

Profitable feeding strategies for smallholder cattle in Indonesia



Key details

Location

Indonesia

Duration

Start Jan 2017

End Jun 2021

Budget

AUD 1,800,088

Commissioned organisation

The University of Queensland

Partners

Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology ; NTB; Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Pertanian (BPTP) Central Sulawesi; Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Pertanian (BPTP) NTB; Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Pertanian (BPTP). Malang East Java; Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Pertanian Yogyakarta; Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries; Northern Territory; University of Brawijaya; University of Gadjah Mada; University of Jember; University of Mataram; University of Queensland; University of Tadulako

Project Leader

Dennis Poppi

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Dr Anna Okello

Program

Livestock Systems

Project code

LPS/2013/021

Overview

This project aimed to improve the profitability of beef cattle production of small-scale beef producers in Indonesia through the development of simple cost-effective feed rations.

The Indonesian Government has placed a high priority on self-sufficiency in beef production where domestic beef supply is unable to meet consumer demand.

Most cattle are raised by 4.2 million smallholder farmers and landless producers, with an increasing number of small- to medium-scale feedlots. The priority is to increase this number, improve reproductive efficiency and improve the growth and fattening of cattle.

Although there is substantial trade in cattle feed, cattle growth rates are low. Diets are based on the cheapest available feed. This is mainly due to a poor understanding of the benefits of improved diets (for

increased growth rates and decreased cost per weight gain), aversion to risk and a lack of tools to formulate a simple diet based on nutritional principles. There is a need to customise diets for different regions in Indonesia as each has a different range of feed resources, both on-farm and purchased feeds.

Project outcomes

- Improved reproduction and growth of cattle.
- Economic and other benefits to smallholders, landless cattle producers and small- to medium-scale feedlots.
- Increased household incomes.
- Increased availability of quality cattle to meet domestic supply.
- Increased capacity for a new generation of ruminant nutritionists to continue the development of local cattle production systems.
- Potential for off-farm employment opportunities through implementation of commercial feed enterprises.



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