



Clean Agriculture Newsletter No.16

Clean Agriculture Development Project

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This is a technical cooperation project over five years (2017-2022) funded by JICA, targeting four Pilot Provinces (Vientiane Capital, Luang Prabang, Sayabouly, and Xieng Khouang). It aims at promoting clean agriculture, namely Organic Agriculture and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), based on market needs in the Pilot Provinces.

Project activities update

1. Conducting training on organic vegetable production planning

The training on organic vegetable production planning in the rainy season was conducted for organic agriculture (OA) group / cooperatives on June 24 (Thursday) by collaborating with Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO) of Vientiane Capital.

The training theme was an organic vegetable production planning based on the profitability of the farmers and market needs. The participants calculated the profitability of the vegetable items with high market needs and simulated the production planning through group work.

The OA groups asked and answered the questions for sales channels and transaction each other. It was good opportunity for the participants to exchange information and opinions among OA groups.



(Picture) Atmosphere of the training (group work)



(Picture) Atmosphere of the training (Group photo)

2. Opinion exchange between OA committee / groups and distributors

A workshop (W/S) for opinion exchange between OA committee / groups and distributors for promoting the production and sales of OA products was organized on July 1st (Thursday). In this W/S, 2 distributors, Organic Home and Organic House, were invited to present their business ideas for looking at the cooperation of related parties such as constructing the database for the production planning, selling organic vegetable and fruits juice at OA market, and utilizing official Lao Organic Certificate. There were some positive comments from the OA committee / groups and the counterparts that they would like to discuss in each committee or meeting in more detail. The project also has a plan to follow up them. The Organic Home has provided delivery services of organic vegetables to individual consumers through website and SNS. The Organic House has purchased organic vegetables and fruits from OA markets and wholesaled to the supermarket in Vientiane capital. Both distributors have played key roles for connecting the producers and the markets.



(Picture) presentation by distributor

3. On-the-Job training (OJT) on disease control: Preparing and using "Acetic Acid Solution" and "Calcium Acetate Solution" as fungicide

The OJT on preparing and using "Acetic Acid Solution" and "Calcium Acetate Solution" as fungicide was conducted at the agricultural field

in the Clean Agriculture Standard Center (CASC) as a counterpart agency.

The supply of the products to the OA markets drops extremely in the rainy season from June to October in every year in Lao PDR. One of the reasons for dropping the supply is the spread of the disease under open field cultivation. Bacteria and fungi tend to spread under high temperature and humidity in rainy and cloudy weather. Under these conditions, some disease such as bacterial spot disease, downy mildew, gray mold, blight, and root rot tend to outbreak. The foliar application of “Acetic Acid Solution” can expect high bactericidal effect by rapid acidification. The foliar application of the “Calcium Acetate Solution” that is added egg shell (Calcium) can expect not only bactericidal effect but also strengthening the cell wall and solving the problem of calcium deficiency.



(Picture) Atmosphere of preparing “Calcium Acetate Solution” by CASC staff



(Picture) Demonstration for application to seedlings of eggplant

4. Moving Dongnasok OA market

Dongnasok OA market in Vientiane Capital moved to Thong Khan Kham market. Thong Khan Kham market is known as one of the biggest fresh food markets in Vientiane capital. As reported in newsletter No.14, OA farmers had sold their products at Thong Khan Kham market every Sunday since March 28, 2021. After 3 months trial periods passed as planned,

Dongnasok OA market was closed and the farmers has sold OA products every Sunday and Thursday at Thong Khan Kham market since July 1, 2021. 58 tables have been allocated for selling.

The moving has been notified through TV, Radio, Facebook, and signboard etc. However, there are some regular customers of Dongnasok OA market who have not yet known the moving as the middle of July because the moving date was decided so urgently. At the same time, new customers are increasing because of good location where many people can access. It is expected to increase numbers of customers by being known to many people for selling OA products in Thong Khan Kham market



(Picture) Atmosphere to selling OA products at Thong Khan Kham Market

5. Introduction of Technical Manual

“Organic Agriculture (OA) technical manual” that is not paper medium such as booklets or books is introduced. Everyone can learn through the video posted to YouTube from smartphone anytime, anywhere, and whenever you want. The technical manuals are available to see Facebook of the project and YouTube channel of CASC. The cultivation techniques suitable for the sites of Lao PDR will be introduced. Please check them!!



(picture) top page of cultivation technical manual

