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The Possibility of Hom Mali Rice Production in Organic Farming Systems as Alternative Farming Career with poverty Alleviation Potential for Lower-Northeastern Farmers

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Abstract

This research aimed to find whether Hom Mali rice production in organic farming systems is a possible alternative for poverty alleviation. Quantitative surveys and qualitative methods were employed in this study. Four hundred seventy six farmers from six provinces, (Surin, Sisaket, Ubonratchathani, Amnatcharoen, Yasothon and Roi-et) were the main respondents of this study. Additional 185 farmers were also the respondents of the additional needed information. The duration of this research was October 2004 to March 2006.

The finding of the study indicated that the organic Hom Mali rice production have led to higher confidence in farming career and higher income than that of conventional rice production. This is due to the higher yield, higher price of the organic rice and lower cash production cost. However, the organic Hom Mali rice production can only alleviate parts of the poverty. In another words, the organic Hom Mali rice production alone is not sufficient to totally solve the economic aspects of poverty problems. The Integrated farming with the organic Hom Mali rice as a main crop is a convincing alternative for poverty alleviation of Thai northeast farmers. In addition, the farmers should join as a group and form network with others to gain their bargaining power and to strengthen their farming career.

This study also indicated that the organic Hom Mali rice has only a niche markets and its market size small. The domestic market has not well responded to the organic rice due to the higher price comparing to ordinary rice. In spite of these drawbacks, the organic rice exports have gradually increased. Therefore, if Thai government actively and consistently support the paddy farmers to grow organic Hom Mali rice in integrated farming manners, it will be enable them to significantly alleviate their poverty problems.

Keywords: -



Enhancing Self-Care of Wood Carving Workers: Community Participation

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Abstract

This participatory action research aimed to build capacity for self-care among wood carving workers in Khun Kong community, Hang Dong, Chiang Mai. Participatory learning was used for peer leader training. Community participation was used to develop a guidebook for self-care and media as well as a self-care network for health promotion campaign. The self-care network consisted of the research team, community committee and trained peer leaders. Nine activities of health promotion campaigns were conducted by the network. Quantitative data were analyzed using frequency percentage and t-test, whereas qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis.

The results found that one guidebook and three types of media including posters, VCD, and spots, were developed. They were then examined, by a group of workers, for appropriateness of contents and presentation; and found to be satisfactory. After training, peer leaders' knowledge and awareness about work-related health problems and preventive self-care increased significantly. Their skills and confidence in risk assessment and self-care instruction were also improved. The developed network learned new ways of thinking, problem solving and sustainable self-care. Self-reliance was perceived as an important aspect of health care. Finally, workers' health status, perception of health risk and health behaviors were improved. Moreover, problem identification process and community potential in problem solving were mutually learned. Although this study was successful in increasing health awareness of the workers and community very well, long term impact and sustainability of networking and activities need to be examined. Furthermore, cooperation with other relevant institutions or professions are suggested in order to produce and use guidebook and media with other wood carving workers and to improve work conditions and environment.

Keywords: -



Integration of Teaching, Research and Academic Service for the Local in Increasing Potential of the Farmers by Using the Account Method in Developing the Community Enterprise

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Abstract

During the economy and business of the country needed to be expanded, it is found that the community enterprise development which is important base for the country economy development still has many obstacles especially an account and monetary management which are unsystematic and ineffective. It makes the entrepreneurs have not enough information for decision making. Meanwhile the knowledge from education management in normal system are un-useful and unsuitable for applying in the community conditions.

The research on “the Integration of Teaching, Research and Academic Service for the Local in Increasing Potential of the Farmers by Using the Account Method in Developing the Community Enterprise” was the research and development to educate knowledge of using the account method for the community enterprise. The research integrated the quality research method of SPSS software program and the participatory action research which was the main methodology. The research population included group of account teacher, group of account student, the representatives of the community entrepreneur. The research integrated 5 account subjects as the knowledge base for implementation in the community.

The results of the research were knowledge of integrated method of teaching and learning the account subject for developing the community enterprise. The research and academic as a process could make dynamical change in the research population in knowledge, skill, working behavior and mind development. It also got the account document which was produced from needs of the people in the community by adapting formal language into easier form to understand which could be applied for other communities. The Study case of the research was continuously used for teaching the classroom and also disseminated to the researchers and the university account teachers in the country and abroad.

Keywords: -



Enhancing the Administrative Capacity of Local Administrative Organization

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Abstract

Research and Development Project on Enhancing the Administrative Capacity of Local Administrative Organization is a project to study process and methodology for capacity building of administration and management to the local administrative organization by utilizing the method of Learning by Doing, participated by researchers and developers along with the local administrative organization executives and personal to identify which field of capacity and how the local administrative organization needs to develop for achieving the competence of self-governing local administration with good governance by plan-rational implementation of 7 formulated plans, to be a learning medium which was participated by 10 Local Administrative Organizations' executive and personnel as the center and coordinated and advised by 10 teams of researchers and developers as the catalyst. The project tool 2 years (from February 2004 to January 2006).

The result was found that the methodology and process of enhancing the capacity though learning practice of the administrative organizations' personnel by participation of the researchers and developers in planning and implementing the project is proper mean to enhance the administrative capacity of local administrative organizations' personnel, enabling the personnel to identify issues of capacity limits, which the local administrative organizations should improve as to achieve true status of self-governing locality along with good governing, to be 8 issues: 1) Capacity Limits of policy indication and plan formulation of their own localities; 2) Capacity Limits of information system improvement for development; 3) Capacity of utilization and maintenance of informative technological system; 4) Capacity of work system analysis and development; 5) Capacity of projected result analysis and evaluation; 6) Capacity of income generation; 7) Human Resource Management and 8) Enactment and Amendment of Rules and Regulations.

Additionally, this research provides empirical results these are the master plan, action plan and development plans in five aspects of 10 Local Administrative Organizations, which feature patterns, elements and contents of better attributes qualities were approved by the Council of Local Administrative Organization, some were implemented to achieve their goals and many are being operative.

Keywords: -



The Development of 'Hangkrarog' Silk Product

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Abstract

Hangkrarog is ancient silk fabric which has been Thai cultural heritage handed down from generation to generation for over hundreds of years. This type of silk fabric is traditionally woven by grandmothers and mothers for formal attire worn by high class people from Ayuthaya period to Ratanakosin period. This kind of silk fabric is mostly produced in the southern part of the northeastern region or southern Isan. Nakhon Ratchasima is noted for producing the most beautiful Hangkrarog silk in the northeastern region due to its weaving skills and local wisdom.

Unfortunately, the popularity of Hangkrarog silk fabric is declining and it would become extinct if no one learned how to weave the unique Hangkrarog silk. The researchers felt it would be pity to lose this valuable cultural heritage. Consequently the researcher has propose a research project to develop product made from Hangkrarog silk. The research started to seek cooperation from two women's weaving groups of Ban Pa-ngad Nua Pattana and Ban Pradu Mul to be the leaders in developing the Hangkrarog silk product. In addition, the network of the 11 weaving groups in the villages in Kong district, Talang district and Sida sub-district in Nakhon Ratchasima has been established for the implement of this research project. The research project started from April 2006 to November 2007. The research is a cooperative research between the researcher and the silk weaving villagers in the target region. The purpose of this research is to enhance the learning process in order to develop a variety of attractive products made from Hangkrarog silk and also to develop the system of the group working management to be more effective.

Data collected from the research study show that the members of the weaving groups have developed new techniques of pulling the silk thread, the dyeing techniques of using natural colored materials, the materials, the techniques of spinning the tread yarn and the design of the patterns of the Hangkrarog silk. Through the integration of local wisdom and modern technology, the local weaver could produce various types of attractive Hangkrarog products with high standard and quality. Hangkrarog silk products have become popular again for both middle class and upper class people. Moreover, the products are exported to many countries. This inspired Hangkrarog silk weavers to develop their skills to produce better product. In addition, the income of the weaver have increased and resulted in better living. Due to the development of effective management of group working, the network of group working has been strengthened and the group has expanded into other neighboring villages for producing Hangkrarog silk from natural materials.

Keywords: -



Cultural Value Promotion Process by Participating of the Community the Study Case of Wieng Bua Community, Phayao Province: Lesson of Study and Development of the Tourism by the Community

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Abstract

The research and development project on “The cultural Value promotion Process by Participating of the Community, the Study Case of Weing Bua Community, Phayao Province: Lesson of the Study and Development of the Tourism by the Community” was the research of applying cultural base for development by using the participatory action research. The research included depth study quality research and process of community forum to inform knowledge back to the community for rechecking and exchanging information before, during and after the implementation of the project. The Bua village in Wieng Bua community, Muang district, Phayao province was selected to be the implementing area of the research and development due to that the community has long history for 100 years and used to traditional way of life, local culture and believes which were benefit for the study. The community still has ancient places and objects succeeded from the ancestor which are able to be developed to be the sustainable ecology tourism places.

The method and implementation of the research which motivated participation of the community in every steps created concrete results such as consciousness in preserving the ancient places of the community; construction of the community museum; surveying, digging and preserving the ancient burning stove, activities of art, culture and local wisdom of the community. These cloud create values and admiring among the villagers, the project implementers and representatives of the involved organizations, the academicians in different fields from various institutes, the tourist entrepreneurs and mass media which joined the activities.

Furthermore, it was found that collaboration of the community in the activities could create positive values and value added for the community culture which conformed with potentials and interesting of the community. The activities also strengthened participations and strong relationship of members of the community. The study and development of tourism by the community in Wieng Bua community was an example of the development which used cultural as main method in solving and developing the community in concrete from for other communities.

Keywords: -



Enhancement of Community Capability in Development of Healthy Food Recipes by Using Local Produces

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Abstract

The research on Enhancement of Community Capability in Development of Healthy Food Recipes by Using Local Produces aims at investigating community local wisdom on healthy food, providing the community with knowledge on nutrition, how to cook healthy food, development of local and Thai recipe as well as producing a recipe book for community use and general people who are interested.

The study is a operational research with community participation of Ban Pa Phai, Tambom Mue Pong, Amphoe Doi Saket, Changwat, Chiang Mai. The brainstorming on research point was first enhanced in order to solve the community problem by enhancing the community's capacity such as catering of housewife group. The research has studies on community food, vegetables, nutrition knowledge, the need and readiness of housewife group to develop food recipes as a data source for launching as activity on development of food recipe as well as understanding on hygienic food cooking emphasizing on local healthy food available in the community.

From the study, it is found that Pa Phai Community still clings in local food such Kang-Oom-Nhua Kang-Pak-kad-Khiew Num-Prik-Dang Jor-Pak-Kad Kuk-Nhor-Mai Tum-Kannon/Tum-Ytua-Fuk-Yaw Yum-Chin-Kai Saa-Pak Moo-Hum/Hur-Nung-Moo while mangoes and Kaotommud are their favorite fruit and dessert. Those are local wisdom inherited from their ancestors among the fertility of the nature which were utilized to fit with current circumstance. The research and housewife group worked together on development of 34 local food recipes with nutrition table.

During the activity, a small group from the housewife group was enhanced to run a catering business to expand the research finding by focusing on local food made from materials available in the community. This also helps the housewife in the community to sell their chemical-free products and a kitchen garden and earn their supplementary income, enhancing strong community where people can depend on one another. Also, we found that the activity with community involvement such as a seminar with specialises on the local wisdom resulted in the community awareness on healthy food consumption such as local food. The local food competition enhanced the community to display its potential as a whole and to aware of the importance of consumption to local food which is a local wisdom itself.

Keywords: -