

ABSTRACT

Title : Opinions of Members on the Rubber Replanting
Group Project in Krabi Province, Thailand

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13 August 1997

The objectives of this study were to investigate 1) personal and socio-economic characteristics of members, 2) their opinions on the rubber replanting group project, and 3) factors relating to the members' opinions on the project.

The respondents were 305 members of the Rubber Replanting Group Project in Krabi Province. The data were collected by means of interview schedule and processed by the SPSS/pc⁺ program.

The results of the study were summarized as follows: the majority of the members were male, Buddhist, 45 years old on average, had completed grade 4, and had an average size of land holdings of 30 rai. Their average farming experience was 21 years average family labor available was 3 persons and average annual family income from rubber plantation was 92,600 Baht.

The results of the study on the members' opinions on the project were of 2 aspects : their opinions on the project staff; and, opinions on the project's objectives. The results were:

1. Most of the members had positive opinion on the project staff in the following aspects: the staff's roles and working; the staff's human relations and personality. These were due to the fact that the member and the staff had worked together.

2. Most of the respondents agreed on the 5 activities of the project's objectives : improving the quality of raw rubber sheets and strengthening the bargaining power of product selling; fertilization of latex-yielding rubber trees during tapping; encouraging cooperative grouping by using cooperatives' principles; encouraging rubber growers to obtain supplementary incomes from other jobs; and encouraging the group to act as a technology transfer center.

3. Concerning the factors relating to the members' opinions on the project, no difference among variables was found from the relationship analysis in which Chi-Square was used due to data distribution adequacies. Only land holding showed high correlation with the expressed opinions of the members through Pearson's Correlation at 0.05 level of significance.