertilizer development, (b) to analyze regulatory of organic fertilizers, (c) to analyze effects of both organic and inorganic fertilizers application on rice production and farm income

Development of Composting Houses

To improve land fertility, in the beginning of 2007 Ministry of Agriculture established composting houses, organic fertilizer processing equipments (APPO), organic fertilizer production pilot project (RP3O), and organic fertilizer processing units (UPPO). The infrastructures are particularly placed the rice producing region

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