

第46回 食料環境経済学セミナー
博士論文公開発表会

**Improvement of Thai Farmers' Livelihood through
Alternative Rice Farming: A Case Study of Japonica Rice in
the Northern Thailand**

代替稲作によるタイ農民の生計向上
—北部のジャポニカ米生産の事例研究—

At present, the government and private sectors have encouraged farmers to cultivate top-quality rice or alternative rice in order to increase farmers' income. The majority of alternative rice cultivation is handled by rice mills, which is produced through contract farming (CF) systems. Japonica rice in the northern Thailand, especially Chiang Rai Province was selected as alternative rice for studying. This study aims to investigate the farmers' benefit from current production and marketing of Thailand's Japonica rice (THJR). This research selected rice mills, Japonica rice growers, officers of Chiang Rai Rice Research Center, distributors, retailers, managers of Japanese restaurants and Thai consumers as the respondents for in-depth interviewing. The results found that farmers obtained a high contract price and yield of paddy from Japonica rice production through CF systems, thereby increasing their income. In addition, the system had an assured market for paddy of contract farmers. Moreover, domestic consumption of Japonica rice still grow continuously, and Thai consumers indicated that THJR can be a good alternative rice for domestic consumption comparing with imported Japonica rice. Therefore, selecting Japonica rice cultivation make more benefit for farmers in selected research sites.

日時: 2017年 1月20日(金) 13:00~
場所: 生物圏科学研究科C314

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