

## Welcome to PRISMA's October Newsletter!

We've given our newsletter a fresh new look and have added two new columns designed to give readers greater insight and context.

First, *Facts from the Field* reports a whisper of recovery among farmers and other agro-businesses in PRISMA's latest phone survey.

Second, *CommodityWatch*, dedicated to fluctuations in agricultural commodities, looks at how high-quality shallot seed can help farmers increase long-term yields.

Together with updates on new wells bringing water to remote villages and progress on inclusivity, we hope that you enjoy the new format and welcome all feedback!

Best wishes,

Goetz

### Facts from the Field

## Positive shifts in labour availability and mobility whisper of agricultural recovery



PRISMA has conducted its fourth phone survey of farmers, input suppliers and off-takers to capture the issues they have faced since COVID-19 hit.

The latest figures suggest positive developments. 13% more farmers said that off-takers were actively visiting their farms in August than in April. This was confirmed by off-takers themselves: only 15% listed problems with transportation in August, down from 35% in June.

These changes could be due to the relaxation of large-scale social restrictions, which is also impacting labour mobility. In August only 14% of farmers were struggling to find labourers, compared with 27% in April. Another contributing factor might be the migration of workers from urban to rural areas, as 25% of respondents knew a neighbour who had lost their job and had moved back to their village.

In the next edition, we'll look at the challenges farmers still face with regard to access to seeds, fertiliser and other inputs and how appropriate strategies can help them prepare for the coming planting season.

## 66 new wells bring water and new hope to communities in Pamekasan, East Java

In June, PRISMA published a story on the use of water detection technology to find new irrigation sources. The team is now pleased to share that with local government support, well-drilling firm Rong Cu Yu has successfully installed pumps into 66 wells in Pamekasan District. 1,400 farming households in 29 villages are now benefitting from access to sufficient water.

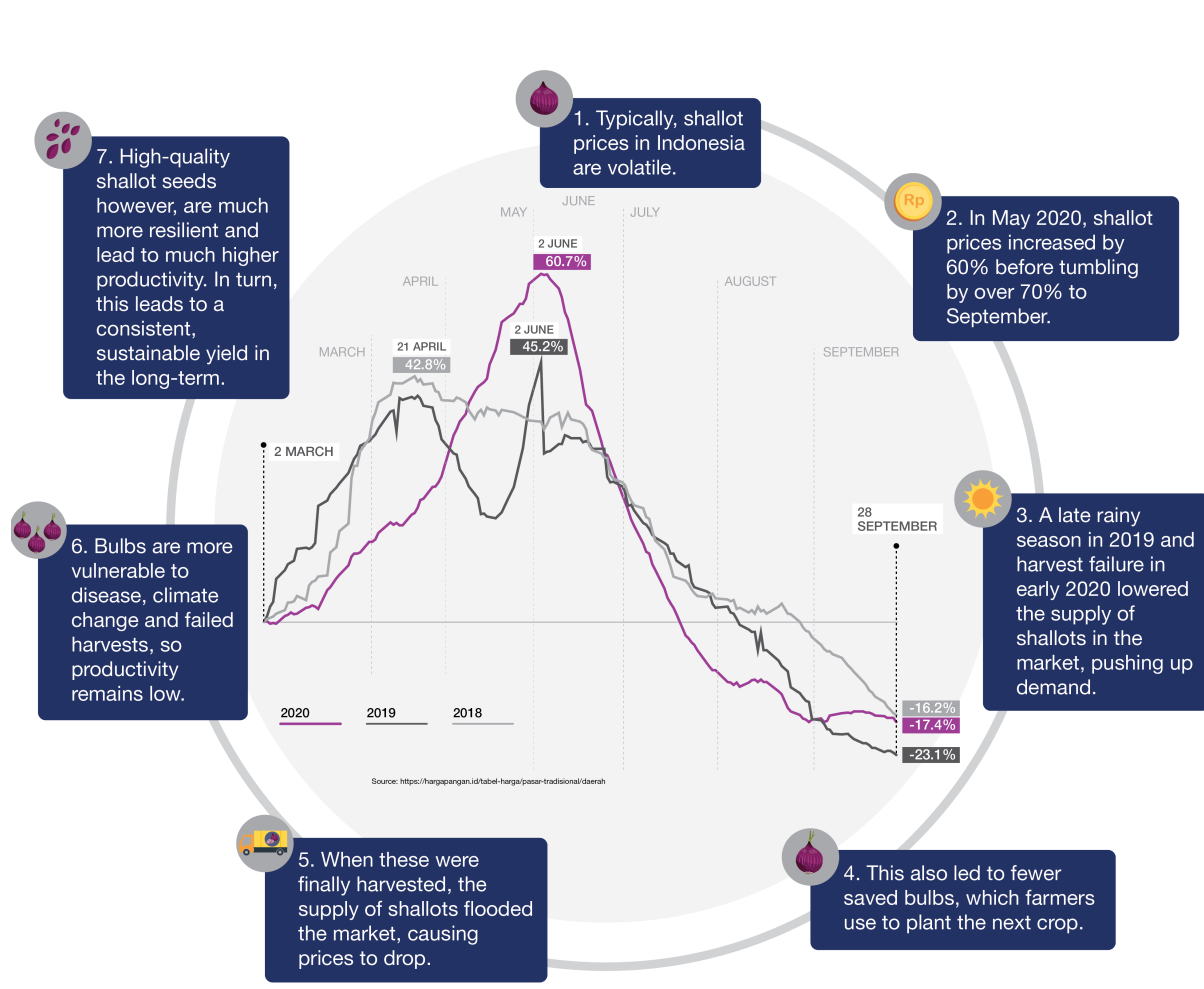
Dr. Taufikurrachman M.Si, Head of the district Bappeda office, stated that the district government was happy with the precision of this technology. Access to water is a key step towards maintaining food security and stability in the area.



### CommodityWatch

## Shallots: The opportunity behind the decline

(Click on the image below for full screen view)



PRISMA has worked with seed producers and farmers to promote the use of high-quality shallot seed.

## PRISMA webinars drive understanding of gender, inclusion and diversity in implementation



Last month, PRISMA led a series of internal webinars focused on maintaining an inclusive approach towards implementation. Part of its commitment to mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in implementation through sharing experience and learning, teams examined how ways of doing business and local customs vary widely between Indonesia's islands.

In Sumba, Nusa Tenggara Timur for example, social norms require pigs to have black skin, tusks and weigh up to 200kg to be used in cultural events, while in Timor, all kinds of colours and sizes are acceptable.

The next webinar will explore the inclusion of farmers with more diverse backgrounds.

### DISCLAIMER

PRISMA and Palladium attempt to verify the data and/or information in this report but, due to the rapid nature of the COVID-19 response, there may still be errors, inaccuracies, or omissions. Subsequently, PRISMA and Palladium assume no responsibility or liability for the content of this report.

[Visit our website](#)

Copyright © 2020 PRISMA, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

