

“His Majesty's Highland Vetiver Revival”



The Department of Agricultural Extension's Master Plan for the Development and Campaign on the Use of Vetiver Grass under the Royal Initiative No. 6 (2017-2022):
Vetiver Grass Growing for Soil and Water Conservation in Highland Agriculture





For the past decades 2017-2022, DOAE has played a major role in the promotion of vetiver grass growing for sustainable agricultural practice for 7,480 highland farmers.

Its core mission includes organized pilot villages for

- vetiver grass planting with conservative perennial fruit crop and trees 500 rai.
- built and enhanced 86 principle farmers.
- The introduction of vetiver growing with perennial fruits not only helps improve soil fertility but also revives the ecological system that the farming has to depend upon.



The DOAE project was carried out by which highland farmers were trained and educated first the use and benefits of vetiver grass to the highland ecosystem, how it helps conserve soil and water. They were demonstrated how vetiver grown alongside with perennial fruits were done and how to maintain the coexisting plants in good conditions after that.



The support given by DOAE included the provision of vitiver grass and fruit seeding with an aim to change the highland farmers from swidden agriculture to sustainable farm such as Mr.Wattana Songpompaisarn (Chiang Mai), Mr..Pairoh Pantabtim (Tak) and Mr.Suphon Sangkhasophon (Kanchanaburi)



Production model

- Land size : 16 Rai
- Activities within the plot: Different types of fruit trees planted: avocados, peaches, persimmons, passion fruit, bananas, coffee, bamboo trunk, and local forest trees. Mixed planting.
- Vetiver grass cultivar planted: Sri Lankan

Mr. Wattana Songpornpaisan

Address No. 69/2 Moo 17, Mae Na Chon Subdistrict,
Mae Chaem District, Chiang Mai Province

Telephone 082-8966752

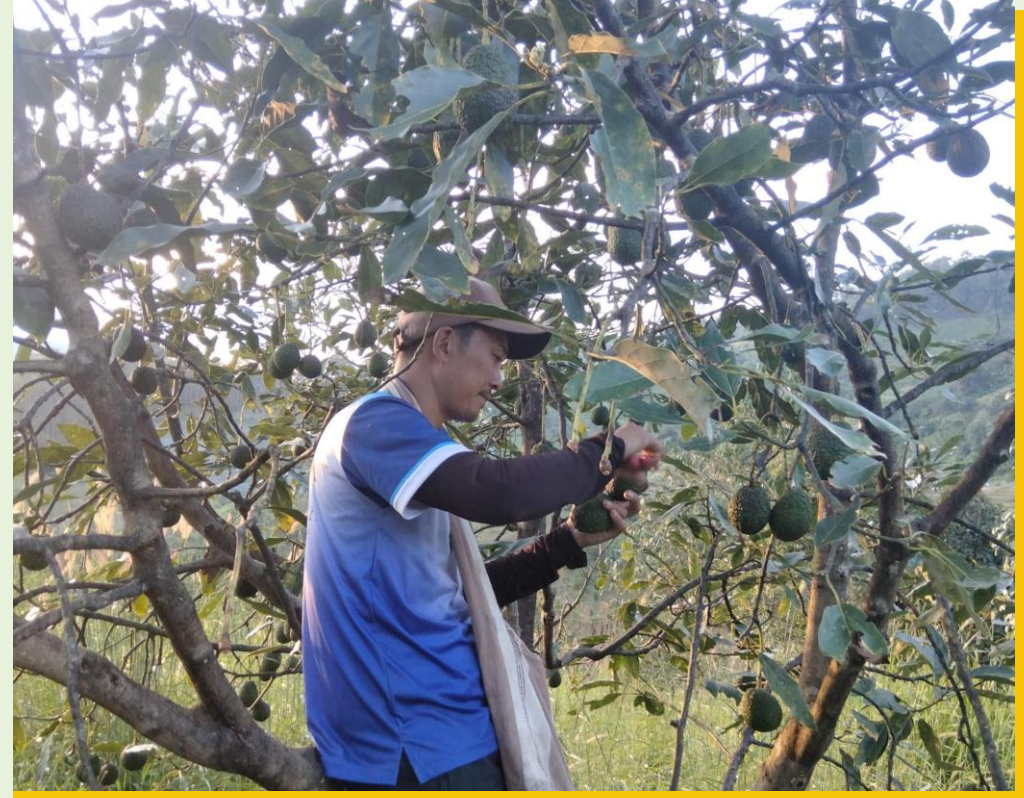
Farmer plot coordinates: X : 450559 Y : 2080653



Success factor:



Emphasizing on building clean environment and producing organic fruit varieties to the market, the owner has adapted in the farm with newly learned methods and technology to his integrated fruit orchard and planted a wide range of fruits such as avocados, passion fruits, bananas, persimmons, peaches, coffee, bamboo trunks, and local forest trees in all 16 rai.






Success factor:

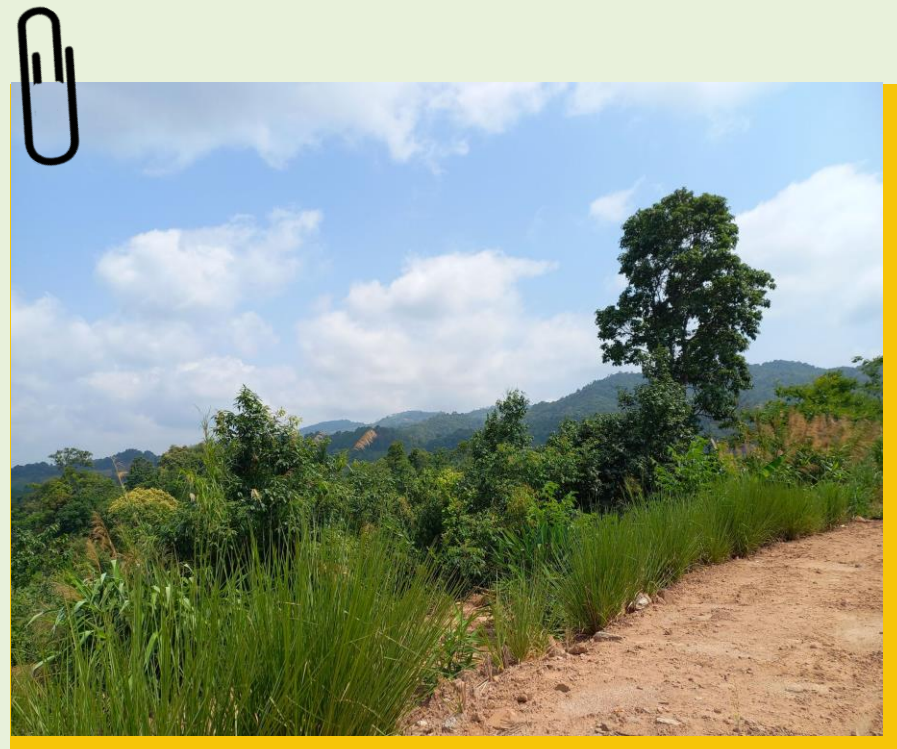


As for avocados, passion fruits, persimmons, and peaches; they are grown side by side with vetiver grasses along the slopes as part of soil and water conservation system. Arabica coffee trees, however, are grown under local forest trees shade. This Integrated farming method can generate as high income as 182,000 baht per year. The Mae Hae Royal Project market and the Top Supermarket serve as the main distributors for all his produces.

Key activities and outstanding achievements of the farmer



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1. Establishment of community organic enterprises
 2. Being a key grower of local organic agricultural produce such as avocados, persimmons and coffee
 3. Build a success sustainable farm model: “Khok Nong Na” (Mound, Pond and Paddy field) Model in his land
 4. Partnership with Earthsafe Foundation (Thailand) to strengthen organic cultivation
 5. Enhancing the quality of Organic farm production to the high-end consumers through Top Supermarket, the Central Group.









Mr. Pairoh Pantim

Address: Ban Ruam Thai Phatthana 7, House
No. 69 Moo 3, Tambon Ruam Thai Phatthana,
Phop Phra District, Tak Province
Telephone 089-0099393

Farmer plot coordinates: X : 478358 Y: 1818017

Production model

- Land sized: 5 Rai
- activities within the plot: mixed plantation of fruit trees, avocados, bananas, papayas, cocoa, eggplants, and konjac.
- Vetiver grass cultivar planted:** Nakhon Sawan



Success factor:

New inventions, such as high quality avocado varieties planting, and new technology are introduced in this 5 rai of integrated farming. Diversify of crops like bananas, papayas, cocoa, konjac, chili, eggplants are coexisting but high-quality avocado varieties, which are in high demand by the market, are the major focus in the farm. Not only that growing avocados proves to have much lower investment as mere 50,000 baht. To cut costs, manure is utilized in place of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The land gives high yield of harvesting throughout the year, and the income generated from the variety of plants in this mixed farming is proven to be much greater than the mono crop farming practice





Mr. Pairoh has extended his success and achievement in his first 5 rai plot to the second plot of 15 rai, by propagating best avocado, banana and konjac varieties into the second plot. It is evident that effective land use and land management can lower investment cost but gives higher income to farmers, enable them to live a happy and sustainable livelihood



Mr. Pairoh's success story has been inspired and shared to others. He has become a speaker of his success, and his land has demonstrated how sustainable and effective farm management can be achieved step by step from seed planting, propagating, harvesting to good farm maintaining practice.









Mr. Supol Sangkhasopha

Address : 82/4 Moo 5, Nong Lu Subdistrict, Sangkhla Buri

District, Kanchanaburi Province

Telephone number : 064 4639483

Farmer plot coordinates : X 15.18839 Y98.3374

Production model

- Land size : 18 Rai
- Activities within the plot: integrated farming with rubber being the principle crop for family income. Part of area dedicates to rice growing for consumption Extra income is generated from Namwa bananas, mangoes and coffee. Rambutan, durian, and avocado are supplementary crops in the farm.
- Vetiver grass cultivar planted : Songkhla 3**



Success factor:

Starting with a desire to build a resilient and sustainable environment on his land, Mr. Sangkhasopha sought out the knowledge by himself and acted upon the idea immediately. Through self-learning by attending classes and workshops, he also learns from knowledgeable and experienced farmers and takes the knowledge into action.



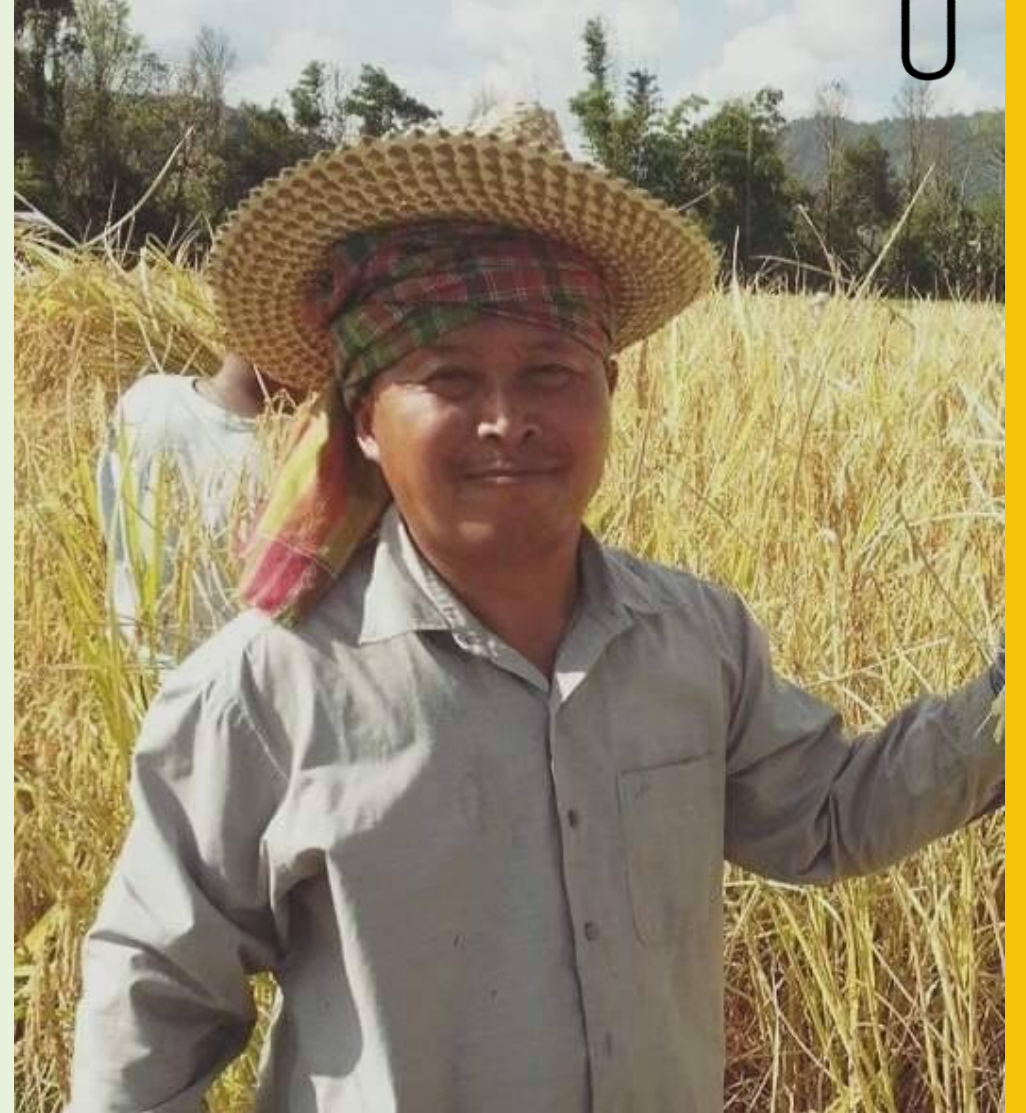
When encountering problems, he is not discouraged but seeks out help to develop further, build on what already existed to add more value. Working alone is not the option, he also collaborates closely with other like-minded people and being an active member in farmer network groups such as Young Smart Farmer Kanchanaburi to build on more knowledge and creating sharing-idea platform. The operation is highly supportive by government agencies like the Department of Community Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Agricultural Extension, among others.



Mr. Sangkhsopha's effective integrated farm structure starts with 4-rai rice field for household consumption. Rubber plantation situates outside the plot to serve as family cash crop. Inside 14-Rai land plot, mixed fruit orchard is grown alongside with vetiver grasses for soil and water conservation purposes. Bananas (namwa variety), and mangoes are grown first to give shade to other young plants. Durians, rambutans, avocados, and coffee are supplementary crops that can reduce the cost by 5,000 baht. Additionally, the coffee harvested in the farm is processed and marketed under "Klithu Coffee" brand, bringing in roughly 1,000 Baht income annually.



success



success





Thank you

