

Supranee Sawunthong 2008: A Study on Community-based Management of Thai Vinegar Crab in Laemphakbia Mangrove Forest. Master of Science (Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management), Major Field: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduated Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Vipak Jintana, Ph.D. 108 pages.

This research aims to study the utilization of mangrove vinegar crab and seeks for a community-based management guideline in Laemphakbia. Panern village in Laemphakbia sub-district, Banlaem district, Phetchaburi province was selected to be the study village. In order to understand basic information on socioeconomics and mangrove resources dependency of the villagers, RRA techniques and household survey were conducted. All 17 household's representatives those have been collected mangrove vinegar crab and 50 households' do not collect the crab were interviewed using a structured questionnaires. The SWOT analysis was applied to design the CBM guideline of mangrove vinegar crab utilization. Results were presented descriptively with some statistic figures e.g. frequency, mean and percentage

The results revealed that socioeconomics and mangrove resources dependency of the villagers both those have been collected and do not collect the mangrove vinegar crab were similar. Basically, most of the respondents are local inhabitants with their age from 41-60, finished primary school level. Each household consisted of 4-6 members, owned less than 1 Rai of land with land title and used for resident. Coastal fishery and temporally employee were the most common occupation. Mean annual income and expenditure per household were approximately 69,000 and 50,000 Baht respectively. For the vinegar crab collectors, 65% have been collected more than 5 years. More than a half used for household consumption. The remaining collected to generate additional income. Practically, 1-2 members walked in to the mangroves less than 3 km to collect the crab by using bare hand (94%) and trap (6%). They collected whole year with a frequency of 5 days per month with amount of 2.7 kg daily.

Common issues found from the study were the declination of vinegar crab population (96% of the respondents), 63% viewed the need of proper management to solve this problem. They (66% of the respondents) pointed that the involvement of outsiders in crab collection especially within the breeding season was the major cause of the problem. Pollution induced by the collectors and local fishery practices was also remarked. The most (64% of the respondents) stated that relate organizations and community should play role on the issues. Important management guidelines were recommended such as support and strengthen the community-based organization, set up rule and regulation for vinegar crab collection, zone the mangrove areas for conservation, and educate to raise local people awareness on sustainable mangrove forest resource utilization. Most of them (73%) expressed their willingness to cooperate the community-based management guideline for mangrove vinegar crab utilization in Laemphakbia under support of relevant organizations.

---

Student's signature

---

Thesis Advisor's signature