

ABSTRACT

Title: Opinion of the Upper Northern Region Agricultural Extension Administrators On Micro Computer Application to Agricultural Extension Database

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This study was conducted to investigate opinions on 1) collection of micro-computerized database information for the use in the administration work in agricultural extension; 2) benefits of using micro-computers in activity planning in agricultural extension; and, 3) problems and constraints concerning the use of micro computers database information.

The data were collected by means of interview schedule from 45 agricultural extension administrators in 9 provinces of the upper northern agricultural extension region, consisting of provincial agricultural officers and heads of four sections. The results indicated that most of the respondents were male, 46-50 years old, had attained a bachelor degree and have been in these positions for less than 5 years. They allocated information management to staff responsible for filing data and information which included development and agricultural extension planning in each area.

The respondents indicated that they used micro-computerized database information in agricultural extension for evaluation of agricultural information, inventory survey in agriculture, registration of crop growers, prediction of crop yields and planting areas, and in project assessment.

The respondents were found to have used micro-computer database in agricultural extension at a moderate level in planning, monitoring, supporting personnel development, disseminating knowledge to farmers, coordinating and linking information with agencies relevant to agricultural extension.

Most of the respondents' problems and constraints concerning the use of micro-computers were risk of losing human resources; lack of personnel competent in using micro-computers; quality of micro-computers, utilization of packaged programs in agricultural extension; efficient use of micro-computers; and the maintenance of micro-computers.