

# 2023/2024 ALUMNI TRACER STUDY REPORT AGROTECHNOLOGY STUDY PROGRAMME

UNIVERSITAS PEMBANGUNAN NASIONAL "VETERAN" JAWA TIMUR

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The tracer study of alumni who have completed their Bachelor of Science in Agrotechnology from the Faculty of Agriculture at UPN Veteran East Java offers valuable insights into the academic and professional journeys of graduates from this esteemed institution. This comprehensive study was conducted to assess the postgraduation experiences of alumni, their career development, and the impact of their education on their lives. The results of this study serve as a critical resource for the university's continuous improvement and the enhancement of its programs.

The findings reveal that a substantial number of alumni from the S1 Agrotechnology program have successfully ventured into diverse fields of agriculture, agribusiness, and related industries. Many alumni have leveraged the knowledge and skills acquired during their education at UPN Veteran East Java to excel in their careers, contributing significantly to the agriculture sector's growth and development. The study also highlights the strengths and areas for improvement in the university's curriculum, which can help in better aligning the education provided with the industry's evolving demands.

In conclusion, the Tracer Study of Alumni from the S1 Agrotechnology program at the Faculty of Agriculture, UPN Veteran East Java, reflects the institution's commitment to producing competent and responsible graduates. The data collected demonstrates the positive impact of the university's education on the lives and careers of its alumni, emphasizing the importance of continuously enhancing educational programs and supporting alumni in their professional development. This study will undoubtedly aid in shaping the future of the institution, ensuring it remains at the forefront of agricultural education and contributes to the region's growth.

#### PREFACE

Tracer study is a form of research that aims to track the career development and educational experience of alumni after graduation. This study is one of our efforts to understand the impact of our education on the lives of our graduates, as well as to continuously improve and develop our Agrotechnology study program. In this report, you will find relevant data and findings regarding the achievements of our alumni, as well as valuable insights for the future improvement of the program.

We are very grateful to all the alumni of the undergraduate Agrotechnology program of the Faculty of Agriculture at UPN Veteran East Java who have participated in this Tracer Study. Your contributions in completing the questionnaires and sharing your experiences are key elements in enriching our insights. We would also like to thank the staff, lecturers, and all those who have supported the implementation of this Tracer Study. All the results of this study will be an important basis for improving the quality of our education, and we hope that this report also provides benefits and inspiration for prospective students, stakeholders, and anyone interested in the field of agrotechnology

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1. Background

Tracer study is an important effort in identifying the career trajectory and development of undergraduate Agrotechnology alumni at the Faculty of Agriculture UPN Veteran East Java. Through tracer studies, educational institutions can collect relevant data on alumni achievements and success in various agricultural fields. The results of this study become an invaluable tool in improving the quality of education, evaluating the curriculum, and providing valuable insights to current students.

For example, through the tracer study, the Faculty of Agriculture of UPN Veteran East Java can identify the extent to which Agrotechnology graduates successfully find employment within the agricultural sector or related fields. In addition, this data can also help in understanding the extent to which they utilise the knowledge and skills acquired during their studies at the university to achieve success in their careers. The results of this tracer study can guide the university in designing more relevant and effective educational programmes for future students.

In addition, the tracer study can also help Agrotechnology undergraduate alumni to reconnect with the university and participate in activities that support the development of the agricultural sector. Through data collection and insights provided by the tracer study, the university can facilitate collaboration between alumni and faculty, as well as identify opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation in order to develop the agricultural sector in East Java. Thus, the tracer study becomes a powerful instrument in bridging the relationship between the university, alumni, and the local agricultural community.

#### **1.2.** Purpose and Use

Tracer studies have several important purposes and uses, including:

- 1. Evaluating the Quality of Education
- 2. Provide Career Guidance for Students
- 3. Assist in Job Placement and Alumni Relationship Development

## 2. METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1. Design

The survey design uses an online method. We prefer to use online through Google forms because it is easier to use, fast to collect data. The stage of the survey:

- 1. Create a Google form and formulate questions according to the required data.
- 2. Share the Google form link with the students.
- 3. Collect the data, average the results, and arrange it in table form.

## 2.2. Sampling Method

The sample taken consists of students who have graduated. The link is shared, and you are urged to have it filled out honestly and responsibly for our tracer study purposes.

## 2.3. Data Collection Method

Data were collected using a questionnaire method, with a series of systematically designed questions administered to alumni. The aim was to gather information about their career development, educational experiences, and the impact of university education on their lives.

## 2.4. Instrumen

The survey was conducted online through Google forms

## 2.5. Team and Times

The Google Form link was distributed to alumni through alumni groups and representatives.

## 2.6. Analysis Method

The analytical uses a tabular method and descriptive explanation of the average result. The description is based on the number level.

## **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

## 3.1. Respondent Identity

The total sample of respondents consisted of 12 agrotechnology student alumni from various entry years and graduation years. Data were collected online

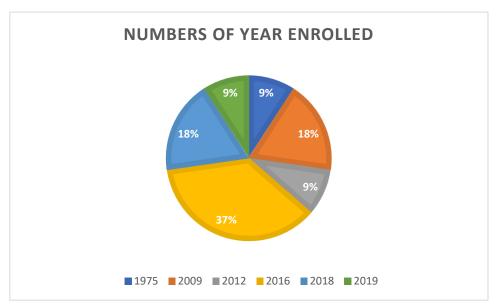


Figure 1. Distribution of Student Respondents by Year of Enrolled

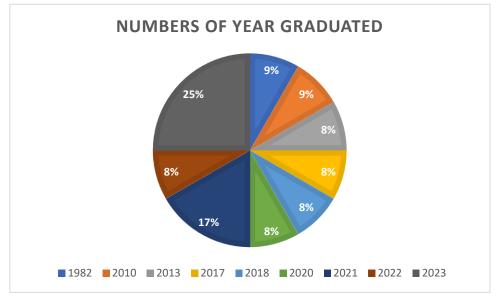
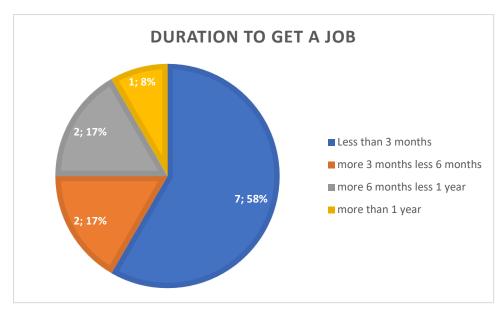


Figure 2. Distribution of Student Respondents by Year of Graduated

Based on figure 1 and 2, Data from various entry and graduation years create diversified datasets, offering richer insights

## 3.2. Survey Result

This survey is conducted to track the progress and achievements of alumni after they have completed their education, as well as to help students with networking and career planning



1. Duration To Get a Job

Figure 3. Distribution of Student Respondents by Duration to Get a Job

Most of the alumni, namely 7 out of a total of 12 alumni, were able to find a job in less than 3 months after graduation. This indicates that the majority of the graduates quickly secured employment after completing their education.

Overall, most graduates quickly found employment after graduation, though some required more time. This information can be valuable in guiding alumni toward successful careers through career planning and support.

## 2. Linear Job with Education

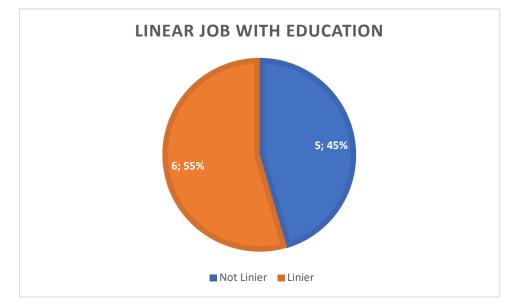


Figure 4. Distribution of Student Respondents by Linear Job with Education

This conclusion reveals variations in the career and job choices made by alumni after completing their undergraduate agrotechnology education. Some choose to work outside their field of education, while others utilize their education in closely related agrotechnology jobs, showcasing the diverse paths that agrotechnology graduates can embark on in their professional lives.

## 3. Salary Range's

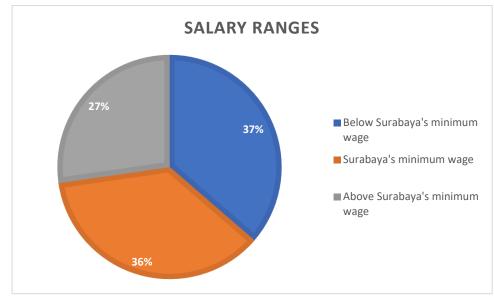


Figure 5. Distribution of Student Respondents by Salary Range's

This data offers a glimpse into the diversity of earnings among alumni after completing their education, with some facing economic challenges, others earning a modest income, and still others achieving earnings above the regional average. It underscores the multifaceted nature of post-education career trajectories and the importance of considering various factors that influence graduates' financial outcomes.

## 4. Course-Work Relationship

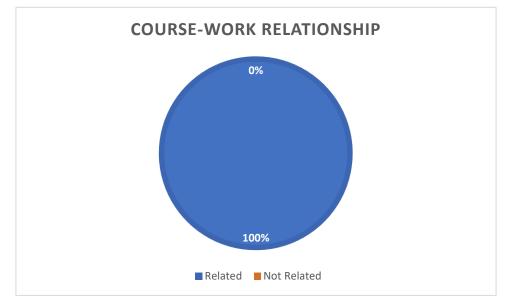
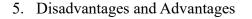


Figure 6. Distribution of Student Respondents by Course-Work Relationship

All respondents stated that all courses taught were related to their chosen jobs or careers, although there were alumni who worked outside the field of agriculture.

This finding highlights the adaptability and versatility of the education provided, suggesting that the skills and knowledge acquired through these courses have broader applications beyond the agricultural sector. This universality in the curriculum not only benefits those who enter the field of agriculture but also provides graduates with a solid foundation for success in a wide range of professional endeavors. It underscores the value of a well-rounded education that equips individuals with skills applicable across diverse fields of work, ultimately enhancing their employability and career prospects.



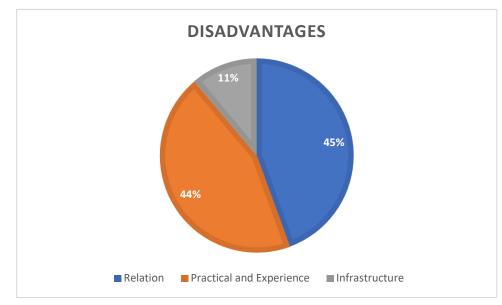


Figure 7. Distribution of Student Respondents by Disadvantages

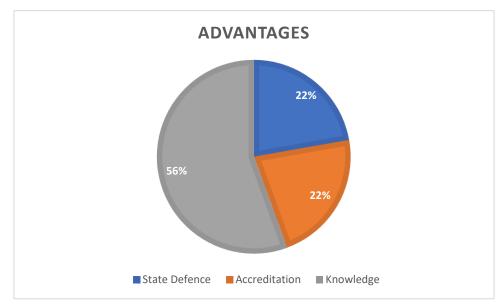


Figure 8. Distribution of Student Respondents by Advantages

Alumni respondents mentioned that the lack of connections represents the most significant drawback of the S1 Agrotechnology program (Figure 7). This is illustrated by minimal collaboration with companies and alumni, resulting in limited communication between alumni and current students. The absence of strong networks and partnerships hinders opportunities for mentorship, knowledge sharing, and career guidance that are essential for both personal and professional development. Addressing this issue is crucial to enhance the overall quality and value of the educational experience in the field of agrotechnology, fostering a more supportive and interconnected community of alumni and students.

Alumni respondents emphasized that the primary advantage of the agrotechnology undergraduate program is the knowledge it imparts (Figure 8.). This is evident in the program's universality (Figure 6), as the knowledge gained can be applied both within the field of agriculture and in other non-agricultural contexts.

## 3.3. Action Plan

Based on the results of the Tracer Study of undergraduate Agrotechnology alumni at UPN Veteran East Java, we have identified several action steps that will help improve the quality of our education and support for graduates. Firstly, we will strengthen cooperation between faculty and industry, including integrating more relevant field work practices in our curriculum. In addition, we will enhance our career support programme to assist alumni in their job search and career development. We are also committed to continuously monitor the progress of our alumni and listen to their feedback to continuously improve the quality of our Agrotechnology study programme. Finally, we will expand access to information about the programme to potential students and stakeholders, so as to more effectively promote our excellence in agrotechnology

#### 4. CONCLUSION AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Based on the results of our Tracer Study of the alumni of the undergraduate Agrotechnology programme at UPN Veteran East Java, we can conclude that the education we provide has had a significant positive impact on the career development and personal lives of our graduates. Our alumni have successfully pursued diverse career opportunities in various sectors, from agriculture to nonagriculture, and many of them have achieved promising positions in their jobs. These results provide strong evidence of the relevance and quality of the education we offer. However, we also recognise that there is still room for improvement, especially in terms of integrating more relevant field practices and expanding our collaboration with industry.