

# THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY

## Master of Science Program in Organic Farming Management

### (New Program)

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#### 1. Program Name

Master of Science Program in Organic Farming Management

#### 2. Degree

Master of Science (Organic Farming Management)

M.Sc. (Organic Farming Management)

#### 3. Organized by

Faculty of Science and Technology, Thammasat University

#### 4. Objectives

The program objectives are :

- 4.1 To provide advance knowledge in organic farming as well as posses high potential to study organic farming in higher level for students.
- 4.2 To encourage research skills for students by carrying out qualified researches in organic farming and relevant fields.
- 4.3 To accomplish collaborations of academicians in various areas which leads to academic development.

#### 5. Effective Academic Year

Academic year 2009 (First Semester June 2009)

#### 6. Applicants' Qualifications

Program A1 (For thesis only): The applicants must hold at least a Bachelor's degree in any branches with minimum score of 2.50, and must have at least 2 year research experience in any fields or at least 2 year in agricultural career.

Program A2 (For course work and thesis): The applicants must hold at least a Bachelor's degree in any branches with minimum score of 2.50.

#### 7. Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet all requirements of Thammasat University's Regulations for Graduate Studies B.E.1998

#### 8. Academic System

- 8.1 The program operates on the regular academic system with 2 semesters.
- 8.2 Students in Program A1 are required to take 39 credits of thesis.

8.3 Students in Program A2 are required to take the coursework at least 39 credits (15 credits of compulsory courses, at least 12 credits of elective courses and 12 credits for Thesis) and passed comprehensive examination.

#### 8.4 Comprehensive and Thesis Examination

Students would take credits for thesis after registered required courses and elective courses at least 15 credits, having a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.00 and pass comprehensive exam already.

The process of preparing the thesis and thesis examination, students must follow Thammasat University's Regulations concerning thesis writing and the Regulations for Graduate Studies.

#### 8.5 Foreign language.

Student must receive a grade of P for foreign language examination prior to taking the Thesis defense, or TU-GET at least 550 scores.

### 9. Period of Study

Degree must be completed in a period of not more than 8 semesters from the students' initial registration in the Master of Science Program.

### 10. Registration

Students are allowed to register at least 6 credits but not more than 12 credits per semesters.

### 11. Academic Performance Evaluation and Graduation

#### 11.1 Grading System

11.1.1 Academic Performance is evaluated as follows :

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
Grade Point	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.00	0

11.1.2 The number of credits that can be counted toward the degree must be based on the courses for which students receive a grade of S or at least C.

11.1.3 A thesis is evaluated by the grades S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory).

11.1.4 The foreign examination and comprehension examination are graded P for pass and N for failure without grade point.

#### 11.2 Graduation

Requirements for a student to graduate from the program

11.2.1 student must have passed all required coursework with the total number of credits of not less than that specified in the curriculum and a cumulative grade-point average of not less than 3.00

11.2.2 student must have received S for the thesis.

11.2.3 student must have received P for comprehensive examination and foreign examination.

11.2.4 The thesis research output must be published in scientific journals or in proceeding of scientific conference.

### 13. Numbers of Students

15 students per year

### 14. Venue and Facilities

Lecture and laboratory practices are mainly conducted at Faculty of Science and Technology, Thammasat University. Other academic and research institute in related areas are also used for practical training and conducting research projects.

### 15. Library

Books, Articles and Research journal and online databases are provided by Thammasat's Rangsit campus.

### 16. Budget

This program is self-supporting. Tuition and fees are approximately 150,000 bahts per year.

### 17. Program of Study

#### 17.1 Credit gained for the whole program

17.1.1 Program A1 has a research work only, total credits is 39 credits

17.1.2 Program A2 has both course and research work, total credits is 39 credits

#### 17.2 Program Structure

Course	Program A1	Program A2
Compulsory	-	15
Elective	-	12
Thesis	39	12
Total	39	39

#### 17.3 Code and Courses in Program A1

##### 17.3.1 Courses in Program A1

Code	Course	Credits
		(Lecture-Practical-Self-Study)
OM800	Thesis	<u>39</u>

According to this program, students have to register the following courses with only "P" or pass shown in their transcript: OM640, OM641, OM646, and OM647

### 17.3.2 Detail Course in Program A1

#### Thesis

OM800 Thesis 12 credits

Students do research and writing up their thesis on organic farming aspects under the suggestion of supervisor.

### 17.4 Code and Courses in Program A2

#### 17.4.1 Courses in Program A2

##### 17.4.1.1 Compulsory Courses

Code	Course	Credits
(Lecture-Practical-Self-Study)		
<b>Group 1: Technology and Organic Farming System</b>		
OM600	Ecosystem in Organic Farming	3 (3-0-9)
OM601	Production Process of Organic Products	3 (3-0-9)
<b>Group 2: Marketing and Entrepreneurship</b>		
OM610	Business Management for Organic Farming	3 (3-0-9)
<b>Group 3: Local Wisdom and Self Alliances</b>		
OM620	Dynamics of Agricultural Sector in Thai Societal Context	3 (3-0-9)
<b>Group 4: Skill and Experience Development</b>		
OM640	Seminar in Organic Farming Management 1	1 (1-0-3)
OM641	Seminar in Organic Farming Management 2	1 (1-0-3)
OM740	Selected Topic in Organic Farming Management	1 (1-0-3)

##### 17.4.1.2 Elective Courses

Code	Course	Credits
(Lecture-Practical-Self-Study)		
<b>Group 1: Technology and Organic Farming System</b>		
OM606	Sustainable Management of Organic Farming System	3 (3-0-9)
OM607	Post Harvest Technology for Organic Farming	3 (2-3-6)
OM608	Organic Product Processing	3 (2-3-6)
OM609	Analytical Techniques in Organic Farming	3 (2-3-6)
<b>Group 2: Marketing and Entrepreneurship</b>		
OM616	Market Research in Organic Farming Business	3 (3-0-9)
OM617	Marketing Strategy in Organic Farming Business	3 (3-0-9)
OM618	Organic Farming Entrepreneurship	3 (3-0-9)

**Group 3: Local Wisdom and Self Alliances**

OM626	Quality of Life and Moral in Thai Rural Sector	3 (3-0-9)
OM627	Local Wisdom and Knowledge Management	3 (3-0-9)
OM628	Sufficiency Economy and Sustainable Development	3 (3-0-9)

**Group 4: Skill and Experience Development**

OM646	Independent Study	3 (0-9-3)
OM647	Research Methodology for Organic Farming	3 (3-0-9)
OM746	Field Study	3 (0-9-0)

**Group 5: Subjects related to other field**

To support students the knowledge in the other fields that is necessary for their thesis, students can choose more than 27 elective courses from 6 departments. They are department of Rural Development, Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology, Agricultural Technology, Food Sciences and Technology, and Chemistry.

**17.4.1.3 Thesis**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Credits</b>
		(Lecture-Practical-Self-Study)
OM800	Thesis	12 credits

Students do research and writing up their thesis on organic farming aspects under the suggestion of supervisor.

**17.4.2 Detail Course in Program A2****Compulsory Courses****Group 1: Technology and Organic Farming System****OM600 Ecosystem in Organic Farming 3 credits**

Study of both living and non-living things in organic Farming ecosystem and their relationship; mass and energy circulation in the system; management of factors that have an effect on the balance and sustainability of organic farming ecosystem; behavior, changing process and development of factors within organic farming ecosystem. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 3 hours per week)

**OM601 Production Process of Organic Products 3 credits**

Study of organic farming principles, soil management, water management, pest management, plant breeding and management of environmental factors. This course also provides animal production technology using organic farming technique and management following the new theory agricultural system. Post Harvest technology and organic food processing, case study, and industrial visit are also included.

(Lecture 3 hours per week)

## **Group 2: Marketing and Entrepreneurship**

### **OM610 Business Management for Organic Farming**

**3 credits**

Study of business administration principles and business ethics in organic farming business; consumer behavior; marketing strategy; marketing plan in organic farming; organic farming production; market research and development; marketing and capital analysis. This course also includes internal and international market of organic products, rules and legislation, effects of social and environmental factors on organic business. Case study is also included in this course. (Lecture 3 hours per week)

## **Group 3: Local Wisdom and Self Alliances**

### **OM620 Dynamics of Agricultural Sector in Thai Societal Context**

**3 credits**

Study of dynamics of agricultural sector in Thai societal context in both structural and theoretical sides such as economic, societal, political, and role of man and woman aspects. Study of internal and external effects on agricultural sector transformation; investigation on people, community, and society relationship; and analyzing case study are also included in this course.

(Lecture 3 hours per week)

## **Group 4: Skill and Experience Development**

### **OM640 Seminar in Organic Farming Management 1**

**1 credit**

Students collect and present an interesting topic in organic farming by emphasizing on technology and organic farming system.

(Lecture 1 hour per week)

### **OM641 Seminar in Organic Farming Management 2**

**1 credit**

Students collect and present an interesting topic in organic farming by emphasizing on marketing and entrepreneurship including local wisdom and self alliance.

(Lecture 1 hour per week)

### **OM740 Selected Topic in Organic Farming Management**

**1 credit**

Students identify problem or interesting topics which related to a current organic farming system. The selected topic should be related to students' thesis.

(Lecture 1 hour per week)

## **Elective Courses**

### **Group 1: Technology and Organic Farming System**

#### **OM606 Sustainable Management of Organic Farming System**

**3 credits**

Study of the factors of organic farming system such as the role and relationship that leads to the sustainable organic farming system. Standardization system of organic farming system both in Thailand and abroad is also included. This course has an industrial visit.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

**OM607 Post Harvest Technology for Organic Farming****3 credits**

Study of post harvest technology which related to organic farming products such as products lost by harvesting process and how to prevent, biochemical and physiological change of organic farming products by harvesting process, raw materials preparation and storage technology under the controlled condition. Logistics and quality assurance are also included. This course has an industrial visit.

(Lecture 2 hour per week and Practical 3 hour per week)

**OM608 Organic Product Processing****3 credits**

Study of processing technology of organic product, packaging technology, packaging technology development from local wisdom, storing period evaluation, evaluation and quality control of organic product, and logistics. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 2 hour per week and Practical 3 hour per week)

**OM609 Analytical techniques in Organic Farming****3 credits**

Study of both qualitative and quantitative analytical methods for measuring soil contents, heavy metal, organic matter composition, water quality, weed and pest controlling agents following the organic farming standard. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 2 hour per week and Practical 3 hour per week)

**Group 2: Marketing and Entrepreneurship****OM616 Market Research in Organic Farming Business****3 credits**

Study of the role and importance of marketing research on organic farming, method and process on marketing research, tools used in marketing research, writing a marketing plan which covers customer behavior, competitive condition by emphasizing on skill and experience, planning of marketing mix. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

**OM617 Marketing Strategy in Organic Farming Business****3 credits**

Study of marketing strategy and policy which emphasizes on criticizing marketing strategy and policy to develop skill and experience on marketing strategy development. Study of the process of drafting marketing strategy and policy, monitoring and evaluating the policy using case study and marketing simulation. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

**OM618 Organic Farming Entrepreneurship****3 credits**

Study of the organic farming industry in Thailand and abroad, techniques used in increasing competitive advantage or commercial value. Source of fund, writing the business plan, financial plan, production plan, marketing plan, administrative plan, case study and industrial visit are also included in this study.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

### **Group 3: Local Wisdom and Self Alliances**

#### **OM626 Quality of Life and Moral in Thai Rural Sector**

**3 credits**

Study of background and lifestyle of Thai farmers in the past and present using method related to the Buddhist way, their social behavior, an influence of the society on learning process. Environmental change and geographical characteristic which related to the establishment of agricultural area and the change of Thai farmer's quality of life are also studied. Rural development philosophy, case study, and industrial visit are also included.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

#### **OM627 Local Wisdom and Knowledge Management**

**3 credits**

Study of social and cultural capital of rural community, comparing amongst different regions in organic farming context. Study of background of local wisdom in each region, and its effect on changing quality of life of people in the community. Industrial visit is also included.

(Lecture 3 hour per week)

#### **OM628 Sufficiency Economy and Sustainable Development**

**3 credits**

Study of the meaning of sufficient economy principle and its application on organic farming society. Comparing the sustainable development between agricultural society development in the past and in globalization period. Study of development from people initiation and good governance principles. Case studies are also included.

(Lecture 3 hours per week)

### **Group 4: Skill and Experience Development**

#### **OM646 Independent Study**

**3 credits**

Study of collecting data, both theory and practical, from the field, discussing with experts, people from public and private sectors, and from community to generate idea for setting the problem for thesis. Industrial visit is also included.

(Practical not less than 9 hours per week)

#### **OM647 Research Methodology for Organic Farming**

**3 credits**

Study of research development process in both theory and practical, emphasizing on scientific research. Study of setting problem, hypothesis, and experimental design. Data analysis using commercial program is also included.

(Lecture 3 hours per week)

#### **OM746 Field Study**

**3 credits**

Study of practical and field seminar to add up the knowledge gained in the lecture room. To study with experts from public, private, and people in community.

(Practical not less than 9 hours per week)

## **Thesis**

### **OM800 Thesis**

**39 / 12 credits**

Students do research and writing up their thesis on organic farming aspects under the suggestion of supervisor.

## **18. Quality Assurance**

According to the code of Thammasat University, the program has already set the quality assurance system, where its activities are as followed:

- 18.1 To establish a program committee to monitor an academic activity and to maintain that quality at a required level.
- 18.2 Faculty permanent committee will monitor and approve the role and activity of the committee mentioned in 18.1.
- 18.3 The program of study has been organized under the code of conduct announced by the Commission on Higher Education and Thammasat University Council.
- 18.4 For high quality of education, the program committee will select the people with appropriate background and experience to do lecture or demonstrate all courses provided.
- 18.5 Both students and lecturers will be evaluated every semesters, the results of their evaluation will be used as a guide for improving academic quality.

## **19. Curriculum Improvement**

The program will be revised and improved every 5 years.