Socio-economic conditions of the farmers in the land reform for agriculture

resettlement village Tambol Wang Nm Keaw, Amphoe Pak Thongchai,

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to compare socio-economic of the farmers in the agricultural land reform village and to find out the problems of the farmers in farming occupation.

Fifty-tree household heads in the land reform village of MU 17th Tambol Wang Nam Kheaw, Amphoe Pak Thong Chai, Changwat Nakhon Ratchasima were interviewed. The data were analysed by using the statistical techniques to determine the percentages, the arithmetic means and the Chisquare at the 0.05 level of significant.

The study showed that most of the farmers moved from the Sakaerat Environmental Research Station area into the land reform for agriculture resettlement village in 1983, which was the first year of this village establishment. The social condition than before such as:

Family sizes of extended type changed into smaller size of nuclear type. Members of the farm families obtained higher educational level. The health care services at the Tambol Health Center received higher numbers of patients than the local hospital. This indicated that serious illness of the farmers was decreased after moving into the new settlement. Besides the farmers used more sanitary latrine.

After moving into the new resettlement, most of the farm houses were built in a permanent condition. The farmers also became members of the agricultural cooperative group and the Bank of Agriculture and Cooperative. Infrastructure development in terms of road and electricity supplied facilitated the farmers to communicate and transport their agricultural products to the market and improving their standard of living. The relationships among the neighbors were improved and the farmers were likely to join the village activities than before.

The economic conditions of the farmers after the resettlement scheme were improved in several aspects such as :

Better land holding right and each family was allotted equal land area for farming. The net income distribution among the farm families was uniformed. The numbers of low income families were decreased and the middle and high income families were increased. The farm family assets tended to increase after the resettlement scheme. The capital and labor inputs in agricultural activities were better, allowing the farmers to better access to new farming technology.

The problems in farming activities were lack of water supply, insufficient each investment, smaller farm size and poor soil fertility and rock outcrops that hinder full cultivation of the land.

In summary, the results of the study on socio-economic condition of the farmers in the land reform for agriculture resettlement village, Tambol Wang Nam Kheaw, Amphoe Pak Thong Chai, Changwat Nakhon Ratchasima revealed that the general trend of socio-economic conditions of the farmers were better than their previous conditions, eventhough there were some problems and constraints in farming activities under rained condition. It was envisged that most of the problems can be solved , if the government and the farmers have strong and hearly intention to solve together. It is hoped that the land reform programme will successfully achieved it ultimate goal in the future.