Good Postharvest-handling Application of Corn in Supporting Food Self-Sufficiency in Indonesia

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Abstract

Corn is one of potential commodity to support food self-sufficiency in Indonesia. Some regions use corn as alternative food substituting rice. The corn production tend to increase every year. However, the quality is still low because of poor postharvest-handling. The objective of this research was to compare the corn quality from different postharvest-handling between farmers and the good handling method. The observed parameters were the moisture, the damage grain, the broken grain, and the aflatoxin level. The moisture content was measured by using moisture analyser. The damage and broken grain were calculated after shelling process, and the aflatoxin was analysed using HPLC. The results showed that the good handling method increased the quality of corn grains. The moisture content reduced until 12.4%, the damaged grain was only 0.2%, the broken grain reduced to 1%, and the aflatoxin content felt down to 1.17 ppb. This parameters met the Indonesian National Standard for corn grain.

Keywords: corn, quality, postharvest-handling, moisture, grain, aflatoxin.

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