

RIS rice plantation experiment in Pek is successful

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(KPL) The experiment of rice planting by the rice intensification system (RIS) methodology in Pek district, Xiengkhouang province, is successful, said an official.



The Agriculture and Forestry Service of Xiengkhouang province in cooperation with the Sustainable Agriculture Development Association conducted an experiment on rice plantation with RIS methodology in the previous monsoon season. The experiment was conducted on slightly over 1,000 ha of rice fields by nine families in Pek district and 12 kg of rice grains were cultivated on the fields.

“Through applying the RIS techniques, on average, we could harvest 5.4 tonnes of rice

per ha and one cluster of rice seedlings could grow to 28-32 shoots with an average height of 13 cm and each stalk has 230 grains including only eight malformed grains,” said Head of the Agriculture and Forestry Service of Xiengkhouang province, Mr. Bounleuth Phommachak.

Mr. Bounleuth said that by applying the new technique the rice crop could be harvested in 145 days after it is planted and this plantation technique was more beneficial than those traditional techniques.

Learning the successful experiment on RIS rice plantation, the relevant parties have decided to extend the experiment to six other villages in the district and 52 families have been selected to participate in the experiment.

The new experiment on over 3,000 ha is expected to use 45 kg of rice grains. Agriculture officials in this northern province said that if the new experiment was successful they would expand the experiment to all the villages in the district and other districts in the province.

The Agriculture and Forestry Office of Pek district on June 4 organised a meeting to evaluate the experiment on RIS rice plantation in the previous raining season. Present at the meeting were Pek district chief, Mrs. Boualy Oudomsouk, and representatives of relevant organisations and local authorities and farmers.

Source: KPL Lao News Agency
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