



Female Farmers' Perception of Government Support in Corn Farming Activities in Dry Land in Banyu Urip Village, West Lombok Regency

Windar Juliardi^{1*}, Hayati², Taslim Sjah³

Master of Dryland Agriculture Study Program, Postgraduate, University of Mataram

Corresponding Author: Windar Juliardi, win.juliardi@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Perception, Women Farmers, Government Support, Corn Farming.

Received : 6, October

Revised : 20, October

Accepted: 25, November

©2025 Juliardi, Hayati, Sjah: This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).



ABSTRACT

This research has 3 objectives. The first is to find out the perception of women farmers in corn farming in Banyu Urip Village, Gerung District, West Lombok Regency, the second is to find out the perception of women farmers towards government support in corn farming, and the third is to find out the factors that affect the perception of women farmers in corn farming. Data was collected through in-depth interviews with 30 female farmer respondents during August 2025. The results show that overall, the perception of women farmers is at a score of 2 (quite important) for the government support that has been given and for the corn farming activities carried out. These findings show that existing government support has not fully met the expectations or needs of women farmers. This study has an urgency to encourage gender-responsive policies, by implying the need to evaluate and adjust government programs to be more inclusive, able to accommodate perspectives, and recognize and empower the strategic role of women farmers for the sustainability of maize agribusiness.

INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector has long been a fundamental pillar of Indonesia's economic development, with its proven resilience in restoring the national economy. However, this great potential has not been fully explored, especially in dryland management which is often perceived as an agroecosystem that is less productive and at high risk. Changing this paradigm is a strategic step, where dry land needs to be seen as a valuable asset and a new future for agricultural development (Khudori, 2018).

In the dynamics of farming in dry land, the role of women farmers is often inevitable, but their contributions are often invisible and in the shadows. The perception of women farmers, as a cognitive process shaped by experience, knowledge, and socio-cultural values, is the key determinant of their motivation and productivity. This perception is what connects the sustainability of cultivation with the welfare of its main actors (Hayati *et al.*, 2023).

Banyu Urip Village in West Lombok Regency is a real example, where corn farming on dry land is the main economic activity. Women in this village are intensively involved in the entire chain of activities, from land preparation to post-harvest, with a workload that often exceeds that of men (Dewi, 2018). However, their participation in strategic decision-making such as seed selection, planting patterns, and marketing is still very limited and tends to be seen only as "aid".

Although various studies have examined women's participation in agriculture, few have specifically delved into the perception of women corn farmers in dry land with the socio-cultural context of the Lombok community. Understanding how they interpret their roles, challenges, and expectations is a crucial step that goes beyond simply measuring participation rates (Hayati, 2023).

Based on the research problem, the purpose of this research. The first is to find out the perception of women farmers in corn farming in Banyu Urip Village, Gerung District, West Lombok Regency, the second is to find out the perception of women farmers towards government support in corn farming, and the third is to find out the factors that affect the perception of women farmers in corn farming. The benefits of the research that have been carried out are that the results can be a basis for consideration for the government and stakeholders in formulating inclusive and responsive empowerment policies and programs. In the end, this effort is expected not only to increase national corn productivity, but also to realize welfare and justice for farmer farms as the main pillar of food security (Primingtyas & Yuliati, 2016)

LITERATURE REVIEW

National Strategy

Agriculture and Dryland Optimization: Indonesia's agricultural sector has historically served as a buffer and a catalyst for the national economy during times of crisis (Yuliani *et al.*, 2024) However, the sector's foundations are considered weak, so empowering land resources, as the primary basis for agricultural activities, must be a priority. One strategic challenge is the optimization of drylands, which often faces the mistaken perception among the

public and government that these agro-ecosystems are less productive and high-risk (Yuliani et al., 2024). Therefore, a paradigm shift is needed to build a shared understanding that drylands are actually valuable assets and new growth areas for agricultural development, which is ultimately expected to improve national food security.

Perception of Women Farmers

Cognitive and Socio-Cultural Construction: Women farmers' perceptions are not merely passive recognition, but rather a dynamic cognitive process in which they receive, organize, and interpret stimuli related to farming (Rusastra, 2019). This process is subjective and shaped by their direct experiences, knowledge, sociocultural values, and expectations. The scope of these perceptions is very broad, encompassing their views on the level of involvement in each phase of cultivation, the dual workload (domestic and public), economic and social benefits, access to resources, and recognition from family and community (Rusastra, 2019). Therefore, understanding women farmers' perceptions is tantamount to understanding their motivations, challenges, and unique perspectives that directly affect the productivity and sustainability of farming.

Corn Farming on Dry Land and Its Relationship to Perception

In the context of dryland corn farming, women farmers' perceptions serve as a bridge between the sustainability of this strategic commodity and the well-being of those involved (Fajriani, 2024). Dryland environments, characterized by dependence on rainfall, limited soil fertility, and a high risk of crop failure, shape distinctive perceptions among the women directly involved. Their perceptions whether corn farming is viewed as a primary source of income, an additional burden, or a form of family resilience directly influence their enthusiasm, innovation, and productivity (Fajriani, 2024). Therefore, delving into these perceptions is a strategic step in designing contextual policies and technologies that empower women as agents of change.

METHODOLOGY

The research method is descriptive, which is a method used to describe or describe the characteristics of a population or phenomenon that is being researched in a systematic, factual, and accurate manner (Nazir, 2014).

The unit of analysis in this study is a farmer woman who carries out corn farming activities in Banyu Urip Village, Gerung District, West Lombok Regency. This study applies probability sampling techniques with random sampling methods. In this method, each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected as a sample. The sample selection was done purely randomly without considering any strata, level, or social status division.

This study uses two types of data, namely qualitative and quantitative data, to obtain a comprehensive analysis. Qualitative data in the form of narratives, descriptions, or non-numerical information that is used to understand the context and characteristics of the phenomenon being studied, such as

technical, administrative, or report data. Meanwhile, quantitative data in the form of numbers or data that can be measured numerically, such as land area or categorical data, which helps statistical analysis and objective measurement. The source of research data is obtained through two sources, namely: primary data and secondary data. Primary data collected directly from respondents (women farmers) and related parties (stakeholders) at the research site to validate the findings. Secondary data, which comes from supporting sources such as journals, previous research, agency reports, and online sources to enrich analysis and conclusions (Nazir, 2014).

Sample determination is carried out through two stages. First, purposive sampling to select the criteria for farmer families (women farmers) who grow corn in Banyu Urip Village. Second, the calculation of the number of respondents from the village with a population of 300 families uses a precision formula of 10%. Respondents = $300 \times 10\% = 30$ respondents. The variables in this study are the perception of women farmers towards corn farming activities and the perception of women farmers towards government support in supporting corn farming in Banyu Urip Village, West Lombok Regency. The method of data collection in this study used In-Depth Interviews and questionnaires. The data were analyzed descriptively, the perception of women farmers towards farming was analyzed descriptively, the perception of government support was analyzed in a descriptive manner and factors that affect the perception of women farmers were analyzed in a linear regression manner.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of the research that has been conducted, the characteristics of the research respondents will first be described. The presentation of respondent characteristics including age, education level, and income level is a crucial first step in the research report. This description serves to provide context and an overview of the profile of the research subject, which in this case is a peasant woman. Age data show the dominant productive age group, education data reveal basic capacity to accept innovation, and income data reflect economic conditions and farming's contribution. Understanding these characteristics is important because these socio-demographic variables can significantly affect a person's perception and attitude (Triman, 2025).

Farmers' Perceptions of Corn Farming

This study examines the perception of women farmers towards corn farming, which includes economic aspects, social challenges, and development prospects. This understanding is important because their perception is a key factor that influences motivation, decision-making, and sustainability of farming. The following are the results of this study in Table 1.

Table 1. Farmers' Perceptions of Corn Farming

No.	Perception of Women Farmers in Corn Farming	The Village of Living Water	
		Σ	%
1.	Land Preparation		
	a. 1 (Not Important)	0	-

b. 2(Quite Important)	10	33
c. 3 (Penting)	20	67
Total	30	100
2. Planting		
a. 1 (Not Important)	0	-
b. 2 (quite important)	0	-
c. 3 (penting)	30	100
Total	30	100
3. Planting Distance		
a. 1 (Not Important)	0	-
b. 2 (Quite important)	23	77
c. 3 (Penting)	7	23
Total	30	100
4. Fertilization		
a. 1 (Not Important)	0	-
b. 2 (Quite important)	0	-
c. 3 (Penting)	30	100
Total	30	100
5. Pest and Disease Control		
a. 1 (Not Important)	0	0
b. 2 (Quite important)	18	60
c. 3 (Penting)	12	40
Total	30	100
6. Irrigation		
a. 1 (Not Important)	0	0
b. 2 (Quite Important)	0	0
c. 3 (Important)	30	100
Total	30	100

Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Based on Table 1, it can be explained that the perception of women farmers in Banyu Urip Village towards various aspects of corn farming in general is very positive, with the majority answering "Important" at almost all stages. As many as 67% of respondents view the Land Preparation stage as important, while 33% consider it quite important. For the Planting and Fertilization stage, all respondents (100%) unanimously rated the two activities as important. Similarly, in the aspect of irrigation, all respondents (100%) believe that this is important. In terms of Planting Distance, most respondents (77%) view it as "Quite Important", and only 23% consider it "Important". For the Pest and Disease Control aspect, perceptions are divided with a strong tendency to their importance; 60% of respondents consider it "Quite Important" and 40% consider it "Important". Overall, this data shows that women farmers have high awareness and assessment of good maize cultivation practices. The dominant "Important" assessment indicates that they view each of these stages as a key component that affects the success of farming (Hayati, 2023).

Perception of Women Farmers on Government Support in Corn Farming

The role of women in the agricultural sector, especially maize farming, has long been an important pillar but often receives less attention. Government

support, whether through training programs, assistance with production facilities, and other policies, is directed to increase the productivity and welfare of farmers. However, the effectiveness of the support is greatly influenced by how the recipients, in this case peasant women, perceive it. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the perception of women farmers towards government support in corn farming, in order to evaluate the extent to which these policies and programs are perceived and considered beneficial by the main actors in the field. The following results of this study are described in Table 2.

Table 2. Perception of Women Farmers on Government Support in Corn Farming

No.	Perception of Women Farmers on Government Support	Village of Living, N.Y.	
		Σ	%
1.	Availability of facilities and infrastructure		
1.	1 (Not Important)	0	-
2.	2 (Quite Important)	2	7
3.	3 (Penting)	28	93
	Total	30	100
2.	Marketing Smoothness		
1.	1 (Not Important)	7	23
2.	2 (quite important)	23	77
3.	3 (penting)	0	0
	Total	30	100
3.	Availability of Business Capital		
1.	1 (Not Important)	0	-
2.	2 (quite important)	0	-
3.	3 (penting)	30	100
	Total	30	100
4.	Saprodi Price Guarantee		
1.	1 (Not Important)	0	-
2.	2 (quite important)	30	100
3.	3 (penting)	0	-
	Total	30	100

Source: Primary Data Processed 2025

Based on Table 2 which measures the perception of 30 women farmers in Banyu Urip Village, it is clear that the availability of business capital is the form of government support that is considered the most vital. This is shown by the absolute agreement of all respondents (100%) who consider it as "Important". This urgent need for capital is also in line with the importance of Availability of Facilities and Infrastructure, where 93% of women farmers also declare this aspect "Important". Only a small fraction (7%) rated it "Quite Important", and none considered it unimportant. For the aspect of Marketing Smoothness, the majority of respondents, namely 77%, considered it "Quite Important", while the remaining 23% rated it "Important". This data shows that although marketing is a factor to be concerned about, the level of urgency in their perception is not as high as the need for capital and infrastructure. An interesting pattern can be seen in the aspect of Saprodi's Price Guarantee (production facilities), where all respondents (100%) uniformly rate it as "Quite Important". This indicates that the price stability of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and seeds is indeed

recognized as necessary support, but its importance does not defeat the basic need for capital (Rusastra, 2019).

Factors that affect the perception of women farmers in corn farming in Banyu Urip Village

The perception of women farmers is a cognitive construct that is influenced by various multidimensional factors, both internal and external (Manoppo, 2017). In the context of corn farming in Banyu Urip Village, understanding the factors that shape their perception is crucial, not only for the cultivation activities themselves but also for the effectiveness of government support. This study seeks to identify and analyze determinant variables such as age, education level, and income factors that are strongly suspected to influence the way women farmers view maize farming and assess government involvement and support in these activities. Factors that affect the perception of women farmers in corn farming can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3. The results of the regression analysis between personal characteristics and the perception of women farmers in corn farming

		PUT	Age	Education Level	Income
Person Correlation	PUT	1,000	,421	,265	-,014
	Age	,421	1,000	,127	,234
	Education Level	,265	,127	1,000	-,346
	Income	-,014	,234	-,346	1,000
Sig. (1-tailed)	PUT	.	,010	,079	,471
	Age	,010	.	,251	,107
	Education Level	,079	,251	.	,031
	Income	,471	,107	,031	.
N	PUT	30	30	30	30
	Age	30	30	30	30
	Education Level	30	30	30	30
	Income	30	30	30	30

Data Source : Primary Processed 2025

Based on the results of the correlation analysis, there was a significant relationship between the age of women farmers and their perception of corn farming. The value of the correlation coefficient of 0.421 and the significance of 0.010 (less than 0.05) showed that there was a significant positive relationship between Age and Perception of Farming (PUT). This means that the older the farmer women get, their perception of corn farming tends to be more positive. On the other hand, the relationship between education level and perception showed a weak positive correlation (0.265) and not statistically significant (significance 0.079 > 0.05). This means that Education Level does not have a significant relationship with Perception of Farming (PUT) in this study. Furthermore, the analysis also reveals an interesting relationship between other variables. There was a significant negative relationship between Education Level and Income, with a correlation coefficient of -0.346 and a significance of 0.031.

This shows that the higher the level of education of women farmers, their income from corn farming tends to be lower, or vice versa. Meanwhile, there was no significant relationship between Income and Farming Perception (PUT) (correlation -0.014, significance 0.471), meaning that high incomes did not affect the way they viewed maize farming. In other words, the age factor is the strongest predictor that influences the perception of peasant women in this context, while education and income show the dynamics of their own relationship that are separate from perception.

Factors that Affect the Perception of Government Support in Corn Farming Activities in Banyu Urip Village

Table 4. Results Analysis of factors influencing perceptions of government support

		PTDP	Age	Education Level	Income
Person Correlation	PTDP	1,000	,435	-,102	-,227
	Age	,435	1,000	,127	,234
	Education Level	-,102	,127	1,000	-,346
	Income	-,227	,234	-,346	1,000
Sig. (1-tailed)	PUT	.	,008	,295	,114
	Age	,008	.	,251	,107
	Education Level	,295	,251	.	,031
	Income	,114	,107	,031	.
N	PUT	30	30	30	30
	Age	30	30	30	30
	Education Level	30	30	30	30
	Income	30	30	30	30

Data Source : Primary Processed 2025

Based on the results of the correlation analysis, it can be explained that there is a statistically significant negative relationship between the age of women farmers and their perception of government support (PTDP). This is shown by the value of the Pearson correlation coefficient of -0.435 with a significance level of 0.008 ($p < 0.05$). This means that the higher the age of women farmers, their perception of government support in corn farming tends to be more negative, or vice versa. On the other hand, education level and income do not show a significant relationship with peasant women's perception of government support. The correlation value between PTDP and education level was -0.102 (significance 0.295 > 0.05) and with income was -0.227 (significance 0.114 > 0.05) (Lengkong et al., 2023). Although the direction of the relationship was negative, the relationship was not statistically significant which meant that the variables of education and income did not significantly affect the perception of women farmers towards government support. Further analysis showed a significant negative relationship between education level and income (correlation -0.346 with significance 0.031). These findings indicate that the higher the level of education of women farmers, the more likely they are to have lower incomes from corn farming, or vice versa. Meanwhile, there was no significant

relationship between age and education level (correlation 0.127, significance 0.251) or between age and income (correlation 0.234, significance 0.107). Thus, of the three independent variables analyzed (age, education level, and income), only the age variable has a significant relationship with the perception of women farmers towards government support in maize farming (Miftahul, 2025).

CONCLUSION

Based on the description of the results and the discussion in this study, it can be concluded:

1. The perception of women farmers in corn farming in Banyu Urip Village, Gerung District, West Lombok Regency shows that women farmers have high awareness and assessment of good corn cultivation practices. The dominant "Important" assessment indicates that they view each of these stages as a key component that affects the success of farming.
2. The perception of women farmers towards government support in corn farming shows that the stability of agricultural input prices such as fertilizers and seeds is indeed recognized as the support needed, but its importance does not defeat the fundamental need for capital.
3. The age factor is the strongest predictor that affects the perception of women farmers both in the implementation of corn farming and in the perception of government support.

RECOMMENDATION

From the conclusion of the study, the following suggestions were given:

1. Prioritize Capital Assistance and Access to Financing. The government and financial institutions must design a farm credit program (KUR) that is easily accessible, with light conditions, especially for women farmer groups. Differentiated
2. The Extension Program must adapt to the age of the farmer, because the age factor determines the strongest perception. For young farmers, use digital media and focus on innovation. For older farmers, maintain more intensive face-to-face methods and hands-on mentoring.
3. Mentoring programs should shift from just awareness to the implementation of specific technical solutions, such as balanced fertilization plot demos or integrated pest control, to directly increase productivity.

REFERENCES

- Dewi, C. A. (2018). Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Melalui Pelatihan Diversifikasi Produk Olahan Jagung Untuk Meningkatkan Ketahanan Pangan di Labuapi Lombok Barat. In *Prosiding Seminar Nasional Pangan, Gizi dan Stunting*. https://eprints.unram.ac.id/34876/1/5_FINAL_PROSIDING_perbaikan_gizi_masyarakat_compressed.pdf
- Hayati. (2023). Farmers' Perceptions of the Competence of Agricultural Instructors in Karang Sidemen Village. *Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan IPA*, 9(12), 11268–11279. <https://doi.org/10.29303/jppipa.v9i12.6137>

- Hayati, Sahidu, A., Muktasam, Sari, N. M. W., & Valentino, N. (2023). Extension And Behaviour of Fisherwomen in Supporting Household Food Security in West Lombok District. *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science*, 1153(1). <https://doi.org/10.1088/1755-1315/1153/1/012015>
- Imanudin. (2022). FAKTOR-FAKTOR YANG MEMPENGARUHI PERSEPSI GENERASI MUDA DALAM USAHA SEKTOR PERTANIAN PADI SAWAH DI KECAMATAN CISAAT KABUPATEN SUKABUMI. 3(1), 161-172.
- Khudori, (2018). *Pembangunan Pertanian _ Tugas Pembangunan Pertanian*.
- Lengkong, G. M., Pangemanan, P. A., & Kaunang, R. (2023). Persepsi Masyarakat Terhadap Buruh Tani Perempuan Di Desa Wuwuk Kecamatan Tareran Kabupaten Minahasa Selatan. *Agri-Sosioekonomi*, 19(3), 1853-1862. <https://doi.org/10.35791/agrsosek.v19i3.54444>
- Miftahul Khairat Dm. Ali, H. M. (2025). Analisis Faktor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Peran Perempuan Tani Dalam Usahatani Jagung Pada Sistem Pertanian Lahan Kering Di Kecamatan Pujut Kabupaten Lombok Tengah. *Jurnal Sosial Ekonomi dan Humaniora*, 48-56.
- Nazir, (2014). *Metode Penelitian*. Bogor : Ghalia Indonesia.
https://alicia.concytec.gob.pe/vufind/Record/RNAP_55c81c72ce31526d65abc5364e49d9d7/Description#tabnav
- OECD. (2020). *Education and child safety*. <https://doi.org/10.1787/421bcc05-en>
- Priminingtyas, D. N., & Yuliati, Y. (2016). Peran Perempuan Dalam Ketahanan Pangan Keluarga. *Seminar Nasional Pembangunan Pertanian*, 422-424.
- Rusastra. (2019). *Investasi dan Perdagangan dalam Perspektif Transformasi Pertanian: Penguatan Usaha Pertanian dan Revitalisasi Petani*.
- Putri, Amelia., Veronice, V., & Ananda, G. (2022). Persepsi Petani terhadap Kompetensi Penyuluh Pertanian di Kecamatan Payakumbuh, Kabupaten Lima Puluh Kota. *Jurnal Penyuluhan*, 18(01), 59-74. <https://doi.org/10.25015/18202236061>
- Sulaiman Amran Andi. (2018). *Quick Way to Self-Sufficiency in Corn*. IAARD PRESS Badan Penelitian dan Pengembangan Pertanian
- Triman (2025). Analisis Korelasi Karakteristik Inovasi dengan Adopsi Pengendalian OPT Ramah Lingkungan pada Usahatani Cabai di Kabupaten Manokwari , Papua Barat *Correlation Analysis of Innovation Characteristics and the Adoption of Environmentally Friendly Pest Control*. 07(02), 122-124.
- Uma, & Bougie, R. (2011). *Business Research Methods: A skill-building approach*. In Wiley. <https://doi.org/http://as.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-111994225X.html#>