Nipaporn Thipawat 2009: Follow-up Study of the Training Program on Persimmon Production Technology of Farmers in Highland Phetchabun, Loei and Phitsanulok Provinces. Master of Science (Agricultural Extension), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Praderm Chumjai, Ph.D. 129 pages.

The objectives of this research were to examine some basic socio-economic factors of farmers, knowledge for persimmon production technology, study relationship between basic socio-economic factors and practices on the knowledge of persimmon production technology, knowledge of farmers and practices on the knowledge of persimmon production technology, problems, obstacles including suggestions of farmers in highland Phetchabun, Loei and Phitsanulok provinces. The data were collected by interviewing 164 farmers. Then, all data were analyzed by using statistics of percentage, arithmetic mean, minimum, maximum and standard deviation. Hypothesis testing was done by using Chi-square test.

The results obtained showed that most farmers were male at the average age of 40.2 years old with elementary level of education. Each family had the average of 5.8 members. The average labor in agriculture consisted of 2.2 persons, agricultural production land holding size was 17.9 rai. Growing corn was the main occupation of most farmers and growing cabbage was sub occupation. They received an average income from agriculture yield at 4,903.5 bath per year. The farmers had 1.6 years of persimmon growing experience. Growing persimmon at the average of 67.4 trees. Each farmers held 1.8 rai of land in average. They did not use loan for growing persimmon and earned cash income from persimmon yield at 4,904.0 baths per year. Average expense was 1,028.0 bath. Farmers gained knowledge related to persimmon cultivation from the Training Program. Most of them were members of Bank for Agriculture and Agriculture Cooperatives. Persimmon variety, which was widely grown, was P2. Their products were sold by thir own. Problems encountered most frequently by the farmers were diseases and insects. Most farmers had a low level of knowledge and the most farmers did not take knowledge about persimmon production technology inapplicable.

The hypothesis testing showed that land holding size, income from agriculture yield, was related to the knowledge practices for persimmon production technology at significant level of .05.

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