

Angkhang Royal Agricultural Station

Background

Angkhang Royal Agricultural Station is the first royal research station which started its work in 1969 at Mae Ngon Sub-district, Fang District, Chiang Mai Province. His Majesty the Late King gave 1,500 Bht of His Majesty personal money to buy a piece of land in Angkhang area and to build the research station for temperate crop cultivation. Therefore, the local farmers could cultivate temperate crops as replacement to opium poppy.



General information

Geography

The area is a basin surrounded by steep mountains composing of shale and limestone. The highest peak is 1,920 meters above sea level. The center is at 1,400 meters above sea level with cold climate all year round. The area covers more than 20,213 Rai or 7,991 acres.

Climate

The average temperature of the area is 17.7 °C or 63.8 °F.

Population

More than 6,551 Lahu, Haw, Tai and Dara - ang live in 9 villages.

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Angkhang Royal Agricultural Station these days works on temperate crop variety selection and improvement. Moreover, it produces and develops products from the filed demonstration plots in the station. The supports are provided for career development among hill tribe farmers to meet Food Safety Standards like Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Organic Thailand Standard of Department of Agriculture as well as Organic Agriculture Certification Thailand in order to generate sustainable income and improve their livelihood. The station also supports community engagement in natural resource and environmental conservation, reforestation project known as “Three Forests, Four Benefits”, Vetiver grass growing to reduce soil erosion, livelihood improvement, community as well as individual strength, hygiene and environment improvement

in hill tribe communities, hill tribe handicraft preservation and the establishment of Agricultural Cooperative Group as well as Saving Group. The station itself has been a highland agricultural learning center for students, farmers and others who are interested, as well.

Main produces of the center

Peach, persimmon, Japanese apricot, kiwi, avocado, strawberry, Arabica coffee, Chinese tea, organic vegetable, Rose, Calla Lilly, potted plants and Portobello mushroom.

How to travel

1st Route: Take highway 107 (Chiang Mai - Fang). When arriving km.79 of Chiang Dao District, take a left turn at the intersection. Drive passing Muang Ngay Sub-district, Baan Arunothai and Baan Luang, the center can be found. The road is quite narrow but not too steep. The personal vehicle can be used in this trip. However, there is not any mobile signal along the way. Therefore, morning or afternoon trip is recommended for safety and convenience for communication when having problem.

2nd Route: Follow the same road as mention in 1st route but do not turn left at the intersection. Instead, drive along the road until arriving km. 137 (the second route in the map). This route is the main road usually used by travelers. When arriving the entrance of Doi Angkhang, the sign can be seen in the left. Then, turn left and continue driving. Because the road is steep and curvy, driving must be done carefully or taking a taxi at the entrance is recommended.

Public transportation

Take Chiang Mai - Fang bus or van at Chang Peuk Bus Station. You will be dropped off in front of Wat Han Samran (Km. 137). After that, take a pickup truck - taxi to Doi Angkhang. The contact number of the taxi is 053-884848 /086-1947484 (Khun Som).

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