

Better dairy feed for higher milk production

Working towards higher productivity and incomes for dairy farmers

The demand for dairy products in Indonesia is rapidly increasing. To reduce the reliance on imports of milk powder for the domestic dairy processing industry, dairy farmers are challenged to increase their milk production. The key is increasing the productivity per cow. To achieve this the dairy cows need a better quality and more balanced feed. Indonesian and Dutch experts work together to demonstrate how dairy farmers in West Java can increase their productivity per cow and incomes by adopting better feeding practices.

DIFS-Live is a cooperation between the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Jakarta. Together they promote food security and private sector development in the Indonesian livestock sectors. The project focusses on the poultry and dairy sectors in West Java. Both sectors face challenges in terms of meeting the growing demand of urban consumers in an efficient and sustainable way.

DIFS Live is implemented by Wageningen University & Research together with public and private stakeholders in the supply chain. Together they build viable models for the production and supply of affordable, nutritious and safe chicken and dairy products. DIFS Live has 4 major areas of intervention: (a) promoting consumer acceptance of cooled chicken meat; (b) improving poultry slaughter practices and cool chain management; (c) raising productivity and income of broiler farms; (d) improving the dairy feeding practices.

Why increasing productivity levels?

The average dairy farms in West Java have 2-5 dairy cows. Most of the dairy farmers are member of a dairy cooperative through which the milk is marketed to large dairy processors. The dairy cooperatives also supply inputs such as concentrate feeds and deliver AI and basic animal health services to their members.

The feed supplies (fodder and concentrate feeds) and the farmers' feeding practices limit

severely milk production. Feed costs account for at least 50-60% of total variable costs.



What are the challenges?

What does DIFS-Live contribute?

Partners

The interventions are jointly developed and implemented by Livestock Research Institute (WLR) of Wageningen UR, PT Trouw Nutrition Indonesia (part of the Nutreco Group), Royal Barenbrug Group (through its Australian sister company Heritage Seeds) and Ottevanger Milling Engineers. The IPB Faculty for Animal Sciences assists with the implementation of a series of on location fodder trials.

Interested to find out more?

Check the website www.difslive.com for more background information on the Indonesian-Dutch food security programme and the dairy feed improvements developed by DIFS Live.

For specific questions on dairy feed improvements you can send an e-mail to Mr Bram Wouters, at Wageningen, the Netherlands (bram.wouters@wur.nl) or contact Trouw Nutrition's Dairy Project Coordinator Mr Amin Sutiarto (+62 (0) 811 95 6669; Email: amin.sutiarto@trouwnutrition.com).