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**FARMING PRACTICES OF COFFEE GROWERS IN THE
PROVINCES OF BATANGAS AND CAVITE**

Thesis

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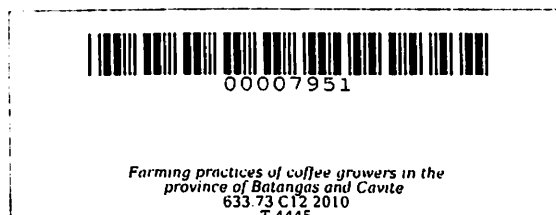
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BATANGAS AND CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

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This study was conducted to determine the extent of grower's adoption of such practices for sustainable agriculture.

Specifically, the study sought: a) the socio-economic characteristics of coffee growers in the provinces of Batangas and Cavite; b) the characteristics of coffee farms; c) the farming practices adopted by coffee growers in terms of their nursery management, soil management, weed management, insect pest management, disease management, harvesting and post harvest practices; d) the growers sources of information concerning coffee production; e) the innovative practices the coffee growers employ to cope with the climate change; f) the significant relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of coffee growers and their farming practices; and g) the problems encountered by growers in coffee production.

Descriptive research design was employed in this study. Interview was used in the gathering information from the respondents.

The list of coffee growers in Batangas and Cavite was identified through the help of the office of the Provincial Agriculture in Batangas and Cavite. Out of the total list of coffee growers, fifty percent was selected through non-probability quota sampling technique.

The statistical measures employed were frequency counts, mean, range, percentages, rank and chi-square test to analyze the relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents and their farming practice.

The findings of the study indicated that the socio-economic characteristics of coffee growers in Batangas and Cavite are related to their farming practices.

However, each of the socio- economic profile of the respondents had different influential factors in terms of their farming practices adopted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
TITLE PAGE.....	i
APPROVAL SHEET.....	ii
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iv
ABSTRACT.....	vi
INTRODUCTION.....	1
Statement of the Problem.....	3
Hypothesis of the Study.....	4
Importance of the Study.....	
Scope and Limitations of the Study.....	
Operational Definition of Terms.....	5
Conceptual Framework.....	9
Research Paradigm.....	10
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	11
METHODOLOGY.....	23
Research Design.....	
Population and Sampling.....	
Locale of the Study.....	24
Research Instrument.....	
Data Gathering Procedure.....	
Statistical Treatment of Data.....	25

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....26

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION.....112

Summary.....

Conclusion.....115

Recommendation.....117

BIBLIOGRAPHY.....118

APPENDICES.....120

FARMING PRACTICES OF COFFEE GROWERS IN THE PROVINCES OF BATANGAS AND CAVITE

Barbie P. Calisaan

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INTRODUCTION

Coffee is considered a high-value crop in both the local and international trade markets. It ranks as one of the top ten agricultural crops in terms of value. The President of the Philippines herself recognized the opportunity for sustainable income brought by the produce when she described it as a long-term crop (Nuguid-Anden, 2003).

Of the five commercially grown coffee bean varieties, Liberica, Arabica, Robusta, Excelsa, and Stenophylla, the Philippines produces three: Liberica or the Kapeng Barko in local tongue; Arabica or Kapeng Tagalog; and the Robusta which is the bean required by large roasters, the likes of Nescafe and Folgers. Liberica stands out from the three as it is grown indigenously in only three Asian countries, the Philippines being one of those. This virtual exclusivity presents an outright opportunity for competitive advantage for the country in the world market; particularly for the speciality coffee niche (Nuguid-Anden, 2003).

However, coffee is the heaviest chemically treated food commodity in the world. The most common chemical used in coffee production is synthetic petroleum based