

##C 460047 : MAJOR ECONOMICS
KEY WORD: ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURE /SELF-RELIANCE/ENVIRONMENTAND ECOLOGICAL
SYSTEM

JATURONG BOONYARATTANASOONTORN : A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ALTERNATIVE
AGRICULTURE AND MONOCULTURE : A CASE STUDY OF FARMERS IN UDOM PATTANA
VILLAGE, NONGBUA DICTRICT, NAKHON SAWAN PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO.
PROF. SUTHY PRASARTSET, Ph.D. 174pp. ISBN 974-584-809-3

The objective of this study is to compare alternative agriculture with monoculture focussing on factors that affect decisions to engage in either of the two farming systems. the case study comprise interviews 149 households in U-dom pattana village, Nakhonsawan province.

Comparing the two groups of farmers, the study has found that farmers in alternative agriculture have better income level per rai than their counterparts in monoculture.

In addition, alternative agriculture reduces the risk of loss and promote farmers' self-reliance. It also contributes to family cohesiveness, better mental health and to environmental improvement and bio-diversity.

The author has recommended that the government should promote alternative agriculture as part of the National Rural Development Plan together with relevant policy measures.