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## LEGAL POLICY TOWARDS THE TRANSFER OF FUNCTION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN NGAWI DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

Increased land use change is correlated with population growth in a given location. The process of changing the use of agricultural land from agriculture to other uses on some or all of the land area is known as conversion of agricultural land, and it typically has a negative influence on the environment and the potential of the land. The government needs to address the major issue of the change of agricultural land uses, particularly paddy fields to non-agricultural areas. The aim of this study is to ascertain the extent of land conversion in Ngawi Regency and the relationship between the phenomena of land conversion and the use of local laws there. An method known as descriptive qualitative is used in this investigation. Through the finding and narrative presentation of data, we shall interpret phenomena in this study. A conclusion that can be drawn from the research is that agricultural land in Ngawi Regency deteriorates year after year. This results from the development of communities, toll highways, and industrial areas on formerly agricultural territory. In Ngawi Regency, the execution of law enforcement in relation to land use changes has not been done adequately.

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### INTRODUCTION

Changes in land use correlate with an increase in population in an area (Kusumastuti, Kolopaking, & Barus, 2018). Changes in land use will change the environment and have an impact on a number of things related to humans. When considering the growth rate of changes in land use, topographical factors, relations with social and cultural life, population growth, levels of farmer welfare, irrigation, urban expansion, political will from the government and stakeholders, the conversion of paddy fields is a complex issue (Kaputra, 2015).

The process of changing the use of agricultural land from agriculture to other uses, on part or all of the land area, often has a negative impact on the environment and land potential. This is known as the conversion of agricultural land (Janah, Trisettyo Eddy, & Dalmyiatun, 2017). Changes in land use are usually related to population expansion as a lot of agricultural land is converted into residential space. The problems that will arise from this include food availability, economic problems, social problems, and so on.

In places that are still developing, this is unavoidable. Production land, including plantations and agricultural land, is often transformed into residential areas and community service facilities in areas that are currently under construction (Noviyanti & Sutrisno, 2021).

Explained, Land conversion has both positive and negative impacts. For these farmers, changing the way their land is used will have a beneficial effect on their ability to increase their monthly income, increase their welfare, and buy nicer homes (Sebayang, 2018). Meanwhile, the negative impact of land conversion is a lack of agricultural land, denser settlement areas, reduced agricultural output, reduced agricultural employment and reduced water catchment areas which can cause floods and droughts.

The government must overcome the main problem of converting agricultural land into non-agricultural areas, especially rice fields (Saifuddin, Raziah, & Junizah, 2013). Even though the government has issued Law Number 41 of 2009 concerning Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land, the rate of conversion of agricultural land is still occurring. To manage the conversion of useful agricultural land, it must receive greater attention.

Based on the description above, it is necessary to conduct research that discusses the phenomenon of land conversion that occurs in Ngawi Regency (Anggrasari & Saputro, 2021). So that it can be used as information that needs to be considered when the Ngawi Regency Government regulates land use. The focus of the study is on agricultural land in Ngawi Regency. The purpose of this study is to determine the area of land conversion in Ngawi Regency and the relationship between the phenomenon of land conversion and the use of local law there.

## METHOD RESEARCH

A method known as descriptive qualitative was used in this investigation (Sugiyono, 2017). Through findings and presentation of data in a narrative manner, we will interpret the phenomena in this study. To obtain data, the authors conducted a literature study, collected and analyzed books, journals and other relevant sources. The analytical approach used in this study is qualitative analysis, in which deductive conclusions are made from facts obtained from literature studies and then discussed thoroughly (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### A. Overview of the Region

Ngawi Regency is located in the western part of East Java Province which is adjacent to Central Java Province, according to BPK statistics for East Java Province. Geographically, Ngawi Regency is located between latitudes 7o21' and 7o31' south and longitudes 110o10' and 111o40' east.

Ngawi Regency consists of 217 villages and 19 sub-districts, 4 of which are sub-districts. The boundaries of Ngawi Regency are as follows: Grobogan, Blora, and Bojonegoro Regencies are to the north; Karanganyar and Sragen Regencies are on the west side; Magetan and Madiun Regencies are to the south; Madiun Regency in the east.

Ngawi Regency has a hilly topography and flat terrain. Four districts are recorded, namely Sine, Ngrambe, Jogorogo, and Kendal, located in the highlands near the foot of Mount Lawu. The last fifteen districts all have flat terrain. Ngawi Regency has an area of 1,298.58 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 506.6 km<sup>2</sup>—or around 40%—consists of rice fields.

### B. Condition of Agricultural Land in Ngawi Regency

The increase in annual population is largely the cause of changes in land cover (Sasongko, Safari, & Sari, 2017). If this has allowed to continue, it will cause major new problems, such as crises and increased demand for land resources, one of which is the depletion of agricultural land, as well as new problems that are quite serious.

According to information compiled from various sources, the amount of agricultural land in the Ngawi Regency area has decreased by 15.46% from the previous year to 2020. As a result of land conversion to accommodate the needs of the population which continues to increase every year, the number of agricultural land has decreased by 27, 27 Ha in 2019 and will increase by 32.46 Ha in 2020 (Panjaitan, 2021). Table 1 displays information on paddy and non-paddy fields.

**Table 1**  
**Paddy Field and Non Paddy Field at District Level in Ngawi**  
**Regency (Hectares)**

No	Subdistrict	Paddy Field			Not Paddy Field			Amount		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Sine	2158	2158	2158	5864	5864	5864	8022	8022	8022
2	Ngrambe	2375	2375	2408	3374	3374	3898	5749	5749	6306
3	Jogorogo	2315	2315	2317	4269	4269	4268	6584	6584	6585
4	Kendal	2643	2643	2647	5813	5813	5809	8456	8456	8456
5	Geneng	3724	3724	3745	1528	1528	1507	5252	5252	5252
6	Crisp	1796	1796	1849	1656	1656	1603	3452	3452	3452
7	Kwadungana	2171	2171	2189	859	859	821	3030	3030	3010
8	Pickaxe	1731	1731	1757	1210	1210	1184	2941	2941	2941
9	Karangjati	2647	2647	2675	4020	4020	4020	6667	6667	6695
10	Bringin	1330	1330	1387	4932	4932	4932	6262	6262	6319
11	The S	2669	2669	2702	2353	2353	1925	5022	5022	4627
12	Kasreman	1309	1309	1314	1840	1840	1840	3149	3149	3154
13	Ngawi	3511	3511	3534	3545	3545	3522	7056	7056	7056
14	Anvil	5914	5914	5914	4200	4200	4200	10114	10114	10114
15	Kedunggalar	4998	4998	5013	7967	7967	7952	12965	12965	12965
16	Pit	1056	1056	1146	4545	4545	4455	5601	5601	5601
17	Widodaren	4506	4506	4535	4720	4720	4691	9226	9226	9226
18	Mantra	2452	2452	2524	3769	3769	3697	6221	6221	6221
19	Karanganyar	892	892	901	1293	1290	1291	13829	13796	13814
20	Ngawi Regency	5019	5019	5071	7940	7936	7910	12959	12956	12981
		7	7	5	1	8	1	8	5	6

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics for Ngawi Regency (2022)

According to (Stevani & Ginting, 2022), reported by Antara East Java, explained that according to data compiled from several academic sources, the area of agricultural land in Ngawi Regency, East Java, was declared to have decreased due to the conversion

of land used for development and infrastructure, according to a report from Antara East Java. In addition, according to statistical data from the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) for Ngawi, the area of productive agricultural land in the surrounding districts will decrease by 153 hectares in 2021, from 50,868 hectares previously to 50,715 hectares. Supardi, Head of the Ngawi Agriculture and Food Security Service (DKPP), was also interviewed. He stated in an interview, "Reducing productive agricultural land has been converted into new settlements, there are also toll road and industrial projects."

The condition of the agricultural sector and the availability of food in Ngawi Regency could be seriously threatened if allowed to continue. Ngawi Regency Regional Regulation No. 11 of 2012 Concerning Sustainable Food Agricultural Land Protection was indeed issued by the Ngawi Regency Government in 2012 to control agricultural land in Ngawi Regency. This seeks to maintain the availability of food and the existence of agricultural land so that its sustainability is maintained. However, it is limited to the context of its use, because agricultural land continues to deteriorate from year to year.

Law enforcement refers to actions that may have the ability to uphold or actually implement legal standards as standards of behavior in traffic or legal relations in the life of society and the state (Burdaton, 2016). Jimly Assihidique in (Burdaton, 2016). explains that law enforcement officers are allowed to use coercive force when necessary to maintain the law.

The Indonesian government, from the central government to the regional governments, still believes that infrastructure development is the only way to advance a country (Rani, 2012). As a result, a lot of productive or agricultural land has been converted into residential areas or public service buildings. This may be a problem in itself because it will have an impact on the food crisis, which will have an impact on the economy, social, and so on (Estuningtyas, 2018).

Conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural land can impact many aspects of society, including lower food production, which jeopardizes food sovereignty, loss of farmers' livelihoods and potential job losses, and decreased investment in expensive irrigation equipment (Burdaton, 2016). Therefore, the role of law enforcers in the local government of Ngawi Regency really needs to improve its performance in this case carrying out the mandate of Regional Regulation No. 11 of 2012 concerning Protection of Sustainable Food Agricultural Land. Law enforcement agencies play an important role in monitoring these regional regulations. Because even if a rule is made perfectly but is not implemented properly by the authorities, the law will not be implemented as effectively as possible.

## CONCLUSION

The conclusion from this principle is that the condition of agricultural land in Ngawi Regency is depreciating every year. This is caused by the conversion of agricultural land into settlements, toll roads, and industry. The implementation of law enforcement related to land use changes in Ngawi Regency has not been carried out properly.

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