

Oraya Khiewkuna 2009: Farmer's Participation on Water Management at Nong Panjan Pipe System Irrigation Project, Ban Kha District, Ratchaburi Province. Master of Science (Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management), Major Field: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Apichart Pattaratuma, Ph.D. 113 pages.

This study aimed to find out farmer's socio-economic characteristics and participatory level and analyze factors in relevant to farmer's participatory in water management. Data were collected by interviewing with 124 random samples of the household heads or represent of household heads in Nong Panjan Pipe System Irrigation Project, Ban Kha District, Ratchaburi Province. The obtained data was analyzed by statistical software package.

The results indicated that the average age of farmer was 53.93 years. Most of them were members of water user's group and not a users committee. The main occupation was agriculture, they were pineapple producer and minor occupation was general labor in farm. The status of water using, most of the farmers received water from the outlets located on the beginning of the pipe, the average period of time in using water was 135.03 hour/year, the average area which farmer used the water from pipe was 6.86 rai and the average water management charge was 543.31 baht/year.

The level of farmer's participatory in water management was low with the average of total score of 2.44. The participatory in action was at moderate level and with the average score of 2.61 and problem study, planning and monitoring was at low level and with the average score of 2.08, 2.42 and 2.54 respectively. The socio-economic factors affecting in farmer participation in water management, it was found that the age, farmer status in the water user group, minor occupation, location of the outlets, period of time in using water, total area farmer used water from pipe, types of crops and water management charge. Thus, irrigation officers should emphasize in the public relation, the training course in water management and develop pipelines, expand number of outlets, as well as encourage the farmer more involved in reforestation activities under the water management.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature