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FOOD PROCESSING AND PRESERVATION

TIENTHONG CHAIKEEREE: AN EVALUATION OF A TRAINING PROJECT FOR FOOD PROCESSING AND PRESERVATION, A CASE STUDY OF THE HOME ECONOMICS SECTION OF AGRICULTURAL PROMOTION DEPARTMENT. THESIS ADVISORS: SUCHAT NAWAGAWONG. M.Sc., KASEM KULPRADIT, M.Sc., CHUMPORN YUWAREE, M.Sc., DIRAKRIT BOHUWECH. M.Sc., BENJAPORN PRAPHAKDEE, M.Sc. 189 P. ISBN 974-664-577-3

This research is about the evaluation of a training project on Food Processing and Preservation. It is based on a Case Study at the Home Economics Section of the Agricultural Promotion Department. This research has the objectives to evaluate the home economists' knowledge, understanding, and tasks concerning the food processing and preservation and, to evaluate the their attitudes toward the said training project.

The target group consisted of 30 home economists. The methodology for this study was based on Pre, and Post-test technique using a specifically designed questionnaire to measure the knowledge gained and the attitude change as well as the application of knowledge gained to routine tasks. The analysis of information tasks used SPSS/PC. Statistics used for analyses were the Mean, Standard Deviation and the t-test.

The result of this research found that most home economists who passed the training had gained knowledge at high level (73.3%). And after comparing the Mean of Pre-test and Post-test, it was found that there was significant difference at the level of 0.05. This showed that the training project was able to increase both knowledge and understanding of home economists. After the training, it was found that all home economists were able to apply and disseminate the knowledge within 6 months. As for attitude towards the training project, it was found that most home economists had positive attitude in the moderate level.

In conclusion, this study made the following recommendations: knowledge should be disseminated to the local home economists all over the country. Therefore, if the home economists in every province are trained, we will have the persons who can disseminate the knowledge in the locality and, communicate with the local people or agriculturists. This will enable the training project of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment to be widespread.