

Thesis Title Factors Affecting Agriculturalists' Adoption of
Herbs as Pesticide : A Case Study of Soidown
District Chantaburi Province

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research were to study the level of agriculturalists' adoption of herbs as pesticide as well as the personal, socio-economic and psychological factors affecting agriculturalists' adoption of herbs as pesticide: A case study of Soidown District, Chantaburi Province.

The methodology was entirely based on interviewing farmers, totalling 280 cases.

The result from the analysis of percentage, indicated that most of the farmers accepted the use of herbal pesticide at the intermediate level. The analysis of factors affecting the acceptance of the use of herbal pesticide was done by using Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis Technique. It was revealed that there were six variables statistically significant to the factors

affecting the use of herbs as pesticide. They were the duration of the use of herbal pesticide, the level of knowledge for recognizing danger in using chemical pesticide, viewpoints on the use of herbs as pesticide, ownership or rights in land factors, and age respectively. The overall factors could be explained the acceptance of the use of herbs as pesticide at the percentage of 72.3 ($R^2 =$ danger of using chemical pesticide, income, commercial or family agriculture, group forming of farmers, information receiving, knowledge about herbs that can be used as pesticide, Farmers' health concerns, and attitudes of the farmers towards government officials were not included in the model of acceptance.

From this research, it was suggested that government should provide more training courses in publicizing the use of herbal pesticide by mass media, government and personal efforts, and regularly follow up the programme. Besides, the quality of herbal pesticide should be improved to the level of chemical pesticide. Moreover, community leader ought to assemble information and contact with authorities from the government to provide more training courses in the use of herbal pesticide. The leader should be advised and demonstrated. In addition, private enterprises should be freely allowed to distribute less expensive and effective pesticidal herbs. These factors would play an important role in increasing the acceptance of herbs as pesticide among farmers. It was suggested that the government should encourage to grow herbs for use agricultural as well as forest land. Since these factors are greatly important in conserving safe environment.