

Intercropping Cassava Program: TPL Commitment with the Dolok Parmonangan Community

The Saborang Mulana Forest Farmers Group (KTH) in Dolok Parmonangan Village, Dolok Panribuan District, Simalungun Regency, holds high hopes for the upcoming cassava harvest, as the plants thrive in their fields. This initiative is part of PT Toba Pulp Lestari, Tbk (TPL) Sector Aek Nauli's Community Development (CD) program, which has been providing full support for developing cassava intercropping methods in the area since early 2024.

In early January 2024, TPL Sector Aek Nauli, with full commitment, assisted KTH Saborang Mulana by providing high-quality cassava seedlings and technical support. Now, nearly a year later, the cassava plants are showing promising results. In early November 2024, Jhony Sitohang, TPL Sector Aek Nauli's CD Officer, along with Eli Hakim Tambunan from TPL's Public Relations team, visited the farming site to monitor the plants' growth and development before the harvest.

The visit was conducted alongside Hasudungan Siallagan, Chairman of KTH Saborang Mulana. With great enthusiasm, they walked through the lush cassava plants, inspecting each stem and tuber in the fertile lands of Dolok Parmonangan. Each healthy leaf and cassava tuber stands as a testament to the hard work and harmonious collaboration between TPL and KTH.

Hasudungan expressed his optimism about the cassava crop, hoping that the program would bring significant economic benefits to the farmers and the surrounding community.

"We hope the cassava intercropping harvest yields the best results. Our plan is to sell the harvest to collectors or agents, who will then process it into tapioca flour," he stated.

Meanwhile, Jhony Sitohang reaffirmed TPL's commitment to supporting community welfare. "TPL's role goes beyond providing seedlings. We continue to assist by offering fertilizers and technical training to ensure the success of this program. This is part of our commitment to growing and developing together with the community," Jhony emphasized.

The cassava intercropping program serves as a tangible example of synergy between the company and the local community. With TPL's continuous support, high hopes are set for the harvest in late November, which is expected to bring sustainable economic benefits to the people of Dolok Parmonangan Village.