

Thesis title: Rice Production Potentials Adhering to Good Agricultural Practice of the Members of Community Rice Centers in the Foothill Plain Areas of Phitsanulok Province

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were to study and compare: 1) personal, social, and economic status of members of community rice centers, 2) knowledge of rice production adhering to good agricultural practice, 3) attitude towards good agricultural practice for rice production, 4) practice adhering to good agricultural practice for rice production; and 5) the problems and suggestions on guidelines for the extension of rice production adhering to good agricultural practice.

The population in this study was members of community rice centers in Nakhon Thai District and Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok Province.. There were two groups of samples including the members who produced rice adhering to good agricultural practice and the other group was the members who produced rice as usual, consisting of 120 members in each groups. The data collecting process was interviewing the members. The statistical methodology was used to analyze the data by computer programs including frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, minimum value, maximum value, and t-test.

The findings of this study were as follows: 1) the age averages of the two groups of the members of community rice centers, those who produced GAP rice and general rice, were 50.38 and 50.93 years. Two-thirds of them finished primary education. The averages of rice farming area were 11.23 and 12.63 Rai (1 Rai = 1,600 square meters). The numbers of labor in rice farming were 26.27 and 12.95 persons. The averages of total income were 159,815.83 and 173,924.67 Baht/year. 2) Most of the members who produced GAP rice had good knowlege, but most of other members lacked knowledge of selecting chemical substances and keeping record of data. 3) Considering the attitude of the members in both groups, they agreed with the practice adhering to good agricultural practice at “much” level. 4) Most of the members who produced GAP rice had practiced as being instructed regularly, while the other members practiced occasionally. Hence, 5) the members who produced GAP rice had problems in lack of the ground to dry the rice under the sunlight, while the other members had problems at “much” level that they didn’t haveknowledge and understanding of keeping record of data. Therefore, the practice adhering to good agricultural practice, the economic status, knowledge, practice, and attitude of the members should be considered. Furthermore, the problems should be solved as closely to the facts as possible.

Keywords: Rice production potential, Good Agricultural Practice, Community rice center, Phitsanulok Province