

## Utilization of Medicinal Plant “Temu Lawak” and Its Development in Forestry <sup>1)</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

Temu lawak (*Curcuma xanthorrhiza* Roxb.) is a plant that belongs to ginger family (Zingiberaceae) of the genus *Curcuma*, and is a native Indonesian plant. It has distribution over several islands such as Java, Moluccas, Kalimantan and Sumatera island. Temu lawak is proved to have the effects of anti inflammation, maintaining the liver functions, improving the disturbances in the flow of biliary fluid and increasing vitality. The rapid industrial development of tradisional medicine and “jamu” (herbal medicine) is also followed by increasing demand for medicine raw material. To overcome the problems a causal agent of the extinction of medicinal plant species especially “temu lawak” and to diversify forest product. The Ministry of Forestry in the frame of social forestry programs improves new agroforestry technology to increase the efficiency on the land use system, especially on the establishment of forest plantation. In agroforestry implementation as a part of Social Forestry program, the plants species are establishment based on its conditions and discrepancies on its function, those are: plants species which is suitable to its agro-ecosystem; plants species which is suitable to its function; and shade bearers / tolerant species. One of the plant species is temu lawak, this species is used in Agroforestry as the shelter resistance crop, because after the main crop had covered, and so it stills an able to produce inside the shelter under the main stands. In addition, its tolerant to adverse environmental condition and land characteristic. Therefore, temu lawak can be used land system of management forest and environment with socio-economical objective.

**Key words:** *Biodiversity, medicinal plant, tradisional medicine, temulawak and social forestry.*