

Thesis Title	Social and Economic Characteristics of Farmers Received Land Allotment (STK) and The Study on Cost and Return of Cash Crops and Fast Growing Trees: A Case Study at Kwaе Rabom-Seyad National Reserved Forest Amphoe Sanam Chaikhet, Chacheongsao Province
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Date of Graduation	8 September B.E. 2532 (1989)

Abstract

The heavily clearing of vast area of national reserved forest for agriculture by squatters is considered to be the seriously problems. The government has attempted to find the ways of protection and solving the problems of forest encroachment and destruction and also to expand the forest areas by allowing people to settle in forest areas in form of STK project.

The purposes of study is to study social and economic conditions of farmers who received permit STK in the national reserved forest and also study cost and return among cassava, sugar cane and fast growing trees namely Eucalyptus camaldulensis and Casuarina junghuhniana as the guideline for further promotion.

The result of study shown that most of the farmers came from the Eastern and Northeastern. They have lived in the national reserved forest for an average of 11 years. Their incomes mainly were earned by crops planting and hired labour as their secondary incomes. The opinions of the farmers on the STK project are a positive result but there is also negative result on the opinion of tree planting in the STK areas. The result of study has found that most of the farmers have utilized the land exceed STK-1 for planting crop instead of planting fast growing trees.

The study of cost and return on investment in Eucalptus camaldulensis and Casuarina junghuhniana plantations compared with cassava and sugar cane on time frame of 5 years have found that the fast growing trees were given higher return than cash crops. Besides, the fast growing trees cost was low and no need to used high technical practices. However, the fast growing trees were long term investment which render no revenue to farmers during the interval periods of production while the cash crops were given return in one year. The recommendation from the study is divided the areas of STK 15 rai for planting fast growing trees 3-5 rai which supplied to the related industry in Chacheongsao province as raw material.