

Project Update: May 2010

Our sample plots in all four areas showed better production of paddies than other farmers, even though there are a lot of problems in our rice field, such as cracked land caused by drought, pests and buffalos. However, because all of farmers have got the same problems as us, they think that our methods are better because we still have more paddies than they have (on average we have 1.5: 1). The impact of this is that there has been a request from farmers group from Lambaya Village to conduct a short training course before starting planting for the second time; this is planned for the end of May 2010. We conducted training in mid-April 2010 in Lambaya village that we have presented to Simeulue's Agriculture Department that acted as one of sources in this training.

In the period, we plan to assist more farmers in order to create their planting system in their own rice fields in four of our project villages for the next 2.5 months.

We got appreciation from the local Agriculture Department in order to assist farmers to understand a better planting system through the organic approach. The local Agriculture Department plans to ask some of our audience to join them in order to create sampling plots of 50 ha in Putra Jaya Village (Simeulue Tengah sub-District, near to Lauke village) in the next planting periods.

