

# STUDY TRACKING ALUMNI FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY OF MATARAM YUDISIUM PERIOD 2019-2021

*by Tajiban Dkk*

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# STUDY TRACKING ALUMNI FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY OF MATARAM YUDISIUM PERIOD 2019-2021

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**Abstract:** One of the main performance indicators of higher education is the production of alumni who can apply the knowledge, skills, and expertise they have acquired through working within a short after being declared graduated. Work is an activity to produce products and or services and earn rewards. Apart from working for other people, he also works as an entrepreneur. The sooner you get a job and/or become an entrepreneur with a decent income, the higher the quality of the higher education institution or institution. On that basis, the alumni search study aims to obtain information on aspects of work or profession, income earned for the first time working or entrepreneurship, as well as the suitability of the field of science with their respective fields of work, and the range of work areas where alumni work. The research targets are alumni who have graduated from January 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021. The method used in data collection is a survey method using a list of questions. The list of questions was created using the *google form application* and distributed to alumni through *WhatsApp groups* and other relevant social media. The data obtained were analyzed using descriptive statistical analysis shown in tables and graphs. The results of the tracing study show that the number of those who are employed is 56.72%, advanced studies for Masters are 4.48% and have not worked 38.81%. Of the number of people who work, it takes 46.76% waiting time < 6 months, 7.09% from 6 to 18 months, and 1.87% more than 18 months, the rest are studying and have not worked. The suitability of the field of work is dominated by a moderate level of suitability, followed by high suitability and low suitability. The range of their working area is local 33,58%, national 16.04%, and multinational 7.09%, the rest have not worked. The average income earned from working is IDR 2,357,629 or 1.08 x UMP of IDR 2,183,884/month.

**Keywords:** income, appropriate, status, waiting time, work area.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The role of higher education institutions is quite important in creating intellectual resources and at the same time contributing to improving superior human resources. In addition, universities are also required to be able to construct their institutions both morally and managerially in order to survive and provide all the intellectual product processes they produce to the community systematically, continuously, and in accordance with the demands and needs of the community and stakeholders.

The ideal educational institution or institution is an educational institution that is able to organize lectures and teaching and learning activities properly, which refers to national standards. Availability of infrastructure, professional teaching staff, the curriculum that is able to answer the needs of stakeholders, and the creation of graduates who are reliable in their fields so that graduates or alumni can be absorbed in the world of work. The success of implementing tri dharma in higher

education can be measured by the ability of alumni to practice science and technology according to their fields. This measure of success is in line with learning *outcomes* so that students become useful and beneficial people for the community according to their respective fields of expertise (Prihatiningsih, 2015).

Based on the guidelines for the development and preparation of the Higher Education Curriculum (KPT), the Competency-Based Curriculum Approach (KBK) and Achievement-Based Education (PBC) (Dikti, 2012) states that the demand for the ability of an educated workforce is based on 4 (four) pillars of education, namely (1) learning to know (*learning to know*), (2) learn to do (*learning to do*) change from expertise to competence, dematerialize work and the rise of the service sector (*the rise of service sector*), and work in the informal economy, (3) learn to live together (*learning to live together*), learning to live with others (*learning to live with others*) finding others and working for common goals (*discovering others and working toward common objectives*), and (4) learning to be (*learning to be*).

The implementation of education is responsible for facilitating students with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to compete *fairly* in the world of work (Cahyaningtyas, 2007). Presidential Decree No. 12 of 2012 states that graduates of higher education must have qualifications at the level according to their strata and type of education. The same thing is also explained in the guide for the development and preparation of higher education by Dikti (2012) that the curriculum for the ultimate achievement of mastery of competencies in training and the world of work is to be able to work according to job needs.

Mastery of graduate competencies in accordance with the needs of the work and *stakeholders* can be known from *tracer studies*. *Tracer studies* provide information about the relationship between higher education and the world of professional work, assess the relevance of higher education, information for stakeholders, and complete requirements for higher education accreditation. This *Tracer Study* is expected to be the basis for developing strategic plans as an effort to improve and develop the overall teaching or curriculum management.

The purpose of conducting the first *tracer study* is to determine educational *outcomes* in the form of transition from higher education to the world of work (including the waiting period for work and the first job search process), the last work situation, and the application of competencies in the world of work. Second, knowing the *output* of education, namely self-assessment of mastery and acquisition of competence. Third, to determine the educational process in the form of evaluation of the learning process and the contribution of higher education to the acquisition of competence.

BAN-PT Regulation No. 4 of 2017 concerning accreditation instruments, namely in criterion 9; it states that educational outcomes are measured including through tracing graduates, asking for feedback from graduate users, and assessing public or community perceptions of graduates following graduate learning outcomes determined by study programs and universities with refers to the IQF. Research on the distribution of higher education alumni is absolutely necessary, this is to measure the success rate of universities, faculties, departments of study programs in providing education and preparing alumni to be able to compete in the world of work.

The Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mataram has conducted periodic tracking of alumni. The first alumni tracking was carried out from 2009 to 2013 in a limited scope by each study program or department in order to fill out form documents. After the establishment of the Education Quality Assurance Agency of the Faculty of Agriculture in 2014, a work program was prepared, including carrying out a tracking study or alumni tracing. In 2016 a tracing study of alumni who graduated from 2012 to 2015 was conducted (Tajidan, *et al.*, 2016). The results of this tracing study have led the Agribusiness Study Program to achieve A Accreditation, the Agroecotechnology Study Program, and Soil Science Study Program each to obtain B Accreditation.

The current weakness of higher education institutions is mainly related to the mapping of the distribution of alumni who are absorbed in the world of work after graduation, so *tracer studies* are considered important because they are one of the evaluation tools for the Main Performance Indicators (IKU) of Higher Education and are one of the requirements for complete accreditation by the National Accreditation Board, Higher Education (BAN-PT), and the completeness in the Self Evaluation document. In connection with this background, research was conducted to trace alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture with the aim of:

1. Knowing the percentage of alumni who are working, continuing their studies, and not working
2. Knowing the waiting time for alumni to get a job

3. Analyzing the suitability of the field of work and field of study;
4. Knowing the range of work areas where alumni work
5. Comparison of alumni's income to the West Nusa Tenggara Province Minimum Wage

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

The research targets are alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture who are working and those who have not worked who are members of the WhatsApp Group and Telegram Alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture with a total of 223 members and 443 cellphone numbers, respectively. Of these, 270 people responded to the google form, while 268 were declared valid.

The amount of data on the form declared valid is analyzed, then grouped according to the study program and variables that have been determined in the Guide for Accreditation of the IAP 4.0 Undergraduate Study Program and continued to be transformed by percentage.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Alumni Job Status

The percentage of alumni who were successfully captured from the results of the search *survey* still did not reach the target of 20%, due to the constraints on the distribution of the alumni's residence, and not all alumni could be gathered in WhatsApp and/or Telegram groups. Another cause is network access problems and quota access, which alumni do not necessarily have.

In the current situation of the *Covid-19 pandemic*, it appears that the percentage of alumni who are working is relatively low compared to the results of search studies in 2019 and 2020, each exceeding 50%. In 2021 the alumni worked is below 50%, while those who have not worked are above 50%. This condition helps by the increasing number of alumni who continue their education to the level of Masters, meaning that while finding suitable jobs, some alumni choose to continue their studies to the Master's level.

The Agribusiness Study Program with the highest number of alumni places the position of the number of alumni working above 50%. The percentage of alumni of the Agribusiness Study Program who have been working occupies the highest percentage compared to other study programs within the Faculty of Agriculture, namely 54%.

**Table 1: Employment Status of Alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture**

Study program	Number of Graduates (person)	Number of Graduates Tracked		Number of Employed and Unemployed (persons)		
		(person)	%	Not working	yet	Advanced Study S2
Agribusiness	661	105	15.89	48	3	54
Agroecotechnology	383	73	19.06	26	4	43
Geology	20	15	75.00	8	2	5
Aquaculture	137	18	13.14	3	-	15
Forestry	184	57	30.98	19	3	35
Amount	1.385	268	19.35	104	12	152
Percentage		100.00		38.81	4.48	56.72

In the Covid-19 pandemic situation, the number of people absorbed in work and continuing their studies reached 61.20%, meaning that out of 100 alumni there were 61 people who had worked and or continued their studies to the Masters level. The highest percentage of alumni who have worked is Forestry PS 83.33%, followed by Forestry 61.4%, Agroecotechnology PS 58.90, Agribusiness PS 51.43%, and Soil Science 33.33%. The high percentage who work for Forestry alumni is caused by the percentage of alumni who are entrepreneurs reaching half of the number who work. The percentage of alumni who are self-employed is suspected to be influenced by their experience during the Field Work Practice (PKL). Through street vendors, knowledge is obtained that entrepreneurship allows for higher incomes than internships in companies or agencies.

## 2. Alumni Waiting Time

For each alumni, it takes a few days or a few weeks after graduation to get a job, but not a few of the alumni have worked before graduation.

**Table 2: Waiting Time for Alumni to Get First Job**

Study program	Number of Graduates (person)	Number of Graduates Tracked (person)	of (%)	Number of Graduates With Waiting Time to Get a Job (person)			S2 & Not yet Working (person)
				WT < 6 months	6 ≤ WT ≤ 18 months	WT ≥ 18 months	
Agribusiness	661	105	15.89	45	8	1	51
Agroecotechnology	383	73	19.06	32	8	3	30
Geology	20	15	75.00	5			10
Aquaculture	137	18	13.14	12	2	1	3
Forestry	184	57	30.98	34	1		22
Amount	1.385	268	19.35	128	19	5	116
Percentage		100.00		47.76	7.09	1.87	43.28

Most of the alumni who work find jobs for less than 6 (six) months. 47.76% of the alumni who got a job for less than 6 (six) months were tracked, including 48 who got a job for less than 6 (six) months. The quickest to get a job are the alumni of the Forestry Study Program; They don't waste time indulging themselves by resting after graduation but start a business to open an independent business (entrepreneur). This is an example for alumni from other study programs to work faster after graduation.

Working as an entrepreneur indicates the readiness of alumni to face risks. Alumni who dare to take risks immediately take advantage of their free time to start entrepreneurship. Besides not wanting to be unemployed, they also want to get a bigger income.

Entrepreneurship allows him to manage their own time in adapting his field of expertise to the field of business. The relevance of the field of knowledge studied with the field of business is an easy choice for him.

**Table 3: Level of Suitability for Alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture**

Study Program	Number of Graduates (person)	Number of Graduates Tracked (person)	of (%)	Number of Tracked Graduates with the level of suitability for the field of work (person)			S2 & Not yet Working (person)
				Low	Currently	Tall	
Agribusiness	661	105	15.89	7	27	20	51
Agroecotechnology	383	73	19.06	6	14	23	30
Geology	20	15	75.00	2	3		10
Aquaculture	137	18	13.14	-	5	10	3
Forestry	184	57	30.98	1	23	11	22
Amount	1.385	268	19.35	16	72	64	116
Percentage		100.00		5.97	26.87	23.88	43.28

The high relevance between the fields of knowledge studied in the Study Program and their respective fields of expertise seems to vary from high, medium, and low. This variation is natural but depends on the available job opportunities. Most of the alumni find jobs of medium suitability, followed by high suitability. The suitability rate is low about 6% of the total traced alumni.

The suitability of the field of science with the field of work is placed by the Aquaculture Study Program. Expertise in aquaculture works for aquaculture companies on Sumbawa Island, Java Island, Sumatra Island, and Sulawesi Island. The lowest level of conformity is the Soil Science Study Program. Of the 15 alumni who were tracked, not one person worked in a very appropriate field of knowledge. The available job opportunities related to soil science are relatively few, making it difficult for alumni to get jobs according to their fields of knowledge.

Of the 100 alumni who were tracked, there were 24 people who were very compatible with their fields of knowledge, the rest were of moderate and low suitability as shown in Table 3. From the number of alumni who were tracked as many as 268 people, there were 64 people who worked very well in the field of science while studying at Higher Education, the rest are in moderate agreement, low in compliance, and not yet working.

**Table 4: Size of Workplace / Entrepreneurial Alumni**

Study program	Number of Graduates (person)	Number of Graduates Tracked		Number of Employed Tracked Graduates by Level/Place Size Work/Entrepreneurship (person)			S2 & Not yet Working (person)
		(person)	(%)	Local/Region/Unlicensed Entrepreneur	National/Licensed Entrepreneur	Multinational/International	
Agribusiness	661	105	15.89	33	14	7	51
Agroecotechnology	383	73	19.06	22	13	8	30
Geology	20	15	75.00	-	5	-	10
Aquaculture	137	18	13.14	8	5	2	3
Forestry	184	57	30.98	27	6	2	22
Amount	1.385	268	19.35	90	43	19	116
Percentage		100.00		33.58	16.04	7.09	43.28

The alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture who have worked are still dominated by local or entrepreneurship without a permit, followed by national and international scale measures. Most of the alumni who work at the international level are alumni of the Agroecotechnology Study Program and the Agribusiness Study Program.

**Table 5: Average Salary / First Wage for Alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture**

Study program	Tracked Amount (person)	Number of Graduates Working		First Salary Amount (Rp/month)		
		(person)	(%)	Average	NTB UMP	Proportion
Agribusiness	105	54	51.43	1,699,527	2,183,883	0.78
Agroecotechnology	73	43	58.90	2,600,777	2,183,883	1.19
Geology	15	5	33.33	2,250,000	2,183,883	1.03
Aquaculture	18	15	83.33	2,506,667	2,183,883	1.15
Forestry	57	35	61.40	3,025,765	2,183,883	1.39
Amount	268	152	56.72			
Average				2,357,629	2,183,884	1.08

The first salary/wage for alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture is above the Provincial Minimum Wage (UMP) of West Nusa Tenggara Province in the range of IDR 500,000 to IDR 15,000,000 per month. The average salary/wages have been achieved above the minimum wage of IDR 2,183,884/month.

The one with the lowest salary/wages is the Agribusiness Study Program, while the highest is the Forestry Study Program. Alumni of the Forestry Study Program achieve the highest salary/wages because more than half of them are entrepreneurs, while alumni of the Agribusiness Study Program are more dominant in working as employees or working as apprentices with salaries below the minimum wage.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

##### 1. Conclusion

- Alumni of the Faculty of Agriculture who are already working 56.72%, further study S2 4.48% and have not worked 38.81%.
- Of the number of alumni who work, it takes 46.76% waiting time < 6 months, 7.09% from 6 to 18 months, and 1.87% more than 18 months, the rest are studying and not working,
- The suitability of the field of work with the field of science appears to have a moderate agreement of 26.87%, a high correspondence of 23.88%, and a low correspondence of 5.97% of the number of alumni tracked as many as 268 people.
- The range of their work area is local 33.58%, national 16.04%, and multinational 7.09%, the rest are not working.
- The average income earned from working is IDR 2,357,629 or 1.08 x UMP of IDR 2,183,884/month.

## 2. Suggestion

- a. The Faculty of Agriculture needs to implement mentoring programs for alumni in need, such as the Young Agricultural Entrepreneurs Program (PWMP);
- b. The Faculty of Agriculture needs to strengthen the role of the Alumni Association of the Faculty of Agriculture in alumni tracking study activities;
- c. The Study Program needs to revise the curriculum by emphasizing on tennis and theoretical abilities in a balanced way.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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