

A Demonstration of land System Study techniques at Sakaerat Experimental Site

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ABSTRACT

After conducting a three-day seminar on integrated land resources surveys according to the land system method, held at the Applied Scientific Research Cooperation of Thailand in March 1968, and attended by interested persons from various Thai Government agencies, the authors conducted a workshop with a group of five Thai participants, to demonstrate photo interpretation and field sampling techniques as used during similar work in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. Two days were spent at ASRCT to carry out the preliminary mapping of "land system" and vegetation patterns on 1:40,000 aerial photographs for an area of about 1200 km², centered upon the Sakaerat experimental site, about 60 km SW. of Nakhonratchasima. During three days of field work soil and vegetation observations were made at 25 sites in most of the "land system" patterns, and some of the vegetation types recognized on the air photos. The authors then spent two days at ASRCT to carry out the final mapping and description of the "land system" patterns.

The boundaries of the patterns were transferred by eye from the aerial photographs photo contoured 1:50,000 topographical map. This was converted into the accompanying map (Figure 1) at 1:250,000, the normal scale of working for this kind of reconnaissance survey, with the guidance of Col. Joe Castelli of the Resources Inventory Group at ASRCT. The aerial photographs with the photo interpretation boundaries of the "land system" patterns and vegetation types are on file in this group.