PATTERNS AND FACTORS AFFECTING MIGRATION
OF MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS

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Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
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ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation  Patterns and Factors Affecting Migration of Members of Agricultural Households
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The objectives of this research are as follows: 1) to compare regional differences in migration pattern of agricultural households in 1990 and the year 2000, consisting of Bangkok, the North, the Central Region, the Northeast and the South, 2) to investigate changes in the migration pattern of agricultural households based on National Census and Housing in 1990 and the year 2000, and 3) to find out household and personal factors affecting migration of agricultural households.

The study is composed of two main parts. The first part is based on secondary data from the above-mentioned national census and housing years to answer the first two objectives. Only agricultural households were selected for analysis by using descriptive statistics. The second part is based on field surveys to find out household and personal factors affecting migration of agricultural households. Data is gathered from 1,223 agricultural households in Bangkok, the North, the Northeast, the Central Region and the South. Descriptive statistics was used for data analysis to describe characteristics of the sample group, and multivariate analysis, consisting of logistic regression analysis and hierarchical regression analysis, was used to find out factors affecting migration to answer the last objective.

It was found, in terms of differences in migration pattern (five years prior to the national censuses), that in the year 2000 there had been a considerable decline in the number of migrants from that in 1990, and that most agricultural household members made intra-regional migration. The need to follow household members was the main reason for migration in almost every region, in both years, except Bangkok,
where employment seeking. However, it was found that in the year 2000 migration due to employment seeking had been on the increase in the Central Region, the North and the South, while migration for this reason had been on the decrease in Bangkok and the Northeast.

Regarding changes in migration pattern of agricultural households, it was found that the overall nationwide picture of migration pattern in the year 2000 did not differ from that in 1990. That is to say there were more male than female migrants, and, in terms of region, there were also more male than female migrants in every region. Those belonging to the age group of 15-39 took the largest percentage of migration, and there were more of those migrants who were married and still lived together than those who were single and widowed. Most migrants finished primary education. The need to follow household members was the main reason for domestic migration, followed by employment seeking, while employment seeking was the main reason for international migration, followed by the need to follow household members. The migration pattern was the same in every region, including Bangkok. What differed was the number of migrants of each type. As regards factors affecting migration of agricultural households, logistic regression analysis showed that personal attributes consisting of sex, age, education, marital status, income, occupation, the number of children, relationship to household head and region could predict migration correctly. Among them, the relationship to the household head was the sole factor that had a statistically significant effect on migration. As to factors affecting migration ratio as dependent variable, using hierarchical regression analysis, it was found that personal attributes were the factors that had a greater effect on migration than factors at household level and factors pertaining to information reception.
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