

# Review of: "Rush Farming of Konjac (*Amorphophallus Muelleri*) Among Novice Farmers In West Java, Indonesia: A Descriptive Study"

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This article presents an interesting case about the impacts caused by the boom cycle of a single crop on other crops among small farmers in West Java, Indonesia. The authors use a mixed methods approach combining questionnaires and interviews to gather their data and present a theoretical framework to interpret them. I was somehow confused with the actual goal of this article because the authors actually did not do a good job in explaining why Konjac gained so much traction among the studied farmers. Moreover, despite the initial effort of establishing a theoretical foundation to explain farmers' motivations to bet on Konjac as an economic anchor for their farms, theory ends up getting lost throughout data analysis and conclusions.

I also think that the readers should also be informed about which crops were displaced by the Konjac and which consequences this process had on their diet and overall revenues. In addition, it is important that when a crop comes and replaces other long-held practices, the impacts may include not only crop displacement but also broader changes in land use systems that ultimately may also affect land cover. These processes may have a long-term impact that may undermine the short-term success of Konjac. Therefore, I would be more cautious when classifying the nature of the Konjac phenomenon among the farmers in West Java.

I would also like to mention that the authors could have done a better job in explaining what the production costs would be. For example, are the farmers having to use pesticides or chemical fertilizers? In both cases, there are environmental impacts in adopting these types of inputs and it only gets worse over time when there is a growth in the planted area.

A small suggestion is that the authors provide a better map to show the location of the study area at least at regional level. The broader audiences that are not familiar with the geography of Indonesia and southeast Asia would benefit from a better map.

Finally, I have to remind the authors that one uses mixed methods as they did, one must explore in the best way possible what the qualitative and quantitative data offer. In the present form, the article does not do that.