

## **Leading Agricultural Subsectors In South Sumatra Province Before And During The Covid-19 Pandemic**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The COVID-19 pandemic that started in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 has resulted a very fatal health problems in global history, including for the State of Indonesia, which was confirmed that the first case of COVID-19 appeared on March 2, 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic not only having an impact on the health sector, the economy, international trade, industry but also having a negative impact on the agricultural sector, so that the production and productivity of the agricultural sector during the COVID-19 pandemic experienced a significant decline. So it is necessary to conduct more in-depth research to find out how much impact the COVID-19 pandemic has on leading agricultural sub-sectors in South Sumatra Province. This study aims to determine the leading agricultural sub-sector before and during the COVID-19 pandemic in South Sumatra Province. This study uses secondary data in 2010-2021. The analysis applied in this study is the analysis of Location Quotient (LQ), Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ), and a combination of analysis of Location Quotient (LQ) and Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ). The plantation crops sub-sector and the forestry sub-sector are the base sectors. The food crops sub-sector, horticultural crop sub-sector, livestock sub-sector, and forestry sub-sector have a faster growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level. Only the forestry sub-sector is included in the classification of the leading sub-sector.

**Keywords:** Agriculture Subsector, Base Sector, COVID-19 Pandemic.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

In the past, the world has witnessed many viral outbreaks such as the Spanish Flu, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome), and the Ebola outbreak. At this time, the COVID-

19 pandemic that started in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 has resulted in a very fatal health problem in global history. Indonesia is no exception, which confirmed that the COVID-19 case first appeared on March 2, 2020. By the time this paper was written, the Corona Virus

has infected 4.23 million people, and has caused 143,000 deaths in Indonesia. (Portal Informasi Indonesia, 2020).

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy is very large which not only causes health problems, the global economy slows down, unemployment increases, and the level of inequality is high but also has an impact on the agricultural sector, including for Indonesia and especially for the province of South Sumatra. The situation is getting worse along with the development of the disease which forced the government to implement a policy of Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB).

The agricultural sector is one of the key sectors in Indonesia's economic growth, and South Sumatra Province is no exception. According to BPS Provinsi Sumatera Selatan (2021), the economy of South Sumatra Province in 2020 experienced a contraction of -0.11%, but the agricultural sector is one sector that continues to grow positively at 1.74%.

The agricultural sector according to BPS Indonesia (2021) consists of several sub-sectors which include the food crops sub-sector (rice crops and secondary crops), the horticultural crops sub-sector (covered only vegetables and fruit crops), the plantation crops sub-sector (covering smallholder plantations, large countries, and large private sector), forestry crop sub-sector, fisheries sub-sector (capture fisheries and aquaculture), and livestock sub-sector. The leading sector/sub-sector is a sector/sub-sector that is able

to encourage economic activity and create prosperity in an area, especially through production, exports and job creation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has an impact on the agricultural sub-sector, especially on the lives of farmers and their farming businesses. Several components that will be directly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic include (1) the health of farmers and agricultural business actors, (2) productivity and food production, (3) agricultural workers in rural areas, (4) distribution of food and agricultural products, (5) the population's food consumption, and (6) the prices of food products (Sudaryanto & Suharyono, 2020).

The negative impact felt by the agricultural sector in several countries in Southeast Asia is relatively the same, namely disruption of supply chains and rising input prices. This is a chain impact of the implementation of the social restriction policies carried out by the government in order to break the chain and reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus (Rozaki, 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the distribution and marketing of agricultural products. As previously stated, the PSBB policy has hampered the mobility of labor and goods, including agricultural inputs and commodities. This obstacle will ultimately affect farmers' income due to a decrease in prices and sales volume. Some agricultural commodities whose prices have decreased are rice, corn,

chilies, and other vegetables (Prisma, 2020).

According to Oktavia et al (2015) only examined leading sectors and subsectors in one condition, namely before the COVID-19 pandemic, while Rozaki (2020) only examined the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the agricultural sector. Based on this literacy, this study combines two conditions, namely wanting to know the leading agricultural sub-sector and how far the performance and contribution of the agricultural sub-sector to the economy in South Sumatra Province before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **METHODS**

### **Base Methods and Research Sites**

This study uses a descriptive analytical method, which is a form of research based on data that has been collected during systematic research on the facts and characteristics of the object under study, then interpreted based on theories and literature related to the contribution of the agricultural sub-sector to the agricultural sector. This method aims to provide an overview of the performance of the agricultural sub-sector to the agricultural sector and further to economic growth in the province of South Sumatra.

The selection of research locations was carried out purposively (deliberately) by setting certain criteria in determining the research location. In this study, the area chosen to be the research location was the Province of

South Sumatra with the consideration that the agricultural sector, especially the agricultural sub-sectors, had a large potential contribution to the economic structure of the GRDP of South Sumatra Province through the leading commodities in each of its sub-sectors.

### **Data Types and Sources**

The type of data used in this study is secondary data in the form of GRDP at constant (real) prices using the base year 2010. The source of data is obtained from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of South Sumatra Province and Regency/City. Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of South Sumatra Province and related agencies. The data sources used are data for the period 2010-2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic and 2010-2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Especially for LQ analysis using data for 2018-2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020-2201 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Data analysis method**

The Location Quotient (LQ) analysis methodology was applied to determine the base and non-base sectors and sub-sectors as well as to analyze the potential of the agricultural sector and sub-sector in the future by using a combined analysis of Location Quotient (LQ) analysis and Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ) analysis. ). The Location Quotient (LQ) method is one of the approaches commonly used in the base economic model (base sector) as a first step to analyze the regional economic

activity sector which is the basis/leading sector for regional development growth.

The Location Quotient (LQ) method was applied to examine economic conditions that lead to the identification of the magnitude of the contribution of a sector in regional economic activities (Carroll et al., 2008; Chiang, 2009; Jing & Cai, 2010), so the Location Quotient (LQ) value is often used to determine the base/leading sector which can be explained as a sector that can encourage the growth or development of other sectors and have an impact on the growth of economic value in a region (Shukla, 2000). To find out the base sub-sector in the agricultural sector, use the Location Quotient (LQ) analysis equation as follows (Sjafrizal, 2012):

$$LQ = \frac{k_{si}/k_s}{K_{si}/K_s}$$

Where:

$k_{si}$ : GRDP of the sub-sector of the agricultural sector in South Sumatra Province

$k_s$ : Agriculture sector GRDP in South Sumatra Province

$K_{si}$ : GDP of the sub-sector of the National agriculture sector

$K_s$ : National agricultural sector GDP

$i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  (agricultural sub-sectors, consist of food crops, for horticultural crops subsector, plantation sub-sector, livestock sub-sector, forestry subsector, fishery subsector)

The previous section discussed why localization economies have more to do with the concept of concentration than with that of specialization. It is for this very reason that the LQ has become so popular in the literature focusing on the spatial distribution of economic activities (Billings & Johnson, 2012; Figueiredo et al., 2009)

The idea of interpreting the LQ as a measure of relative concentration able to capture localization economies has been recently explored by (Guimarães et al., 2009). Building upon the dartboard approach put forward by (Ellison & L. Glaeser, 2015; Guimarães dkk., 2009), show that the LQ can be derived as the maximum likelihood estimator of the strength of static localization economies and/or natural advantages at the region–industry level (the two factors are observationally equivalent in the model). The absence of localization economies and/or natural advantages implies an expected value of the LQ equal to 1; a value greater than 1, instead, provides evidence about the occurrence of industrial clustering and localization economies (and/or region–industry-specific natural advantages).

To complete the Location Quotient (LQ) analysis, Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ) analysis is used as an analysis that accommodates the economic sector output growth rate factor not only during a certain year but can be used to determine the economic sector output growth rate in the future. The value of the Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ) of the agricultural

subsector can be calculated using the following formula (Nugroho, 2010):

$$DLQ = \left[ \frac{(1+d_{si})/(1+d_s)}{(1+D_{si})/(1+D_s)} \right] t$$

Where:

$d_{si}$  : the average GRDP growth rate of the agricultural sub-sector in South Sumatra Province

$d_s$  : the average GRDP growth rate of the agricultural sector in South Sumatra Province

$D_{si}$  : National average GDP growth rate of agriculture sub-sector

$D_s$  : average GDP growth rate of the national agricultural sector

$i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  (agricultural sub-sectors, consist of food crops, for horticultural crops subsector, plantation sub-sector, livestock sub-sector, forestry subsector, fishery subsector)

To find out the occurrence of economic shifts and the potential development of the economic sector in an area in the future, it can be done using a combined analysis of Location Quotient (LQ) and Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ). The classification of the results of the sector/sub-sector analysis is divided into four groups, namely (Kuncoro, 2015):

1. Leading sectors/sub-sectors are sectors/sub-sectors that in a certain period have a basic (leading) role and have the potential to remain a basic sector/sub-sector in the future.
2. Potential sectors/sub-sectors are sectors/sub-sectors that in a certain period have a basic (leading) role and if the sector is developed it will have the potential to become a basic (leading) sector/sub-sector in the future.
3. Mainstay sectors/sub-sectors are economic sectors/sub-sectors which in a certain period have a non-basic role (non-leading) but in the future have the potential to become a basic (leading) sector/sub-sector.
4. Lagging sectors/sub-sectors are economic sectors/sub-sectors which in a certain period have a non-basic role (non-leading) and in the future do not have the potential to become a basic sector/sub-sector.

**Table 1.** Classification of Sector/Subsector based on Combined Analysis of Location Quotient (LQ) and Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ)

Nilai	LQ > 1	LQ < 1
DLQ > 1	Leading	Mainstay
DLQ < 1	Potential	Lagging

Source: Kuncoro, 2015

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### **Analysis of the Base Subsector in the Agricultural Sector in South Sumatra Province before and during the COVID-19 pandemic**

According to Chiang (2009) a general approach to identifying the economic base of a region is to use Location Quotient (LQ) analysis. Location Quotient (LQ) analysis is an efficient way to determine the concentration of economic sectors at the regional level and then policy makers can plan and evaluate regional economic growth with a regional basis multiplier. LQ analysis is considered as one of the efficient methods to analyze and determine the diversity of local economic bases. As well as providing an overview of and economic flexibility in the region through industry-level research (Berawi et al., 2017). Many academics have used this method in various levels of research. LQ analysis can be used as an estimator of industrial concentration (Billings & Johnson, 2012), to review marine sector policies (Morrissey, 2016), and also to analyze carbon emissions (Trappey et al., 2013) also used for the food, forestry, and tourism sectors (He & Yin, 2015; Leslie et al., 2012; Wang, t.t., 2012). This contributes to know the base sectors of the economy and develop it in the region. Also, to find economic sectors that would make a strong regional economy. Moreover, to identify the base economic sectors that are cable to export and make the economic sectors stronger in the region, and find out the weak economic sectors there (Alhowaish, 2015). In principle,

the best way of obtaining the data required to construct a regional input-output table would be via a well-designed survey (Flegg et al., 1995; Flegg & Tohmo, 2013). However, such surveys are resource intensive and generally outside the budget of individual research projects (Tohmo, 2004). Thus, given the need to compile regional economic models, indirect methods of estimation have been developed. A straightforward and inexpensive way of regionalising a national input-output table is to apply a set of employment-based location quotients (LQ) to estimate trading coefficients (Flegg et al., 1995; Flegg & Tohmo, 2013). The results of the Location Quotient (LQ) analysis of the agricultural subsector in South Sumatra Province can be seen table 2.

Table 2. shows that the plantation crop sub-sector and forestry sub-sector were the base sub-sectors in South Sumatra Province both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The LQ value of the plantation crop sub-sector decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 1.29 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 1.29. The decrease in the LQ value of the plantation sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was -0.15%.

Despite the decline in the LQ value, the plantation sub-sector still has a higher contribution to the total GRDP of South Sumatra Province when compared to the contribution of the same sub-sector to the total National GDP. In addition,

**Table 2.** Results of Location Quotient (LQ) Analysis of Agriculture Sub-Sector of South Sumatra Province before and during the COVID-19 pandemic

Agriculture Sub-sector in South Sumatra Province	Location Quotient (LQ) Analysis		
	Before the COVID-19 Pandemic	During the COVID-19 Pandemic	Change (%)
1. Food Crops Subsector	0.76	0.75	-1.71
2. Horticultural Crops Subsector	0.55	0.56	0.84
3. Plantation Crops Subsector	1.29	1.29	-0.15
4. Livestock Subsector	0.77	0.78	0.34
5. Forestry Subsector	2.12	2.18	2.77
6. Fishery Subsector	0.93	0.93	0.01

Source: Secondary Data, processed (2021)

the plantation sub-sector can also meet the needs of South Sumatra Province while being able to export to other regions. The plantation crop sub-sector in 2006-2014 contributed 10.19% to the total GRDP of South Sumatra Province, meaning that almost half of the contribution of the agricultural sector to the total GRDP of South Sumatra Province was contributed by the plantation sub-sector (Oktavia dkk, 2015).

The LQ value of the forestry sub-sector increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 2.18 compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 2.12. The increase in the LQ value of the forestry sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 2.77%. The increase in the LQ value of the forestry sub-sector in South Sumatra Province was due to the fact that the production and productivity of the forestry sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic actually increased, while the production and productivity of the forestry sub-sector at the national level actually

decreased, causing the growth rate to become negative, namely -0.03% (Statistik, 2021).

The increase in the LQ value of the forestry sub-sector in South Sumatra Province was due to the fact that activities from upstream to downstream were not affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Forestry sub-sector management activities can still run smoothly because they do not depend on output such as fertilizers, and pesticides.

The results of the analysis show that the food crops sub-sector, horticultural crop sub-sector, livestock sub-sector and fishery sub-sector are non-base sectors in South Sumatra Province both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The LQ value of the food crops sub-sector decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.75 when compared to before the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.76. The decrease in the LQ value of the food crop subsector during the COVID-19 pandemic was -1.71%. This is inversely

proportional to the growth rate of the food crops sub-sector which will increase in 2021 by 1.74% compared to 2020 at -0.01%. The LQ value of the horticultural crop sub-sector increased during the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.56 when compared to before the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.55. The increase in the LQ value of the horticultural crop subsector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 0.84%. This is in line with the growth rate of the horticultural crop sub-sector which will increase in 2021 by 6.89% compared to 2020 at 5.44%.

The LQ value of the livestock sub-sector increased during the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.78 when compared to before the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.77. The increase in the LQ value of the livestock sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 0.34%. This is in line with the increasing growth rate of the livestock sub-sector in 2021, which was 4.24% when compared to 2020 at -0.04%. The LQ value of the fisheries sub-sector increased during the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.93 when compared to the time before the Covid-19 pandemic, which was 0.93. The increase in the LQ value of the fisheries sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 0.01%. This is in line with the declining growth rate of the fisheries sub-sector in 2021, which was 3.65% compared to 2020 at -0.79%. The forestry sub-sector and the plantation crops sub-sector need to be propagated further because they have the highest contribution to GDP in South Sumatra

Province. Meanwhile, the food crops sub-sector, horticultural crop sub-sector, livestock sub-sector and fishery sub-sector are in a vulnerable state, so that strong and holistic actions are needed to revive these sub-sectors in South Sumatra Province (Islam et al., 2015).

DLQ analysis was performed to complement the LQ analysis. LQ analysis has a weakness where the results of the analysis are static or only show results during the research year, therefore DLQ analysis is used to predict the basis or non-base of the agricultural sub-sector in the future. The results of the DLQ analysis for the agricultural sector and sub-sector both before and during COVID-19 in South Sumatra Province can be seen in table 3.

Table 3. shows that the sub-sectors that have a faster growth rate than the same sub-sector at the national level are the food crops sub-sector, the horticultural crop sub-sector, the livestock sub-sector and the forestry sub-sector. The DLQ value of the food crops sub-sector decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 5.87 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 24.28. The increase in the DLQ value of the food crop subsector during the COVID-19 pandemic was -75.82%. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the DLQ value of the food crops sub-sector (food crops and horticulture sub-sector) has a faster growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level.



**Table 3.** Results of the Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ) Analysis of the Agricultural Subsector in South Sumatra Province before and during the COVID-19 pandemic

Agriculture Subsector in South Sumatra Province	Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ)		
	Before the COVID-19 Pandemic	During the COVID-19 Pandemic	Change(%)
1. Food Crops Subsector	24.28	5.87	-75.82
2. Horticultural Crops Subsector	7.04	11.94	69.56
3. Plantation Crops Subsector	0.14	0.16	20.54
4. Livestock Subsector	28.26	39.70	40.46
5. Forestry Subsector	182.93	2645.22	1346.02
6. Fishery Subsector	0.54	0.37	-30.77

Source: Secondary Data, processed (2021)

The DLQ value of the horticultural crop subsector experienced an increase during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 11.94 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 7.04. The increase in the DLQ value of the horticultural crop subsector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 69.56%. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the DLQ value of the food crops sub-sector (food crops and horticulture sub-sector) has a faster growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level.

The DLQ value of the livestock sub-sector has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 39.70 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 28.26. The increase in the DLQ value of the livestock sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 40.46%. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the DLQ value of the livestock sub-sector has a faster

growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level.

The forestry sub-sector DLQ value increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 2645.22.94 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 182.93. The increase in the DLQ value of the forestry sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was 1346.02%. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the DLQ value of the forestry sub-sector has a faster growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level.

The sub-sectors that have a slower growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level are the plantation crops sub-sector and the fisheries sub-sector. The DLQ value of the plantation crop sub-sector increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 0.16 when compared to the time before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 0.14. However, it is different according to Oktavia et al (2015) which

states that the DLQ value of the plantation sub-sector has a faster growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level. So it can be concluded that the growth rate of the plantation sub-sector in recent years has tended to decline.

The DLQ value of the fisheries sub-sector decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 0.37 when compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 0.54. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the DLQ value of the fisheries sub-sector has a slower growth rate when compared to the same sub-sector at the national level.

To find out the occurrence of economic shifts and the potential for the development of the agricultural sub-sector in South Sumatra Province in the future, it can be done using a combined analysis of LQ and DLQ (Kuncoro & Idris, 2015). The results of the combined analysis between the LQ and DLQ values can be used as criteria in

determining the classification of the agricultural sector and sub-sector. The classification of the agricultural sub-sector can be classified into four categories, namely leading sectors, potential sectors, leading sectors, and lagging sectors. The results of the combined analysis between LQ analysis and DLQ analysis of the agricultural sub-sector of South Sumatra Province can be seen in table 4.

Table 4 shows that the forestry sub-sector both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic was the only sub-sector in the agricultural sector that was included in the classification of the leading sub-sector, which in the year of research was the base sub-sector and has the potential to remain the base sub-sector in the future. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the forestry sub-sector is the leading sub-sector in South Sumatra Province.

The contribution of the agricultural sector in general and in particular the

**Table 4.** Results of Combined Analysis of Location Quotient (LQ) and Dynamic Location Quotient (DLQ) of the Agriculture Subsector in South Sumatra Province before and during the COVID-19 pandemic

Agriculture Sub-sector in South Sumatra Province	Before the COVID-19 Pandemic		Classification	During the COVID-19 Pandemic		Classification
	LQ	DLQ		LQ	DLQ	
1. Food Crops Subsector	0.76	24.28	Mainstay	0.75	5.87	Mainstay
2. Horticultural Crops Subsector	0.55	7.04	Mainstay	0.56	11.94	Mainstay
3. Plantation Crops Subsector	1.29	0.14	Potential	1.29	0.16	Potential
4. Livestock Subsector	0.77	28.26	Mainstay	0.78	39.70	Mainstay
5. Forestry Subsector	2.12	182.93	Leading	2.18	2645.22	Leading
6. Fishery Subsector	0.93	0.54	Lagging	0.93	0.37	Lagging

Source: Secondary Data, processed (2021)

forestry sub-sector in South Sumatra Province, which is still dominant, has a positive impact on other sectors such as the transportation sector for agricultural, forestry and fishery products, the processing sector whose raw materials are sourced from agriculture, forestry and fisheries and the trade sector. with the main sources of agricultural, forestry and fishery products. In other words, this impact makes economic activities in South Sumatra Province not only focus on the primary sector, but also involves the secondary and tertiary sectors (Fujiansyah et al, 2021).

The plantation crop sub-sector both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic was the only sub-sector in South Sumatra Province that was included in the classification of a potential sub-sector, which in the year of research was a base sub-sector but has the potential to become a non-base sub-sector in the future if the COVID-19 pandemic occurs. and does not get development priorities by the government of the Province of South Sumatra. The performance of the plantation crop sub-sector during the COVID-19 pandemic decreased, this is supported by research conducted by Oktavia et al (2015) which stated that the plantation sub-sector was the leading sub-sector in South Sumatra Province in 2005-2013.

The food crops sub-sector, the horticultural crop sub-sector, and the

livestock sub-sector both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic were sub-sectors in South Sumatra Province which were included in the classification of the mainstay sub-sector which in the year of the study was a non-base sub-sector but has the potential to become a base sub-sector in the future. if the GRDP value growth of the food crops sub-sector, horticultural crop sub-sector, and livestock sub-sector remains consistent or tends to increase. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the food crops sub-sector (food crops and horticultural crops sub-sector), and the livestock sub-sector are sub-sectors that have the potential to become leading sub-sectors in the future in South Sumatra Province.

The fisheries sub-sector both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic was the only sub-sector in South Sumatra Province that was included in the lagging sub-sector classification. This shows that in the year the research was conducted, it was a non-base sector and will continue to be a non-based sub-sector in the future if the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged and does not receive development priorities by the South Sumatra Provincial government. This is the same thing according to Oktavia et al (2015) which states that the fisheries sub-sector is a sub-sector that has the potential to become a non-sectoral sub- sector in the future in South Sumatra Province.

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The results show that the performance of the agricultural sub-sector in South Sumatra Province is still not fully good, because only the forestry sub-sector is a sub-sector that is included in the classification of the leading sub-sector. The plantation sub-sector is also the only sub-sector included in the potential sector classification. Meanwhile, the food crops sub-sector, the horticultural crop sub-sector, and the livestock sub-sector are the three sub-sectors included in the classification of the mainstay sub-sector. And the fisheries sub-sector is the sub-sector that has the worst performance when compared to other sub-sectors, because it is the only sub-sector that is included in the lagging sub-sector classification.

The performance of several agricultural sub-sectors is still not optimal such as the fisheries sub-sector which is classified as a disadvantaged sector, the food crop agriculture sub-sector, the horticultural crop sub-sector and the livestock sub-sector which are included in the reliable classification, the South Sumatra Provincial Government must continue to provide stimulus to the agricultural sector in general, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic to maintain production and productivity of agricultural commodities in order to increase.

The government can provide policy stimulus for agricultural commodity production inputs that have a sizeable contribution in the form of subsidies for fertilizers, superior seeds, and pesticides, agricultural tools and

machinery as well as guarantees on prices for agricultural products. All that can be provided through the policy of KUR (People's Business Credit) Agriculture. So that through KUR funds in agriculture, it is hoped that it will be able to strengthen food production, added value and competitiveness of agricultural products to boost agricultural performance in the new normal. It is necessary to increase the specialization of development and growth in the agricultural sector, especially in the agricultural sub-sectors because the potential of existing resources needs to be continuously developed with support in the form of technology in agriculture, development of facilities and infrastructure to be able to support efforts to increase production, productivity, and quality of commodities.

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