

ABSTRACT

Abstract of thesis submitted to the Graduate School of Maejo University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Agricultural Extension

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ROLES OF SUB-DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATIONS IN LAMPHUN PROVINCE**

BY

TAWRAN THUMMATA

MARCH 2000

Chairman: Assistant Professor Dr. Boonsom Waraegsiri

Department/Faculty: Department of Agricultural Extension,
Faculty of Agricultural Business

The objectives of this research were to study 1) personal and socio-economic characteristics of the committee members of the Sub-district Administration Organizations (SAO) in Lamphun Province; 2) participation of the members in SAOs' operations; 3) general characteristics of SAOs; 4) agricultural development roles of SAOs, and 5) factors affecting SAOs' performance. The data were gathered from 298 committee members selected by systematic random sampling and basic information about SAOs was elicited from 38 chairpersons. The data were then processed by Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS/PC⁺) and presented in percentage, mean, standard deviation, Chi-square and Coefficient correlation.

The findings indicated that the average age of the respondents was 46 years; 48.60% had finished primary education. Most of them (98.32%) were local people, engaged primarily in trading and private business (61.41%) and 56.71% had general employment as a secondary job. Their average annual income was 208,531 Baht and the majority (96.98%) had motorcycles, 91.31% had pickups, and 91.28% had telephones.

The percentage of SAO committee members assuming the position by being government officials was 60.40. The committee members had participated 3-6 times per year in training. All of them were informed of agricultural information by government officials and most (97.32%) obtained such information through television. More than half of the members (52.41%) played an active role in SAO operations.

Over one-half (55.26%) of SAOs consisted of 11 villages with average cultivated land of 12,156 rai out of 40,000 rai (2.5 rai = 1 acre). There were approximately 2,060 households in each SAO and only 1,446 households were engaged in farming. The households got water for home consumption and farm use by electric pumps and from underground (89.47% and 86.84%). Only 2.63% of the SAOs had laterite roads. The total annual income of each SAO was 2,837,653 Baht on average. The majority (63.15%) had annual revenue of 2,500,000 Baht at the most, 1,669,902 Baht of which came from local taxes. All SAOs were of grades 3-5 and 81.58% were of grade 5. Their annual development budget averaged 2,209,105 Baht and 63.11% had overall budgets of 2,000,000 Baht at the most. Almost all SAOs (97.37%) did not allocate any budget for basic factors for agricultural development. only 18.42% allocated budgets over 300,000 Baht for agricultural production development and 55.26% did not allocate any budget for agricultural institution development.

The study on correlation between the SAO members' participation and their socio-economic characteristics revealed that educational level, domicile, occupation, income, communication media and vehicle, and manner of position assumption were significantly correlated with the members' participation in SAOs' operation while age, period of residing in the community, agricultural information access and training were not. It was also found that number of villages, total area, number of farming households, SAOs' incomes and SAOs' collected local taxes were significantly correlated with the SAO members' agricultural development roles while agricultural area, number of households, water sources for agriculture and roads were not.