

Thesis Title	Knowledge and Attitude of the People towards Forest Plantation.
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ABSTRACT

This study investigated knowledge and attitude of the people towards forest plantation. The factors affecting the villagers' acquisition of knowledge and attitudes as well as the relationship between their knowledge and attitudes were the subjects of the investigation. Data were collected from the heads of households or wives or eldest son or eldest daughter of 210 families which lived in 7 villages around Nongkoo Forest Experimental Center, namely : Ban Nongkoo, Ban Tapong, Ban Kokdon, Ban Sahamitre-Ample, Ban Tapum, Ban Kokyang-Kratom, Ban Lertaroon. The Analysis of Variance and the Multiple Classification Analysis were used for data processing.

The findings showed that the majority of the villagers possessed low level of knowledge of forest plantation and their level of attitude were high on the subject matter. Nevertheless, the relationship between knowledge and attitude was positive.

At the top of the list of factors which exerted significant influential effects on the villagers' knowledge towards forest plantation were sex, their interest in government supplied information (regarding forest plantation and participation in community activities. The factors with less influence were place of origin and committee membership. However, land holding and committee membership were the most significant influential factors affecting the attitude of the people towards forest plantation while occupation and place of origin were less significant.

Based on the above findings, it is recommended that educational programmes on forest plantation adequately arranged for villagers to improve their knowledge on the issue and to promote closer cooperative between the villagers and the government officers to protect the forest from destruction. The implementation of proposed programmes should be given top priority by the agencies concerned and continuously involve community leaders or social groups. It should utilize the mass media such as television, radio and newspaper for information dissemination.