
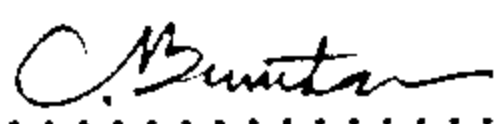


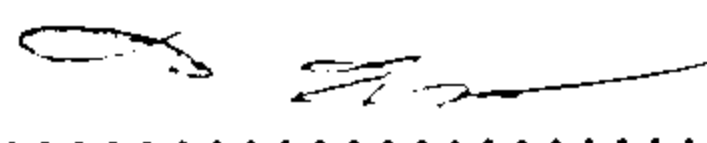
THESIS TITLE : A STUDY ON LAND UTILIZATION OF FARMERS UNDER LAND
REFORM PROJECTS IN AMPHOE BANDUNG, CHANGWAT UDON THANI.

AUTHOR : MR.PANASAK SUDADEAT

THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE :


.....Chairman
(Dr.Niwat Martwanna)


.....Member
(Assistant Professor Chalong Bunthamcharoen)


.....Member
(Assistant Professor Suwat Jitpraneechai)

ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to: (1) investigate general socio-economic status of the farmers in the land reform area of Amphoe Bandung, Changwat Udon thani; (2) figure out the types of land use; (3) identify the problems, obstacles as well as recommendations regarding the types of land use adopted by the farmers, and (4) compare land use in relation to the socio-economic background of the farmers. A total of 151 farmers used in this study were selected with the method of stratified sampling and systematic sampling. The research data were gathered by face-to-face interviews. The obtained information was processed and expressed as percentage, means, standard deviation, correlation coefficient, stepwise multiple regression, t and F tests.

The results revealed the following socio-economic backgrounds of the farmers. Average age: 48.4 years old; Education: Pratom 4; Average annual income: 30,532 Bahts; Total area allocated by Agricultural Land Reform Office: 28.13 rais; Average family size; On-farm labour in a family: 3 persons; Average annual investment: 10,744 Bahts; Average loan: 10,000-20,000 Bahts. Most farmers had their own push tractors. Agriculture in the area was rianfed. Their farms situated in the upland area and they were faced seriously with the problems of soil texture (i.e. too sandy) and low soil fertility. Television was the main source from which the farmers gained their agricultural knowledge. They have never received knowledge via other means such as newsletter, bulletins etc. The farmers were allocated as average land area of 24.09 rais per family and 85.64 percent of the area was used for agriculture. Most farmers did not have knowledge of soil conservation and management, thus their farm lands have so far been utilized without any proper management. The problems experienced by the farmers regarding land use included: 1) lack of investment, 2) problems of pests and diseases, and 3) shortage of water supply.

Hypothesis testing at $p=.05$ level revealed significant correlation between land use and the farmers' annual income, farm mechanization, contact and conversation with local leaders, listening to agricultural programs from the radios and watching agricultural programs on television.

Focusing on soil conservation and management, the results indicated significant differences in the following aspects: 1) farmers of different age used different techniques for soil management; 2) farmers of different annual incomes practised different cropping systems and soil management; 3) farmers differing in the availability of on-farm labour showed significant differences in soil conservation

practices, management of watering and the type of cropping systems adopted; and 4) farmers of different agricultural investments used different techniques of soil management.

As far as the issue of agricultural extension is concerned, the results revealed that: 1) significant difference in the contact and conversation with local leaders (Kamnan, Poo-Yai-Ban) led to different soil management practices and the type of cropping systems adopted; 2) significant difference in agricultural training background had the same impact on the farmers as described in (1); and 3) farmers differing in the following aspects i.e. contact with agricultural extension officers, use of agricultural news and articles and the experience of study tour showed significant difference in soil conservation and management practices, management of watering and the type of cropping systems adopted.

The recommendations emerged from this study included: 1) Agricultural Land Reform Office should take appropriate actions so that the farmers' need for water supply is fulfilled, 2) training should be organized for the farmers in the areas of soil conservation and management, 3) assistance should be provided by Agricultural Land Reform Office so that the farmers' cooperative could be established, and 4) Agricultural Land Reform Office should coordinate with financial agencies to facilitate farmers' need for investment.