

## ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to: 1) assess and monitor organic farming business operation of organic agriculture farmer groups; 2) establish and develop organic farming coordination of the organic agriculture farmer groups; 3) develop the knowledge management system in organic farming business of organic agriculture farmer groups. In-depth interview and focus groups meeting were used for data collection.

Results of the study revealed that the informants had a moderate level of knowledge and understanding in all aspects, i.e., production, marketing, accounting, and finance. Besides, they needed assistance on production, marketing, management, accounting, and finance. The following were done for the assessment of financial tools: 1) profit forecast form; 2) cash in and cash out record form; and 3) profit and loss statement. It was found that most of the informants did not understand in account recording. They could not predict sales volume and product costs, either.

There were 10 organic agriculture farmer groups participating in the establishment of cooperative network for organic agriculture farmer groups. This was because they had common ideas and needs, i.e., healthy body and decrease of production costs by avoiding chemicals. The established network had clear determination of structure and function of its committees. For network development, small group meeting and educational tour among network members. This caused knowledge exchange about organic farming among group and network members. Besides, there was the occurrence of assistance, product exchange and mutual problem solving among them. They also prepared network website for the extension and exchange of organic farming news and information to other organic agriculture farmer groups and interested people.

With regards to the development of the knowledge management system in organic farming business of the organic agriculture farmer groups, it was found that the organic agriculture farmer groups had various forms of organic farming business management. Knowledge of the organic agriculture farmer groups in management,

production, marketing, finance, and accounting were prepared to be a model of the knowledge management system of organic farming business. The body of knowledge was shown in the form of Web Application in which PHP language program and My SQL database were developed and called "Organic Farming Community" under [WWW.maejoorganic.com](http://WWW.maejoorganic.com).

