

Jeerawat Jitprom 2018: Cost and benefit analysis for farmer's decision making toward hiring or buying sugarcane harvester in Kamphaeng phet Province Master of Science (Agribusiness), Major Field: Agribusiness, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Independent Study Advisor: Assistant Professor Thanaporn Athipanyakul, Ph.D. 90 pages

The objective of this study was to compare harvesting cost and benefit between two scenarios: hiring sugarcane harvester and buying sugarcane harvester. The study was conducted in Kamphaeng-phet Province. A purposive sampling was applied with the collection of 10 sugarcane farmers who have used sugarcane harvesters, and have a sugarcane contract farming with a sugar miller in year 2016/17.

There were two harvesting methods, manual cutting and mechanical cutting. With the manual method, pre-harvest buring sugarcane was carried out by farmers. Farmers will use either a 10-wheel truck or a trailer for the transportation. The average harvesting and transportation costs were 316.43 and 247.53 THB/ton respectively. By using a middle size of imported sugarcane harvester and transporting by a trailer, the harvesting and transportation costs were 222.12 THB/ ton, and the net benefit was 1,598,500 THB/year. Here, farmers can harvest the total of 12,300 tons of sugarcane. On the otherhand, hasvesting by large mechanical harvester and transporting by a trainler, the average cost was 367.83 THB/ ton. Here, only 9,300 tons of sugarcane was harvested, and the net benefit was (165,815) THB/year. Therefore, if a farmer has less than 10,000 tons of harvested sugarcane, he should not buy a sugarcane harvester.

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Student's signature

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Independent Study

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