

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION OF RICE FARMERS IN SELECTED
BARANGAYS IN MARAGONDON, CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

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This study was conducted in seven barangays (Bucal 2, Bucal 3B, Pantihan 1, Pantihan 2, Pantihan 3, Margarita A and Margarita B) of Maragondon, Cavite from January to May 2018. It aimed to describe the socio-economic situation of rice farmers in selected barangays in Maragondon, Cavite in terms of age, gender, educational attainment, number of years engage in farming, monthly income, number of family member and tenure status. Specifically, this aimed to determine the knowledge of rice farmers in terms of methods of rice farmers, attitudes and techniques of rice farmers in farming production; and it aimed to determine the problem encountered by the rice farmers in terms of financial, calamities, ways of farming and the suggested program or activity for the rice farmers to improve their present condition.

Slovin's formula with a margin error of 0.10 and cluster sampling were for the sampling technique. The researcher had a sample population of 71 participants from the seven barangays (Bucal 2, Bucal 3B, Pantihan 1, Pantihan 2, Pantihan 3, Margarita A and Margarita B) of Maragondon, Cavite. A survey questionnaire was used as a tool in data-gathering. The study made use of frequency and percentage in describing the socio-demographic profile of the participants, and knowing the knowledge of rice farmers in terms of methods attitudes and techniques. To support the study, a focus group discussion (FDG) was used to determine the rice farmers' knowledge in terms of methods, attitudes and techniques.

The result showed that most of the participants belonged to a legal age 23 to 70 years old. It was also revealed that the suggested program and activities are skills training for the adaption of new technology to improve the farmers' capability to cope with the changes of modern technology for farming production.

This study identified the socio-economic situation of the rice farmers and proposed a social work intervention program for the rice farmers not only for their business but also for the environment. The social condition in the lives of the rice farmers especially in their socio-economic status through the means of providing sustainable programs like "Farm Machinery Rice Farming and Operation and Safety and Diversified Rice Farming through Payamanan System". The plan that the researcher did can be a basis for the social work intervention program for the rice farmers.

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