THESIS TITLE: THE INCREASE IN FRESHWATER FISH PRODUCTIVITY OF SMALL FARMERS

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## **ABSTRACT**

The objective of this study was to test and find out whether an imparting of knowledge to a group of small scale farmers will eventually lead to an increase in fish production among this group of farmers. A package of interventions, comprised of training on the subject of freshwater fish breeding and nursing, demonstration of freshwater fish raising techniques, and supervision and monitoring, was given to 30 farmers who were residents of Prayeon District, Khon Kaen Province. Data employed to evaluate the results of this study came from two rounds of interviews before and after seven months of fish raising. analyses of data were done by using SPSS for window. Statistics employed in the analyses included percentage, mean values, standard deviation and t-test pair.

The results from the analyses indicated that:

- 1. The level of knowledge increased considerably;
- 2. The productivity increased dramatically;
- 3. The net income of the farmers rose sharply; and
- 4. The duration for fish raising per cycle reduced remarkably. All of these changes were statistically significant at 0.05 level.