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IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMS OF THE INSTITUTE FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND ECOLOGICAL
ALTERNATIVES, INC. (IDEAS) ON FARM
PRODUCTIVITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC
CONDITION OF CAVITE FARMERS

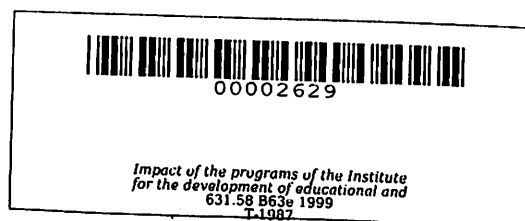
EDWARD A. BOATENG

September 1999

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CONDITION OF CAVITE FARMERS

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ABSTRACT

AMO-BOATENG, EDWARD, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite, September, 1999. Impact of Programs of the Institute for the Development of Educational and Ecological Alternative, Incorporated (IDEAS) on Farm Productivity and Socio-Economic Condition of Cavite Farmers.

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The main objective of the study was to assess the impact of IDEAS intervention program for upland and lowland farmers in Cavite. Specifically, the study aimed to describe the inputs and the processes involved in the IDEAS intervention program; to find out the difference in socio-economic condition, cropping system; farming system technologies and marketing practices adopted by IDEAS intervention program; and ascertain the difference in income of farmer-respondents before and after the IDEAS intervention program.

Forty-three upland farmers and eight lowland farmers from Cavite were interviewed in this study. A t-test was used to determine the difference in socio-economic condition, cropping systems, adoption of different farm and marketing practices and income from crop and animal production before and after the IDEAS implementation.

Data revealed that the respondents were provided with financial, material, human resources and information through trainings and technology assistance by the IDEAS.

The increase in socio-economic conditions of the farmers was observed, however the difference was only significant in ownership of farmland and ownership of homelot.

Some of the marketing practices in upland Cavite showed a significant difference before and after the IDEAS intervention program. These marketing practices are direct selling, personal selling, whole selling and retailing.

Results of the study showed an increasing trend on income of the farmer-respondents in crop production three years after the implementation of the IDEAS intervention program. This increase in income was from P 38,727.45 after a year to P 41,686.06 after three years of the program.

In animal production, income increased from P 42,652.00 in the first year to P 85,929.12 in the third year of program implementation of IDEAS.

The total income on crop and animal production of the farmer-respondents three years after the intervention program of IDEAS was P 90140.08, with a standard deviation of P 23132.32. However, the computed t-test was 2.68 with a probability value of 0.01** which showed highly significant at 1% level.

The difference in average animal income in crop production, animal production and total income of upland and lowland farmers were also highly significant at 1% level of significance.

Lastly, problems encountered by farmer-respondents were mostly on lack of capital, infrastructure and lack of water.

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INTRODUCTION

Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are voluntary non-profit and service-oriented groups. Many NGOs assist farmers in the third world countries to improve farm productivity. Historically, some of the earliest NGOs were associated with independent movements that have been initiated by missionaries or indigenous churches. A number of them have arisen along with the labor unions and peasant organizations in various places of the world.

Some NGOs tend to focus on one or several specialized lines like agriculture, health, education, research, or emergency relief. For instance, the core program of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) is the promotion of farm productivity for the rural farmers in the Philippines (Serrano, 1995).

The Institute for the Development of Educational and Ecological Alternatives, Incorporated (IDEAS), is one of the NGOs that support income generating projects of selected farmers to improve farm productivity in Cavite. The support has been specifically extended to the farmers in the municipalities of Alfonso, Naic, Silang, Dasmariñas and General Trias. IDEAS envisions that every farmer in a society gets the right to adequate land, safe food, education, clothing, shelter, and all other basic necessities for survival and well-being. IDEAS wishes that every farmer in Cavite gets control on productivity resources like, capital resources, human resources, physical resources, natural resources and technology assistance as well. (IDEAS, 1986).

To achieve this mission, IDEAS provided credit/loan assistance (in cash and organic fertilizers) to farmers in Cavite. IDEAS intend to improve the socio-economic and cultural conditions of the farmers through community self-help, community organization, cooperative development, sustainable agriculture as well as promotion and development programs.