

Watcharawaree Sangpankaew 2011: Evaluation on the Sunflower Production Project by Good Agricultural Practice at Khok Samrong District, Lop Buri Province. Master of Science (Agricultural Extension), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Suwisa Pattanakiat, M.S. 146 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study socio-economic characteristics of the sunflower production project's members, to study production of sunflower technology, to evaluate the sunflower production project, and to indicate problems and suggestions of members. Population consisted of 150 farmers who were members of the Sunflower Production Project by the guideline of the Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) at Khok Samrong district, Lop Buri province. Data were collected by the interview schedule and analyzed by employing the descriptive analyses such as frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean and standard deviation.

Research results showed that most members were males 55.00%, the average age was 55.3 years old, completed primary education 44.70%, earned 1-3 farm labors/household 88.70%, gained an average of 26,791.67 Baht/month, expended an average of 15,633.32 Baht/month, the area grows the all sunflower is between 21-40 rai 37.30%, grew sunflowers on the average of 48.19 rai/household, the price that the members can sell sunflower product be 14.00 baht/kg. Members used commercial sunflower seeds namely "Pacific 33" 57.30% with the rate usage of 1.50 kilograms/rai 76.00%. Seed quality was at the moderate level 50.67%, Spreading of pest insect 88.00%, spreading of powder aphid 78.79%. Members applied chemical fertilizers 78.67% and organic fertilizers 92.67%. They did not use chemical substance to protect and eliminate pest 90.67%. Members followed all steps of the GAP accordingly prior to and after attending the Sunflower Production Project.

Problems expressed by members were lack of support on production factors such as sunflower seeds, fertilizers 34.67%, cultivation, shipping and quality of the product 22.67%. Suggestions included supporting sunflower seeds 52.00%, providing a governmental support by purchasing products from members 39.33%, certifying sunflowers seeds before releasing to members 31.33%, promoting value-added activities from sunflower product 24.00%, and providing training for farmers and other interested people on sunflower production continuously 18.67%.

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Thesis Advisor's signature