

Patcha Sattaka 2007: Farmers' Indigenous Knowledge Development of Cotton Natural Dye in Sakon Nakhon Province. Master of Science (Agricultural Extension), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Somsri Pattaratuma, M.S. 212 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study socio-economic background of cotton natural dye farmers in Sakon Nakhon Province, their cotton natural dye knowledge and development, including their problems and suggestions. The data were collected from 120 farmers by using interview schedule and statistically analyzed by computer for percentage, arithmetic means and Chi-square.

The findings revealed that total of the cotton natural dye farmers were female with the average age of 49.17 years, and majority of the cotton natural dye farmers obtained primary school and lower education. Farming was their main occupation, their secondary occupation was cotton natural dye and wearing products. Averagely, they earned income 27,160 baht per year, and had average experience 19.08 years in cotton natural dye occupation.

Most of the farmers used to do indigo blue natural dye (88 persons), less of them used to do brown natural dye (84 persons), yellow natural dye (82 persons) and red natural dye (65 persons). Majority of them had more than 60% of cotton natural dyeing knowledge. For the cotton natural dyeing development, they developed in color quality and dyeing methodology of indigo blue, brown, yellow and red natural dye. However the raw materials of brown, yellow and red natural dye were development, but not indigo blue natural dye. For their problems, the farmers revealed that they had uncertain market and lack of raw materials for coloring extraction. So they suggested to grow raw material plants in order to increase the color raw materials. And they should study natural color raw material development to obtain many new materials with good quality.

The hypotheses were proved that the farmers with different age, educational level, occupation, income, experience and knowledge of cotton natural dye had different cotton natural dye development for some items statistically significant at the level of .05.

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