

Thesis Title : The Attitude of Farmer Housewife Group's Members
Towards the Home Economic Extension in Changwat
Nakorn Ratchasima

Author : Mr.Somjit Teraboonthaikul

.....*Adul Apinanta*.....Chairman

(Associate Professor Dr.Adul Apinantara)

.....*Prasit Prakongsri*.....

(Associate Professor Dr.Prasit Prakongsri)

.....*Chalong Buntamcharoen*.....

(Assistant Professor Chalong Buntamcharoen)

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were: (1) to study general basic characteristics of individual farmer housewife group's members, (2) to study attitude level of farmer housewife group's members towards the home economic extension, (3) to study their problems,needs concerning home economic extension, (4) to compare their attitude level of farmer housewife group's members in each general basic characteristics. A sample of 171 members were selected by purposive sampling method. They were interviewed individually. A computer was used to analyse the collected data with the used of the SPSS^x programme for the values of statistical frequencies, percentages, arithmetic means, standard deviations, t-test, F-test, and Scheffé' Test. It is anticipated that this study could presumably be useful in preparing for

planning especially for home economic extension workers as to plan and develop on the home economic extension for farmer housewife groups. The findings of this research can be described as follows:

For general characteristics of farmer housewife group, the results showed that average age of members of the group was 39 years, all of them have completed their primary school education and they were able to read and write fairly well. The majority of them were married. The average number of children, members of family and workers of each family were 3, 4, and 3 respectively. The average farm land holder of studied group was 27 rai, their main occupation was rice farming and their secondary occupation was to work as partially hired labours. The average income of the family earned by farming and out of agricultural farming was 37,658 bath annually. They were very active in participating in the farmer housewife group.

The members of the group had performed good attitude level towards the home economic extension and can be described as follows: (1) They had good attitude level towards home economic extension activities by paying attention to the use of teaching equipments, extension method, records, and contents. They were also performed moderate interest in planning job. (2) They performed good attitude level towards home economic extension workers by appreciating workers' performance e.g. speaking, personality, ability of transfer technology and problem solving tactic, public relations, coordination but performed moderate activity in following up work.

Members of the group identified their problems as follows:

(1) members did not have enough time to attend the workshop and the contents given by extension workers were difficult to understand, some of items were not interesting and the workshop held only a short period of time. Many of them complaining about their poor sights and sometimes workshop carried out in the wrong time of the year. (2) Many of the members had personal problems e.g. inadequate educational foundation, lack of capital investment, lack of raw materials. Many of them did not have enough equipments to operate their work, facing marketing problems and low standard of produced products. (3) Administrative activities also raised a problem such as the in connection of the operation activities, village committee paid less attention to the group activities and the group committee was not enthusiastically work out. The results also revealed that some members of the group needed to be trained under different topics e.g. a technique in increasing agricultural products, food preservation technique, food and nutritional value, house management, handicraft technology. Furthermore, many members required the home economic extension workers to perform their duties time to time more efficiently. They were also required study tours by visiting many places as to obtain more educational foundation needed for better life.

The research results also revealed that when compare their attitude levels of farmer housewife group's members in each general basic characteristics, they were not similar such as ages, members of children and family labours, farm land area holding

and both main and secondary occupation. However, the comparison made with respect to their attitudes on general basic characteristics toward home economic at the level of confidential limit above 95 %, the results showed that there was no significant differences among them. The members possess different categories on marital status, level of education, ability to read and write, income, individual status and level of participation in farmer housewife group, hence, showed of different attitudes toward the home economic extension at the confidential limit above 95 %.

From the results it is possible to suggest that: (1) An analysis of community and group of samples should be analysed before hand, (2) training on planning and development must be introduced, (3) home economic extension workers must steadily visit and follow up the farmer housewife group's members from time to time, (4) provide adequate knowledge both on agricultural background, and home economic extension, (5) encourage and promote members to participation more activities in the group and their own related activities, (6) there should be some coordination within the group in order to provide plan for assistance on essential materials, equipments including budget from organizations concerned, (7) there must be a development of appropriate knowledge and technology transfer for home economic extension workers, (8) there should be an increase in the number of home economic extension workers suitable for each farmer housewife group.