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| Thesis Title | The Training Needs of Bangkok Metropolis Farm - Women Group Members for Agricultural and Home Economics Works. |
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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this research aimed at studying the training needs of Bangkok Metropolis farm women group members for agricultural and home economic works. The studies also included some socio-economic demographics and their problems in agricultural or home economic works. For their training needs, there were 8 aspects which were set to study namely : crop raising aspect, livestock and fishery raising aspect, agricultural product processing and food preservation aspect, using and maintenance of agricultural tools and equipment aspect, building and producing for earning special incomes aspect, agricultural marketing and agricultural business aspect, being leader and being good member in community including being knowledge extension to community aspect and natural and environmental conservation aspect.

Four hundred and fourteen of Bangkok Metropolis farm women group members in 1998 were the population which two hundred and ten (about 50%) of them were the sampled group. Structured interviews were used as the tool for collecting data. The program of computer of SPSS for Windows were used for processing data with analyzing by frequency counts percentage, means, standard deviation and rank.

The results of research found that Bangkok Metropolis farm women members had their age average at 48.05 years old. Most of them were already married (83.33%) and being Buddhists (61.91%) . They had average income at 79,652 Bahts per year which came from

their agricultural and home economic works at the average of 17,913.87 Bahts and 35,501 Bahts from non-farm cash income.

They had been being the group membership at the average of 9.30 years and more than half of them had their ownedland (53.33%) They had their farm holding land at the average of 9.10 rais The average of their rental land was 19.20 rais and they had the average of 3.30 rais without any rental expenses. Most of them engaged in crop raising (80.47%)

For crop raising group almost half of them raised paddy (43.20%) while the others raised fruit crops, ornamental and flowering plants, and vegetables. For livestock and fishery raising group, they raised tilapia (70.49%) common silver barb (49.18%) stripped catfish (22.95%) cattle (13.11%) and others. For agricultural product processing and food preservation group, they produced many products such as ginger preservation, fruit yam, desserts, dried bananas, orange juice and others. For building or producing for earning special income group, they earned income from dressmaking or sewing, shampoo making, water hyacinth bag making, cleaning solution making, artificial flowers making and others. Some of them engaged in other occupations such as shopkeepers, hired labour, and owning restaurants.

For their problems in agricultural or home economics works, more than half of the Bangkok Metropolis farm women group members who engaged in crop raising indicated that they faced the problems of depleted abundance of soil (51.48%), too expensive fertilizers (65.65%), lacking knowledge in pest control (50.89%), lacking knowledge in product keeping (51.48%), lacking agricultural extensionists (66.86%), lacking agricultural informations (65.09%), and too much pest infection (59.17). For livestock and fishery raising group, more than half of them indicated that they faced the problems of too expensive for animal feeds (62.30%), lacking expert to consult about animal diseases and sanitation (67.21%), lacking knowledge about animal diseases and sanitation (62.30%), lacking animal drugs (57.38%) and facing with animal disease dissemination (55.74%).

For agricultural product processing and food preservation group, more than half of them revealed their problems on the high price of raw materials (67.58%), looking agricultural extensionists (88.89%) and lacking agricultural informations (77.78%). For building or producing for earning special income group, more than half of them declared that they faced the

problems of lacking agricultural extensionists (81.82%) and lacking agricultural informations (72.73%).

For the problems facing Bangkok Metropolis farm women group member concerning with agricultural marketing and agricultural business aspect, the study found that, most of them faced with the problem of lacking coordination with related agencies (74.76%), lacking priced information (72.85%), and lacking knowledge in management (72.39%).

The Training needs of Bangkok Metropolis farm women group, for the crop raising group found that more than half of the group needed to train as the following : how to select the seed, how to store the seed, land preparation, how to use the effective fertilizers, and how to use effective pesticides. For the livestock and fishery group found that more than half of them needed to train on feed and feeding for fishes, disease control and sanitation for water animals, and to develop ability for fisheries.

For the other needs, concerning training needs of Bangkok Metropolis farm women members for agricultural and home-economic works, the study found that the most convenient time for their training was 2 days period (38.10%), having everyday training (39.05%), and training within April (85.71%). They also indicated that the most necessary need for them during attended training was handout of training content (89.05%). Their training should emphasized both theories and practices (87.62%). The places for training should be at the members'houses (76.19%). They also declared that they needed to increased the knowledge for their reasons of their training needs.

The results of the studies came across to recommend to the Department of Agricultural Extension and Office of the Agricultural Extension Districts in Bangkok Metropolitan that there should be promoted or increasing the agricultural extensionists and home economic extensionists in each district. At the same time, there should have some morale support to those officials for their workings, and providing seeds or plant breeds, livestock ; animal breeds or fish breeds for sale to those farm women group members. The programs of coordinations to relate both governmental or non-governmental agencies should be promoted especially to provided funds for those farm women group members to borrow or loaning money with low interest for their agricultural and home economic works. Survey their problems and their training needs should be frequently conducted. Training should be suitable

and should be able to apply. Handout of training content as well as drinking water service, food and field trips should be ready to serve to the members.

The agricultural extensionists and home economic extensionists should survey problems and the needs of those farm women group members. Since there were inadequate both agricultural or home economic extensionists working in the areas, thus they should contribute or devoting their time for their works.