



Mok Cham Royal Project Development Center



Background

In 1969, His Majesty the Late King visited the Lahu people at Wang Din Village which was 6 km. away from Thai – Myanmar border. During the visit, His Majesty the Late king saw the poverty the people facing and the dangers in the border area. In the interest to career development, development of locals' quality of life making them self-sufficient and environmental restoration as well as conservation, Mok Cham Royal Project Development Center, therefore, officially started its work in 1983 by promoting temperate crop cultivation as replacement to shifting cultivation.

Geography

The area is river plains on Kok river banks and surrounded by complex mountains at 480 meters above sea level. The area covers 29,704 Rai or 11,744 acres.

Climate

The area average temperature is 25 °C (77 °F.)

Population

There are more than 2,670 Tai, Tai Lue, Tai Sam, Lahu, Akha, Pgakûuyau, Haw, Lisu, Yao and lowland people residing in 9 villages in the responsible area of the center.

Location

250 Moo 15, Tha Ton Sub-district, Mae Ai District, Chiang Mai 50280
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Mok Cham Royal Project Development Center these days aims to develop and support the local farmers to cultivate vegetables, fruits and mushrooms under Food Safety Standards: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). The supports are also provided for local wisdom preservation such as weaving and Akha embroidery. The objectives of the center include sustainable income generating, farmers' livelihood improvement, and engagement in strengthening individual as well as community. The center has promoted and supported many projects and activities including young farmer development, Cooperative Saving Group, natural resource and environmental conservation, the reforestation project called "Three Forests, Four Benefits", soil & water conservation by Vetiver grass growing, chemical use reduction campaign, and contamination monitoring campaign. The center itself has also been a learning center on highland agriculture for students, farmers and general people who are interested.

Main produces of the Center

Eggplant purple round, eggplant purple long, Japanese pumpkin, white Japanese pumpkin, orange Japanese pumpkin, mini pumpkin, Japanese sweet potato, local pumpkin, baby Pak – Chai, Frillice iceberg lettuce, mango, passion fruit, avocado, red kidney bean and traditional rice variety called E-To



How to travel

The center is 185 km. away from Chiang Mai city. Firstly, take highway 107 (Chiang Mai – Fang) and pass Mae Rim District, Mae Tang District, Chiang Dao District, Chai Prakarn District and Fang District. After that, when arriving Baan Tha Ton, Mae Ai District (at the Bridge crossing Kok River), use highway 1089. Then, turn left at km. 37 and the center entrance can be found.

