## **UGM Faculty of Biology Closes Covid-19 Mandating Program** with Longan Harvest

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The Faculty of Biology UGM organized a Joint Harvest Event for Sleman Super Longan (KSS) on Thursday (28/1) at Dukuh Gejayan, Condongcatur, Depok, Sleman. This joint harvest event was a sign for closing a series of activities for the Mandating Research Program toward Mitigation and Handling of the Covid-19 Pandemic organized since July 2020.

UGM Faculty Biology, as a program launcher, has a mission on this activity to help families during the Covid-19 pandemic by making use of the small yard land for cultivation. The harvest result is not only longan, but there are also catfish farming, Liquid Organic Fertilizer (POC), and milk pumpkin cultivation. Some program implementations were mostly applied in Gejayan Hamlet, except for the milk pumpkin cultivated in Madurejo, Prambanan, and Sleman.

"In the last new year, the catfish, which the Women Farmer Group of Gejayan Hamlet cultivated, had harvested. Meanwhile, there has also been the completion of processing waste into POC as a university mandate at the end of last year. Then, the development in the Prambanan area is still currently going, "said Prof. Budi S. Daryono, S. Si., M.Agr.Sc., as the Dean of the UGM Faculty of Biology UGM as well as the Head of the Program Team in his speech.

Budi also added that the SSC had been developed since 2015. UGM Faculty of Biology had carried out the KSS cultivation in various regions in Yogyakarta, such as Gunungkidul and Kulonprogo, including Gejayan Hamlet. Accordingly, this was not the first harvesting.

Although this mandating program was over, Budi stated that he was still enthusiastic about guiding the residents. For example, even though catfish have harvested, he still helped sow new seeds last new year, and now they are about one month old.

"As a token of gratitude, we handed over the pumpkin milk and golden watermelon seeds as well as a form of appreciation for being accepted at Gejayan Hamlet. If you have any difficulty cultivating it, do not hesitate to contact us, we are very pleased to guide it later. Additionally, if there is a new land to plant, please invite us to work cooperatively. Who knows that Gejayan Hamlet one day can become an agritourism destination," he explained.

Reno Candra Sangaji, S.IP, as the Head of Condongcatur Village, kindly welcomed this support. He said that nowadays, it was hard to find people who are genuinely willing to make use of the land. Nevertheless, according to him, with the UGM Faculty of Biology team's guidance, they would successfully actualize it until the harvest season.

"On behalf of the residents, I would like to thank the UGM Faculty of Biology UGM. This cooperation is an example of positive collaborative creation. Hence, I hope that this example of beneficial programs remains with us in the future or could even strengthen it. Thus, Condongcatur in general, and Padukuhan Gejayan in particular, is able to be more prosperous," he concluded.

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