

Sairoong Sangthet 2008: Factors Relating to Producing and Utilizing Liquid Organic Fertilizer of Asparagus Growers for Export, U Thong District, Suphan Buri Province. Master of Sciences (Agricultural Extension), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Savitree Rangsiapaht, Ph.D 207 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study: 1) socio – economic factors of asparagus growers for export (asparagus growers), 2) knowledge on producing and utilizing liquid organic fertilizer (LOF) of asparagus growers, 3) producing and utilizing LOF of asparagus growers, 4) methods to produce and utilize LOF, 5) socio – economic and knowledge factors in relation to LOF production and utilization of asparagus growers, and 6) suggestions upon its production and utilization of asparagus growers.

Populations were 65 asparagus growers who produced and utilized LOF. Descriptive statistics were percentage, arithmetic mean and standard deviation. Statistics to test hypotheses employed Chi – square test, Fisher’s exact test and Goodness-of-fit test.

Research findings were: 1) asparagus growers mostly aged between 41 – 50 years old, attained primary education, grew asparagus as their minor occupation. They received LOF information from printed media mostly. They contacted both government and private sectors. They were trained in relation to LOF. They had 2 household labors, 1 – 5 years of experiences in planting asparagus and earned income between 50,001 – 100,000 Baht/rai. 2) Most of the asparagus growers gained knowledge on producing and utilizing asparagus at the high level. 3) Most of them also produced and utilized asparagus at the moderate level. 4) The in depth interview revealed that there were 10 asparagus growers who had their own formula to produce and utilize LOF. 5) Results from hypotheses testing indicated that gender, practices, observation on LOF demonstration, and income generating from asparagus production were statistically related to the production and utilization of LOF at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance. 6) Suggestions included government and private officials should provide information on LOF continuously. Also, asparagus growers should thoroughly study LOF prior to its production and utilization.

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Thesis Advisor’s signature

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