

Worapat Saisin 2011: Economic and Social Factors Affecting Quality of Farmers' Life in Namoon Irrigated Area. Master of Science (Agricultural Economics), Major Field: Agriculture Economics, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Prapinwadee Sirisupluxana, Ph.D. 103 pages.

This study aimed to assess the quality of life of farmers in the Namoon irrigation area and to analyze the effects of the socioeconomic and production patterns on the quality of life. The determinants of quality of life consist of five factors which are represented by the indicators of health and sanitation, economics, family life, knowledge development, social rights and acceptance thereof. In order to analyze the factors which affect the score of quality of farmers' life, multiple regression analysis were applied.

The study results revealed the levels of the quality of the life of farmers to be at acceptable levels for the indicators of family life and social rights and acceptance thereof, while the indicators of health and sanitation, economics, and knowledge development were found to be at moderate levels. The results from descriptive analysis shows the personal characteristics such as age and education, economic factors, represented by revenue, social security, which relates to security in the community and the ability to request emergency assistance from others, psychological factors, for instance sentiments of happiness, and peacefulness, as well as the farming pattern to affect the quality of the live of farmers divergently. Furthermore, the results from the multiple regression analysis indicate the income, security in the community, the ability to request emergency assistance from others, levels of happiness, and the cropping rotation to have a positive impact on the quality of life. Moreover, the social factors were revealed to have a more significant influence on the quality of the live of farmers than either the economic or psychological factors.

Therefore, improvements of the quality of the live of farmers is attainable by support of the cropping rotation practice, enhancement of the community safety, increases in the revenues of farmers, and both education and counseling to accomplish control of emotions.

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