

SEAG-Symposium, October 14-18, 2002, Vietnam

“The role of dialogue and networking:
From a transitional to an industrialized country”

Application of Storage Box for Maintaining the Fish Quality of Traditional Fisher in Gusik, East Java: a Pilot Project

EDY HARTULISTIYOSO*

**Bogor Agricultural University, Agricultural Engineering*

Abstract

Only about 50 % of the total potency of fish production in Indonesia (six million ton per year) is utilized up to now. The production involves about two million traditional fisher/sailor with simple facilities. The improper facility like simple and unhygienic storage box may cause low quality of the products and consequently reduce the income of the fisher. In order to maintain the quality of fish of traditional fisher, storage box has been designed and applied to the traditional fisher in Gresik, East Java. The result of the study will be described and discussed in this paper.

The study covers the design of storage box and laboratory performance test, application of boxes at cooperative level of fishers and quality analysis of the stored fish. The in site pre study was done to find out the actual data of production capacity, agro meteorological data, dimension of box, sailing time, identification of fisher groups and other activities related to the dissemination of the designed boxes.

Generally the traditional sailor in Gresik use “Thermos” for ice cooling storage and “Cager” with the capacity of about 8 to 20 kg for storing the harvested fish for more than 8 hours. Using those facility the quality of fish reduces 10 to 40 % and cause the price reduction up to 50 %. The potential losses due to the low quality reaches Rp.23 billion per year. The designed box was tested in the field by six groups of fisher. The quality of the fish stored with the box was analyzed and recorded after the application and compared with the control. Using the designed box made from stereo foam covered by fiber glass the quality can be improved 10 to 20 % higher and it means potential saving of Rp.2 billion to Rp.4 billion per year.

Keywords: Fish quality, potential saving, storage box