

# Skill exchange on Essential Oil Small-Scale Production and Equipment Course



*Venue:*  
**Wanakaset, Sanam Chaikhet,  
Chachoengsao, Thailand**

*Date:*  
**November 20-23, 2017**



**K**nowledge exchange as one of the core purpose of agricultural biodiversity community (abc) as promoters and members of abc believe that some of the main constraints to releasing agricultural biodiversity's potential to strengthen smallholder livelihoods and their environments are:

- 1) Lack of understanding of factors driving change and transformation in agricultural systems.
- 2) Inadequate recovery, adaptation, transfer, and internalization of knowledge relevant to smallholder livelihoods.
- 3) Lack of analysis of external barriers to transformation and ways to influence them.

Given the fact that most of the members of abc are practitioners and have gained tacit knowledge on agricultural biodiversity interventions with smallholders and women, through many years of practice, it is expected that semi-structured knowledge exchange will help in mutually enriching gain of knowledge for practice. Further, one of the niches and opportunities agreed upon by abc in its past is enhancing exchange between traditional, practitioners', and scientific knowledge systems.

Scaling up of agricultural biodiversity interventions at the grassroots level demands skill building at different levels of implementation. abc plans to undertake skill exchange among its members, particularly on proven agriculture biodiversity interventions within the region and outside the region, with the focus on smallholders and women farmers. The various

mechanisms / formats for skill exchange on a particular agricultural biodiversity theme would include i) regional and/or international advanced reflective thematic capacity building programs led by pioneering member organisations, ii) onsite capacity building by an expert from another member organization and iii) road shows for immersion and skill development. Exchange of farmers and field staff between the working areas of members for a short period for acquiring skills on specific interventions.



## The program

Essential Oil- Small-scale production and equipment course

Languages Thai and English



## Objective of the programme

- ◆ To equip skill and knowledge of the participants on essential oil production at small scale
- ◆ To impart knowledge of different uses and products from the plants
- ◆ Encourage the participants to start local units of essential oil production to enhance the profit for farmers

Key Instructor, wanakaset farmer member and regular distiller Yai will explain about his 3 different sets of distillation equipment and those joining will go through the whole process from material preparation to distillation for 3 very different materials,

Planned materials are - Plai (cassumamar ginger), Citronella, and Chinese Cinnamon

## Intended Schedule

**Day 1 (20 Nov)** Participants to arrive to Wanakaset by late afternoon. (2 hours from Bangkok roughly) Dinner and get to know each other.

**Day 2- (21 Nov)** See, study, discuss equipment- different models (3 models of different sizes) Afternoon- prep materials and equipment. Plan is to work with 3 very different materials that we can source local. Plai (cassumamar ginger), Citronella, and Chinese Cinnamon

Start boiling distillation of unit 1- led by expert with clear step by step explanation. This unit will operate and need monitoring throughout night- but can be just visited periodically- and still continue next day.

**Day 3 (22 Nov)** morning- Participants in 2 small teams- lead start up and operation of units 2 and 3 (under expert guidance) but must take responsibility for process. Operation should continue until morning of Day 4

**Day 4 (23 Nov)** morning - all distillation should end- now look. learn and discuss products - essential oil, distilled herbal waters and their bottling, uses, values, etc.

Discuss practices, answer questions, share contacts for continuing learning and collaboration. Share small amounts of products with each participant.

Evaluation and conclusion (by 3 pm)

### **Participants**

Farming community and persons working directly with farmers and interested people on herbal products can able to understand and communicate in English.

### **Course fee**

Cost 6500 THB or 200 USD per person- include food, simple lodging, preparations, instruction, and interpretation from afternoon of 20th to afternoon of 23rd. For abc members there is no registration fee. ABC would like to sanction fund for the participants for event like local cost of food and lodging for 10 participants (80 USD/person) and cost for organising and interpreting for the organiser (600 USD). The suggested members for the skill exchange program are two from INHERE, Three from DHAN Foundation and five from any abc members (Bhutan/any other country). The participants have to come to the event by own cost of their respective organisation.

*For further information, please contact*

**Michael Commons**

**GreenNet**

**michael@greennet.or.th**

**R. Adhinarayanan**

*Secretary,*

*agricultural biodiversity community*

**aadhi@dhan.org, dhanfoundation@dhan.org**