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Special Article: Where are Socially-Engaged Scholarship Articles Published in the Scopus Database?

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Abstract

Area-based research for development, art and cultural conservation, and academic service by every university have greatly contributed to community and society as a whole. However, the potential of presenting such works in academic journals is often overlooked. This article encourages more publications of socially engaged scholarship from Thai universities in international journals. Interesting journal titles with some recent publications from the Scopus database are exemplified according to the journal category. The socially-engaged scholarship is interdisciplinary but the discipline-oriented publication is recommended as an alternative strategy for attracting attentions of journals from different categories including management, agriculture, environment, education and cultural studies. For targeted multidisciplinary journals, it is fitting that sustainability, an important keywords in socially-engaged scholarship, is the theme. The opportunities of publishing academic service, art and cultural conservation, as well as area-based research for development in journals with a wide or unlimited scope are also presented..

Keywords: Area-based research for development, Academic service, Art and cultural conservation, Journal publication, Scopus database



Development of Safe Green Produce Grower Group of Smallholder Farmers in Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya, Bang Ban, and Bang Pahan Districts, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Province

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Abstract

Safe green produce grower group of small farmers in Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya, Bang Ban, and Bang Pahan districts, Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya province encountered problems when selling green produce in general vegetable markets. Especially, there are issues when growers are unable to meet the market demands, and the green produce have no standard certification for green produce safety and cultivation process quality. This study aims to upgrade the smallholder farmers of safe green produce by adjusting the management and operation as the product will be guaranteed to reach the niche consumer groups in its high quality. The participatory research involves 27 participants from 3 grower community enterprises. This research process entails several aspects: 1) educating the farmer members about the good agricultural practice (GAP) scheme, 2) engaging farmers in group planning and operation, 3) implementing a mechanism for group members participation, 4) networking and expanding distribution channels for safe green produce 5) monitoring and evaluating the work process. The results show positive changes in the safe vegetable produces of the community enterprises. The redesign of group working style with clear production plans following the market demand, the allocation of cultivation areas for members, and the preparation for GAP scheme have firstly led to two members of safe green produce enterprises in Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya district being certified for GAP standards. Secondly, the higher price of safe vegetables in niche markets results in an increment of 15 percent average income. Thirdly, the safe green produce network with other districts has been established, and the members of community enterprise groups continue to operate the safe vegetable cultivation process to obtain certification in the future.

Keywords: Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya province, Small farmers, GAP standard, Safe vegetable, Niche consumer groups



Product Development of Grilled Fish Cookies for Value Added from the Wang Rae Fish Rearing and Processing Group Community Enterprises, Phitsanulok Province

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Abstract

The locally processed fish products from Wang Rae fish farming and processing community enterprise, Chum Saeng Songkhram subdistrict, Bang Rakam district, Phitsanulok province was sold at low prices. This research aims to add value to locally processed fish products by innovating grilled fish cookies as new products. The participatory research consisting of three phases is employed. The first phase deals with the development of products from local raw materials, which involves several steps – determine the local identities, evaluate raw material properties, formulate the recipe and production process, evaluate shelf-life, and determine nutritional values. The second phase focuses on knowledge transfer and dissemination using practical training, which involves production process and production cost estimation. The third phase covers developing marketing plans and establishing market channels. The study reveals that grilled fish cookies products from local grilled fish were able to represent the local identity. The shelf-life evaluation shows that the products can be stored for 12 weeks at ambient temperature. The product qualities comply with the Thai Community Product Standard. The income generated from grilled fish cookies to the community enterprise is estimated to be over 75,000 Baht/month. The community learning center has been established at the community enterprise. Consequently, the community has gained awareness of local wisdom values as well as the importance of local product identity and benefited from career opportunities and higher income.

Keywords: Phitsanulok province, Wang Rae village, Processed food, Grilled fish cookies, Local product



Souvenir Product Development of Sukhothai Local Sewing and Craft of Khao Kaew Srisomboon Community Enterprise, Sukhothai Province

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Abstract

Khao Kaew Srisomboon Local Sewing and Craft Community Enterprise in Thung Saliam district, Sukhothai province has been made up of a group of skilled women in sewing and local fabric arts residing in the subdistrict of Thung Saliam, Sukhothai province. The group produced products in the form of women's fabric bags and wallets made from cotton blended with synthetic fibers and sold them to local customers in the community or customers who ordered from abroad. Currently, it has been found that the products cannot attract new customers; therefore, the research objective was to create distinctive souvenirs out of Sukhothai woven fabrics by using the cultural community woven fabrics to create new product styles with quality improvement. The processes included 1) the situational analysis of the group members of the sewing and craft community enterprise, 2) the construction of guidelines for product design, 3) product design and product prototyping, 4) product development skills training and product prototyping practice, and 5) establishment of product quality standards to achieve the Community Product Standard Certification. The community itself was also involved in the product design and development process so that the community members obtain knowledge and skills. Three new types of souvenirs were developed including rag dolls, pillows, and office supplies. It has been found that new woven fabric products could be sold at 60% higher than the original, generating a monthly income of about 20,000 baht. The products have also proceeded to attain the community product standard certification under the type of hand-woven-material cushion group called "Handmade Panson" brand. Finally, their distribution channels for the community and interested parties are located at Khao Kaew Si Somboon subdistrict, Thung Saliam district, Sukhothai province, Bumrungrad hospital foundation, public and private trade fairs, and on different social media.

Keywords: Sukhothai province, Community products, Souvenir products, Local fabrics, Community enterprise



Development of the Indigo Dyed Silk Process of Ban Klang Silk Weaving Group, Salon Nakhon Province

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Abstract

Ban Klang silk weaving group, Sakon Nakhon province had problems with dyeing silk with indigo. This study aimed to develop the guideline process of indigo silk dyeing of the Ban Klang silk weaving group and to find a solution to the problem of unevenly colored indigo silk threads. The study applied participatory action research. The process of this research includes 1) Planning by adjusting the production method of indigo-dyed silk in some steps, including changing the bleaching time, a method to wash silk threads, and technique to grip silk threads; 2) Actual application of the experimental methods obtained from the planning step. 3) Observation by observing the results obtained from the experiment; and 4) Reflection by conducting a group discussion on which all participants joined the evaluation of the results of the experiment. These four research steps were conducted repeatedly from the planning step to the reflection step until all the participants were satisfied. There were 23 participants including 21 group participants, a specialist on indigo dyeing, and a researcher. The guidelines for improving the quality of indigo dyed silk found from this research were: 1) bleaching for 60 minutes, 2) washing the indigo-dyed silk until the water is clean, 3) maintaining the indigo pot to be used regularly, and 4) gripping the threads tightly, spreading the threads more widely and squeezing the silk thread inside the indigo pot by striking the thumbs. The two characteristics of the indigo-dyed silk thread after the research process are darker in color and uniform. The silk threads are polished and soft. Correspondingly, the group could sell the products at a higher price, that is, the indigo-dyed silk in plain color previously priced at 2,000 baht can now be sold at least for 3,500 baht, and Mudmee indigo-dyed silk price shifted from 5,000 baht to at least 6,000 baht.

Keywords: Sakon Nakhon province, Ban Klang silk weaving group, Indigo dyeing, Silk bleaching, Mudmee silk