

Monticha Laokom 2011: Factors Affecting the Success of Fish Culture in Organic Rice Fields of Surin Province. Master of Science (Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management), Major Field: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduated Program. Thesis Advisor: Professor Sopin Tongpan, Ph.D. 101 pages.

The objectives of the study were to investigate socio-economic conditions and factors affecting the success of fish culture in organic rice fields of 200 farmers in Surin province. Data collection was conducted by surveying, interviewing and observing in 2009. Data was analyzed by descriptive statistics.

The results revealed that the sample households owned land on average of 19 rai, annual average income of 44,532 baht per? from major agricultural activities. The success of fish culture in organic rice fields was indicated by the fact that 138 farmers out of 200 continued raising fish in rice field after the project supported by Fishery Department was ended. There were three main factors that affected the success including understanding fish culture in rice fields, experiences of culturing fish in rice fields and natural disasters such as flooding and drought. The project supported by Department of Fisheries was not fully success due to above factors. However, the project had positive effects that more than 50% of participants continuing fish culture in rice fields and this activity can be developed and the knowledge can be transferred to other local communities.

From the study it was recommended that for such the project taking in the future it must begin with training the participated farmers, and site selection should be less vulnerable to flood.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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