

Pilaiwan Samranmon 2006: An Analysis of Asparagus Business System in Changwat Ratchaburi.
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The objective of this study is to study the process of each sub-system in asparagus business; as well as to comprehend the operation problems and obstacles; and finally, to analyses cost and income from asparagus production of farmers with contract and non-contract in Amphoe Damnoensaduak, Changwat Rachaburi. The data for this study was obtained from the interview of 1 exporter, 1 distributor and 47 farmers with contract and non-contract with purposively sampling, covering a 4 year production cycle.

The business sub-system under study includes input supply, production, procurement, distribution and export. The result indicated that in the input supply sub-system, most contract and non-contract farmers have similar input supply. Some problems were found, such as low soil fertility and high cost of fertilizer and chemicals. The production sub-system was found that management process in production and applications of both farmers is insignificant, and the plant diseases and pests are major problem. The procurement sub-system was found that both farmers are gathering into a group. For the group in which they are member, contract farmers sell all the product to while the non-contract farmers sell only the quality product and unqualified product was sold to the local merchants. The distribution sub-system was found that about 85 percent of asparagus products were exported abroad and about 15 percent of them were domestic trade. And the export sub-system was found that the important export market of asparagus is Taiwan and the trend in export has been increasing every year.

The result of an analysis of cost, income and net profit in asparagus production of farmers on the average 4 years found that contract and non-contract farmers have the maximum cost in 1st year is 27,939.49 and 28,885.62 baht per rai consecutively. The maximum income in 2nd year is 43,608.67 and 42,623.25 baht per rai consecutively. And maximum net profit is 15,669.18 and 13,737.63 baht per rai consecutively.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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