

Prakaita Leekpai 2011: Evaluation on the Project of Oil Palms Promotion for Substitute Energy in 2009, Trang Province. Master of Science (Agricultural Extension), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Suwisa Pattanakiat, M.S. 216 pages.

The objectives of this research were to investigate the socio-economics background of oil palm farmers, the expansion of oil palm planting area, the technology of oil palm planting, the establishing of learning network of farmers, as well as to studied the problems and suggestions of the farmers. The samples were 210 cases from the population who were the farmers in the project a total of 440 cases. Selected samples by using simple random sampling. Data were collected by interview schedule. The statistical analysis were carried out by percentage, arithmetic mean and standard deviation.

The results revealed that majority of the farmers were male, average age were 51.20 years old, graduated primary education at grade 4, average family member were 4.50 persons, average of experience in oil palm plantation were 2.04 years, average all labors were 3.55 persons. The average income from occupation were 290,403.81 baht/year, average expense from occupation were 116,492.76 baht/year. Average all oil palm products which were produced in 1 year were 12.81 tons, average oil palm area were 10.47 rai. Most of the planting areas were marsh, the cultivating soil was sandy clay, the water for cultivation came from rain. Most of the farmers sold the oil palm products to the middlemen, the oil palm price average 3.79 baht/kilogram. Most of the farmers received the agricultural information from the neighbors. The practices in the oil palm plantation of the farmers who never planted the oil palm before, the results revealed that after they participated in the project they could apply the knowledge gained from training to work in their farm immediately. The practices of the farmers who planted the oil palm before, the results revealed that most of them had the practices before and after project participating were not very different. But after, some practices were better. The farmers' problem on the project was the oil palm sprouts that they requested were not full the areas. The farmers' suggestion toward the project was needed the project to support the oil palm seedlings more.

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Thesis Advisor's signature