



Khun Wang Royal Project Development Center



Background

In 1975, His Majesty the Late King visited Baan Khun Wang and assigned the Royal Project Foundation and the Hill Tribe Development Center to help develop local people's livelihood. Later in 1985, with the financial support of the United States Embassy, His Majesty the Late King set up the Khun Wang Royal Project Development Center with the main aims to reduce the opium poppy cultivation area, develop temperate crop cultivation which can generate more income among farmers and enable hill tribes to have permanent land for their cultivation instead of practicing shifting cultivation and deforestation.

Geography

Most of the areas is surrounded with complex mountainous terrain at 900 - 1,400 meters above sea level which covers 29,704 Rai or 11,744 acres.

Climate

The area average temperature is 18 °C (64.4 °F).

Population

More than 2,240 Pgakúuyau or Karen and Hmong resides in 4 villages and 7 communities.

Location

112 Moo 12, Mae Win Sub-district, Mae Wang District, Chiang Mai 50360
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At present, Khun Wang Royal Project Development Center has set up field demonstration plots in order to find the suitable crops for the local climate and environment, to support the cultivation under the Food Safety Standards like Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and to generate the farmers' sustainable income and improve their livelihood. Furthermore, the center organizes and develops education, society and public health related activities to support the community engagement, strengthen the communities and improve people's lives. The reforestation project known as "Three Forests, Four Benefits", Vetiver grass growing to conserve water as well as soil, chemical use reduction campaign, and environmental contamination monitoring campaign are also supported by the center. The center itself is a learning center on highland agriculture for students, farmers and others who are interested.

Main produces of the Center

Broccoli, pointed cabbage, table tomato, cherry tomato, sugar snap pea, Japanese reddish, baby carrot, Kailaan, peach, persimmon, cape gooseberry, strawberry, lemon, avocado, kiwi, Chrysanthemum, Lily, Lisianthus, Carnation, Eucomis, straw flower, Chinese tea, mushroom and coffee



Learning centers in the Khun Wang Royal Project Development Center

The learning centers inside Khun Wang Royal Project Development Center Field demonstration plots of seasonal vegetables, fruits and flowers:

- Chrysanthemum greenhouse (March – Nov.), Lisianthus, Carnation and Lily
- Fruits such as seedless grapes (Dec. – Jan.), peach (March – April.), persimmon (July – Sep.) cape gooseberry (Nov. – April), passion fruit (all year), strawberry (Dec. – Jan.), Pepino (all year round)
- Temperate vegetables such as table tomato, sugar snap pea, broccoli (all year)
- Temperate mushroom greenhouse such as Portabello mushroom, monkey head mushroom
- Chinese tea no.12, Oolong tea no.12: tea producing demonstration and tea tasting at the Tea Factory at Khun Mae Wang Village (all year round)

Community learning center

- Baan Khun Wang: Hmong lifestyles, weaving technique, agriculture practices
- Baan Pong Noi: Pgakúuyau lifestyle, culture, and 5 homestays certified by Thai Homestay Standard

Accommodation and food

3 Guest houses with their capacity of 20 people, restaurant and souvenir shop

How to travel

1st Route: The center is 106 km. away from Chiang Mai city and the trip lasts 3 hrs. First, take highway 108 (Chiang Mai – Hod). Turn right to highway 1009 before Jom Thong District. Before arriving 31 km. turn right and continue driving for 16 km., the center will be found.

2nd Route: The trip lasts 2 hrs. for 86 km. of the distance between Chiang Mai city and the center. First, take highway 108 (Chiang Mai – Hod). After passing Hang Dong District and arriving Sun Pa Thong District, take a right turn at Mae Wang intersection into highway 1013. Next, continue driving for 47 km. and turn left to Baan Huay Kiang. Lastly, the center will be found at 16 km.