

Nong Hoi Royal Project Development Center.

Background

In 1969, His Majesty the Late King visited people living in Nong Hoi Kao Village. At that time, the villagers made a living by opium poppy cultivation and practiced shifting cultivation. Thus, His Majesty the Late King initiated career development for the villagers. Royal Forest Department officers collaborating with Hill Tribe Welfare and Development Center



worked on the village development. However, the number of people moving to the village and opium poppy cultivation were increasing.

Nong Hoi Royal Project Development Center was set up in 1984 when His Majesty the Late King paid another visit to the village with the aims to replace poppy cultivation with temperate crop cultivation, improve life quality of locals to enable self-sufficiency among them, and restore and conserve the environment.

General information

Geography

The village is located in steep mountainous area covering 11,883 Rai (4,694 acres) at 850 – 1,300 meters above sea level.

Climate

The average temperature is 21 °C (69.8 °F).

Population

More than 3,470 Hmong, Lisu, Haw and lowland people live in 5 villages.

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Nowadays, Nong Hoi Royal Project Development Center has developed and passed on agricultural technologies to local farmers. Based on Food Safety Standards: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and organic system, the center has set up field demonstration plots of several crops and supported temperate crop cultivation for local farmers in 5 villages: Baan Nong Hoi

Gao, Baan Nong Hoi Mai, Baan Mae Ki – Pang Hai, Baan Sam Lung and Baan Huay Wai to create sustainable income and good life quality.

Furthermore, the center supports the community engagement for each individual's and community's strength, reforestation project known as "Three, Forests, Four Benefits", soil and water conservation by Vetiver grass growing, chemical use reduction campaign, and environmental contamination monitoring campaign. The center itself also becomes a learning center on highland agriculture for students, farmers and others who are interested.

Main produces of the Center

Chinese Cabbage Pe-tsai, Lettuce Ice Berg, Cabbage, Kailaan, Radicchio, Celery, Chinese Cabbage Michilli, Chayote, Chinese Mustard, strawberry, Raspberry fresh, Mulberry, Cape Gooseberry, Grape Black Seedless, Plum, Passion Fruit and Avocado.

How to travel

The center is 39 km. from Chiang Mai city. First take highway 107 (Chiang Mai – Fang) passing Mae Rim District Office. When arriving km. 17, take a left turn into highway 1096 (Mae Rim – Sa Meung) and keep going straight. When seeing the center sign on the right hand side at km. 15 (Baan Pong intersection), turn right and keep going for another 6 km. With good condition highway, any car can be used in this trip. A Sa-Moeng Nua – Chiang Mai bus can also be taken as it passes the center entrance.

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Baan Nong Hoi Kao Moo 7, Mae Ram Sub-district, Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai 50180

Email: nonghoypf@gmail.com