

Production Of Wood Products At The Suka Bersama Factory In Melayu Ulu Village, Banjar District

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ABSTRACT

Suka Bersama Factory, located in Melayu Ulu Village, Banjar Regency, is one of the factories that process timber to make timber beam products as building materials. Along with the times and changing consumption patterns, more and more buildings are switching to using modern building materials such as concrete and steel, which reduces the use of wood in construction. This affects the sustainability of the wood processing industry, which needs to respond to the challenge of environmental sustainability. In this context, this study aims to understand how timber production is carried out at Suka Bersama Factory as well as the factors that influence production such as, capital, raw materials, machinery and equipment as well as the existing workforce at Suka Bersama Factory. The research method used is descriptive with a qualitative approach, which collects data through direct observation, interviews, and documentation. This research focuses on how timber production at the factory is carried out by timber production factors, such as capital, the use of raw materials sourced from sustainably managed forests, machinery and equipment, and labor. The results show that the timber production of Suka Bersama Factory is carried out systematically starting from the selection of raw materials for logs, processing using win machines, to the preparation of cooked goods or packaging of the final product. This process involves several important stages, namely the preparation stage, the processing stage, and the packaging stage.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The world of construction is one of the many areas of life that has undergone tremendous changes over time. Wood used to be a fairly common building material used to construct a wide variety of structures, including residential buildings and commercial buildings where traditional elements still remain but are combined with a cleaner, more minimalist modern design (Noraidarayanti et al., 2024).

The benefits of using wood as a building material include its beauty, its ability to maintain room temperature, and its environmental friendliness, which are qualities not shared by many other building materials (Ihsan et al., 2024). While wood has many benefits, there have been significant changes in the way building materials are used over time (Putro et al., 2024). Today, more and more people are using building materials such as steel and concrete because they are considered more useful, durable and easy to manufacture (Tsabit & Arsanti, 2023).

This major change, besides having a positive impact in terms of efficiency and durability, also impacts the existence of the wood processing sector. One example of a company facing this challenge is Suka Bersama Mill, located in Melayu Ulu Village, Banjar Regency. The mill remains focused on wood processing to meet the needs of the local market, even though the demand for wood continues to decline due to the dominance of modern building materials. While the demand for wood remains for small projects, such as houses and other traditional buildings, the mill faces difficulties in maintaining the sustainability of the wood production process (Uzhma et al., 2024).

Society's perception of building materials has changed due to the use of concrete and other more resilient materials. Given its better durability and minimal maintenance costs, concrete is considered more cost-effective and practical over time. Because of this, many people from the government to the construction sector are prioritizing the use of concrete when building houses and other buildings. Wood as the main building material is therefore becoming less and less popular. Suka Bersama mills and other wood processing plants are greatly affected by this, and they need to constantly innovate and adapt to stay relevant in the face of these developments.

However, this shift in trend also creates a dilemma for wood processing factories. On the one hand, the demand for wood is still there, albeit in smaller quantities. On the other hand, the sustainability of the wood production process is a very important issue to discuss. Wood production activities carried out without regard to the sustainability of natural resources can lead to environmental damage, such as worsening deforestation and a decrease in the quality of ecosystems that lead to loss of biodiversity (Nabyal, 2024).

Environmental sustainability is becoming an increasingly pressing issue. The sustainability of timber production is highly dependent on wise and environmentally friendly forest management. The use of timber that does not take into account the principles of sustainability can cause great damage to the ecosystem, reduce the carrying capacity of the forest, and threaten the balance of nature. Uncontrolled deforestation leads to the loss of natural resources that are essential for human life and other living things. Therefore, it is important for wood processing plants to manage wood raw materials in a sustainable way, so that negative impacts on the environment can be minimized (Rahman et al., 2024).

Suka Bersama Timber Mill, located in Melayu Ulu Village, Banjar Regency, plays an important role in this regard. The mill still uses wood as the main material in its production process, but faces major challenges in ensuring the sustainability of the natural resources used. The selection of Melayu Ulu Village as the research location is relevant because this area has potential natural resources that can be utilized as production materials, but is also vulnerable to environmental damage due to excessive exploitation. The existence of this factory has a considerable impact on the economy of the local community, but also provides challenges in terms of managing existing natural resources. Therefore, this research aims to find out how Suka Bersama Factory runs its operations in the wood processing process, the factors that influence it such as, capital, raw materials, machinery and equipment, labor. So that from this process, it can be known how Suka Bersama Factory manages the environmental impacts arising from its production activities.

In this case, this research also provides an overview of how the wood processing sector can manage production while taking into account the principle of sustainability. One of the things that needs to be researched is how the Suka Bersama Mill utilizes environmentally friendly technology and methods in its production process. For example, the use of more efficient technology in the utilization of wood raw materials, more environmentally friendly wood waste management, and efforts to reduce negative impacts on the surrounding environment. By digging deeper into the production process and

factors of wood production at Suka Bersama Mill, it is hoped that this research can make a positive contribution to the development of a more sustainable wood processing sector. This research can also provide insight into how similar factories can survive in the midst of modernization and at the same time maintain environmental sustainability.

2. METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach with descriptive methods as its research methodology. Research that investigates social phenomena and human problems using knowledge and methodology-based research processes is known as qualitative research (Fiantika, 2022). Understanding the phenomena experienced by research participants-such as behavior, perceptions, intentions, and actions-holistically and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various natural methods (Barlian, 2016). By using this approach, researchers can create complex pictures, decipher written material, offer detailed reports from the respondent's point of view, and examine actual conditions. The purpose of this research is to identify the factors and processes involved in making wood at the Suka Bersama factory. Data collection at the Suka Bersama factory uses observation techniques, then interviews with informants, documentation to complement the research and literature studies which aim to enrich data sources related to similar research, making it easier for researchers to find theories that support data analysis. Data analysis uses data reduction, data presentation, conclusion drawing (Saadah et al., 2022). While testing the validity of the data using checking and triangulation.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Suka Bersama wood production factory is one of the individually owned companies established in 2015 by Wahyuni. In carrying out its daily activities, the company is led by the manager and coordinator, Wahyuni herself. The Suka Bersama mill was established with the aim of fulfilling the need for timber for the local market. The mill is capable of producing various types of processed wood for building materials. This factory has been established under the name of Suka Bersama with an investment approval letter No.503/16/SPPM 2T/01/2015 by the one-stop investment and integrated service office No.503/019/DPMPTSP/IV/1/2018. In carrying out activities, the factory requires cooperation and coordination channels among members to achieve the set goals. This cooperation is carried out through predetermined tasks, and in its implementation it is necessary to have provisions that regulate so that all activities run properly. as for the organizational structure of the Suka Bersama factory includes: company owner, coordinator, operational workers and administrative staff (Nursahid et al., 2024).

The human activity of production involves interacting with other people to produce a good that makes use of nature's potential to satisfy their needs (Sari et al., 2024). In the process of processing wood into blocks as a wooden building material, it consists of several stages starting from the preparation or selection of raw materials, cutting to the processing of the final product (Somadona et al., 2020). Suka Bersama factory focuses on processing raw wood into blocks that are ready to be used for various construction purposes. The process involves several stages starting from the preparation or selection of raw materials, cutting to the processing of the final product. All of these processes are carried out using simple yet effective machines, adjusting to the scale of the business and market needs. In its day-to-day operations, Suka Bersama Factory engages local labor, most of whom come from Melayu Ulu Village. This not only helps to improve the economic standard of the surrounding community, but also creates a good working relationship between the mill and the local community (Uzhma et al., 2024). The timber production activities at the Suka Bersama mill are carried out through several stages, namely the preparation stage, sawing stage, drying stage, finished goods preparation stage as follows:

- (1) preparation stage. According to Mulyadi (2016), the production preparation stage is the initial stage in the production process which includes planning and determining the need for raw materials, equipment, and labor to be used. The purpose of this stage is to ensure that all

necessary resources are available before production begins, so that the production process can run smoothly and efficiently (Carenina et al., 2023). Suka Bersama Factory selects raw materials, namely rubber trees, durian, and other fruit trees from community gardens. Before cutting down the trees, the first thing to do is to select mature trees. The criteria for using wood as production material are mature trees with a board size of 4 cm (Putri, 2018). Because the majority of Malay Ulu Village residents use this size for building materials. This can be seen from the shape and size of the selected panel. After selecting a mature tree, the next step is to cut down the tree, and transport it to the lokpon or wood storage area at the Suka Bersama factory so that the felling results must then be cleaned of any remaining bark. After making preparations for the selection of raw materials, the preparation stage at the Suka Bersama mill is transportation and storage, the mill transports the wood from the place of origin to the mill using safe methods to prevent damage.

- (2) sawing stage. According to Santosa (2023), the saw milling stage in timber production is the process of cutting logs into various sizes and shapes of smaller wood products, such as boards and beams (Dewadi et al., 2023). In the saw milling stage of the Suka Bersama mill, the main steps are (1) Initial cutting, logs that have been selected and are ready to be cut are transported to the sawmill or cutting area, then primary cutting is carried out, where the logs are cleaned of the outer bark and other impurities. This helps to ensure that subsequent cuts are made on clean, high quality timber. The cleaned logs are then cut into smaller pieces, often referred to as "cant logs" and this is done to facilitate cutting and further reduce the size of the logs to make them more manageable. (2) the main cutting stage, at this stage the logs or cant logs are cut into boards or wood materials of the desired size. In this process, the mill uses a win machine that can cut logs with precision. After the cutting stage, adjustments and refinements are made so that the wooden boards produced reach the desired dimensions and quality.
- (3) drying stage. According to (Prasetyo & Wulandari, 2022), in order for wood to achieve an optimal moisture balance for further use. Prasetyo explains that drying aims to prevent damage such as decay, shrinkage, and cracking that can occur if the wood is not properly dried. This process can be done naturally by air drying or artificially using a drying oven. Effective drying ensures dimensional stability and strength of the wood, and improves the quality and service life of the final product. The drying process at Suka Bersama Mill has several stages including: (1) Surface drying: In the initial stage, drying the surface of the wood using sunlight, causes the water on the outer layer of the wood to begin to evaporate. This process helps to slowly reduce surface moisture, preventing cracks from forming due to too rapid drying (Mansur, 2015). (2) Internal Drying: Over time, the evaporation of water from the surface of the wood creates a moisture difference between the outside and inside of the wood. Water from the inside of the wood begins to move to the surface, and the drying process goes deeper. This stage lasts for a few weeks to a few months, depending on the thickness of the wood, wood species, and weather conditions. (3) Rotation and Adjustment: Log piles are often rotated or moved to ensure that all parts of the wood get even sun exposure. This is done to prevent certain parts of the wood from remaining wet or damp, which can reduce the quality of the wood.
- (4) preparation of finished goods. According to Indra (2022), the finished goods preparation stage in wood production at the factory is the process of organizing and arranging finished wood products that have been processed and dried, before being packaged or distributed. The stage of preparing finished goods in the production of wood at the Suka Bersama factory is sorting, the wood that has been dried is sorted according to quality, size and other specifications. The aim is to separate wood that conforms to standards from wood that may have defects or damage. Then, the wood is grouped according to certain characteristics, such as wood type, size and use. This facilitates management and storage, and facilitates the process of distribution or subsequent use. And the sorted timber is stored in an appropriate manner to maintain its quality and is ready for distribution.

As explained earlier, the production of wood products at Suka Bersama Factory can be used as a social studies learning resource by integrating it into social studies materials. This will help students in understanding lessons related to society (Hadi & Hasanah, 2017). In addition, wood production at Suka Bersama Mill can be used to explore local potential. In social studies learning, local potential can be achieved by utilizing the surrounding environment. Local potential is not only limited to artifacts as evidence of a community's local wisdom, but can also be found through community activities that provide useful learning resources for educational practices (Yasir et al., 2024).

The factors of production at Suka Bersama Factory in Melayu Ulu Village are: Raw materials, capital, machinery and equipment, and labor. The raw materials used by this factory are durian wood and rubber wood. The initial capital used to establish this factory amounted to Rp 80 million. The capital is allocated for the construction of factory facilities, purchase of machinery and fulfillment of administrative and legal needs. The machinery and equipment used are Dompeng 48 (driving machine), Bansaw 36 (diesel engine), and manual milling machine. And has a workforce of 9 people consisting of: Expert shooters and logdeck pullers/guards (3 people), stirrers (4 people), expert cooks (1 person), administration (1 person). By paying attention to the production factors of quality raw materials, sufficient capital, optimal machinery and equipment and skilled labor, it produces quality products so that they can be offered to a market and get attention to be purchased (Nurkamilah et al., 2024).

The production factors in the Suka Bersama factory that have been explained previously are raw materials in the form of wood, labor, and adequate equipment and technology. In social studies learning, the concept of production concerns the management of resources to produce goods and services needed by society. Through this case study, social studies teachers can explain to students how each production factor plays a role in creating value-added products, especially processed wood, and how this industry supports the local economy (Hapijah et al., 2020).

4. CONCLUSION

The results of production research at the Suka Bersama Factory in Melayu Ulu Village, in the process begins with stages in its implementation through several stages, namely the preparation stage, the cutting stage (saw milling), drying, and structuring finished goods. Each stage has a very important role in determining the quality and quantity of wood products. As for the production process of wood products, the Suka Bersama factory produces block boards as the main production material and does not produce other products as building materials. Research on production factors at the Suka Bersama Factory in Melayu Ulu Village, researchers found several elements that affect the production process, namely raw materials, capital, machinery and equipment, and labor. By paying attention to good production processes and factors, wood production can still survive in the midst of modernization of building materials. In addition, sustainable production practices can maintain ecological balance and reduce negative impacts on the environment. This research through the case study of Suka Bersama factory when integrated into social studies learning, students can learn the concepts of production, distribution, and consumption in the context of the timber industry. By integrating the study of the Suka Bersama factory, students will easily understand how wood products are produced, processed and distributed. Students can also understand directly how social studies theories such as resource management are applied in the real world, so that learning can be more effective.

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