

Jayrisa Champa 2006: Community Participation in Land Use for Sustainable Agrotourism at Khlong Mahasawad in Phutthamonthon District, Nakhon Pathom Province. Master of Science (Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management), Major Field: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduated Program. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Surachet Chettamart, M.S.
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This main objective of this study was to investigate the farmers' participation and the contributing factors to participation in agrotourism operation and management at Khlong (Canal) Mahasawad in Nakhon Patom Province. Structured interview was designed to collect relevant data from 178 household samples in three villages along the canal. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the socio-economic and land use characteristics. Chi-square was also employed to test the hypotheses.

The results showed that most respondents were household heads (52.8%), females (58.4%), and over 50 years of age (56.8%). Most of them were married (87.6%) with 4-6 members living in a household (56.2%). Their primary occupation were farmers tending mostly fruit orchards and/or rice farms (87.7%). Their annual income ranged from 10,000 to 50,000 THB (81.5%). A majority of household samples had their own farmlands (59.0%) but mostly in one single plot of less than 10 rais. The results further revealed that a minority of the samples was inactive in participating in various community activities. Only 17.4% of the samples were members of the community agrotourism chapter. And their level of participation was relatively moderate. As for hypothesis testing, it was found that such factors as age group, main occupation, annual household spending, and community activity membership contributed to significantly relationships between farmers' participation and agrotourism operation and management at statistical level of 0.05

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