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TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF COCONUT
PRODUCERS IN SELECTED UPLAND
TOWNS OF CAVITE

THESIS

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**TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF COCONUT
PRODUCERS IN SELECTED UPLAND
TOWNS OF CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted in selected towns of Cavite to determine the socio-economic characteristics of coconut producers, their level and sources of income; and identify the training needs with regards to the subject matter / particular topics and preferences to the trainings.

A total of one hundred fifty coconut producers from five selected municipalities, namely: Silang, Gen E. Aguinaldo, Amadeo, Alfonso, and Indang was interviewed for the study.

Most of the respondents were males, married and with an average age of 60 years. Majority of the coconut producers had been operating coconut production for an average of 33 years and considered this as main sources of income. Most of the respondents were owners /operators and tenants. The average number of coconut trees of the respondents ranged from 25 to 1,200 with an average of 126 trees. Bearing coconut trees ranged from 6 to 1,200 with an average of 115 trees while the non-bearing coconut trees ranged from 0 to 250 with an average of 126 trees. The annual income of the respondents is categorized into: low, average, high. The average capital of the coconut producers was P55, 740, and most of them were low-income earners.

There were 53 coconut producers who attended trainings on farming. Coconut producers need more training about farming. Based on the topics and preferences

selected, the farmers wanted that a training through lecture demonstration be conducted in their respective barangay/farm in April. The training, they said, should be sponsored by some government agencies.

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TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF COCONUT PRODUCERS IN SELECTED UPLAND TOWNS OF CAVITE ^{1/}

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INTRODUCTION

Poverty is most widespread in the provinces where economic development and government services have only come in trickles. It is ironic because the countryside is rich in natural resources. And this irony prevails more respondingly than any sector in the coconut industry. However, still the coconut farmers belong to the poorest of the poor. Despite the high level of development that the coconut industry attained, the backbone of the industry – the more than two million coconut farmers – continue to live below the poverty line (Escueta, 2000).

Furthermore, with proper use of science and technology, and the convergence of adequate and prompt support of government agencies, especially the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), and the private sector, those idle coconut lands can produce millions of