



**University of Natural Resources
and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna**
Department of Economic and Social
Sciences

Academic cooperation between Thammasat and BOKU

Activity Report: March - May 2005

Field work for the master thesis of Birgit Roitner-Schobesberger Bangkok, March – May 2005

Consumer survey in Supermarkets on
“Consumer perception of organic food products in Bangkok”



Interviewing a consumer in a supermarket



Discussing the interviewing procedures

Ten students from Thammasat University come to Austria to learn about organic farming



Arrival at Schwechat Airport on April 2nd, with Dr. Helmut Götz



Sightseeing in Vienna (monument to Strauß and monument to Mozart)

Austrian WWOOF farms selected by Thammasat Students

Supamas Wuthichat

- April: Mr. and Mrs. Schmitsberger, Upper Austria
- May: Mr. and Mrs. Anzberger, Lower Austria

Danupon Sittichai

Parkpoom Siripattrawan

- April: Mr. and Mrs. Niel, Lower Austria
- April: Mr. and Mrs. Mederos, Burgenland
- May: Mr. and Mrs. Anzberger, Lower Austria

Sirikunya Loakunnasombat

Panida Choungtaisong

- April: Mr. and Mrs. Mörtz, Lower Austria
- May: Mr. and Mrs. Schardax, Upper Austria

Aonicha Muangkram

Benjaporn Bumrerrask

- April: Mr. and Mrs. Vogt, Lower Austria
- May: Mrs. Kofinger, Upper Austria

Usanee Prachumchit

- April: Mr. and Mrs. Grevel, Upper Austria
- April: Mrs. Felitsch, Upper Austria
- April: Mr. and Mrs. Woldrich, Upper Austria
- May: Mr. and Mrs. Pfister, Salzburg

Sirilak Sattayalekha

Usana Nanthawan

- April and May: Mr. and Mrs. Grabenhofer, Styria
(organized by Dr. Götz)

Helping on Austrian WWOOF farms in April and May 2005



Preparing dough for bread baking



Working in the vegetable garden



Milking a goat



Helping when shearing a sheep



Learning how to ride a horse



Experiencing snow



Lunch with the host family



Visiting a park with the host family

Schedule of Dr. Niparat and Prof. Kasidit

Kalender						Mai 2005
Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag	Sa/So	
25. April	26	27	28	29	30	
					1. Mai	
Arrival: Dr. Niparat (5:25)	2	3	4	5	6	
			PUBLIC HOLIDAY		8	
9	10	Organic land use and livelihood systems in tropical and sub-tropical Regions (933.319 VS), Michael Hauser			13	
		SR04 13:00 – 17:00	SR05 9:00 – 17:00	SR04 9:00 – 13:00	14	
16	17	18	19	20	21	
PUBLIC HOLIDAY		Arrival: Prof. Kasidit (5:00)		Field Trip: Organic farming Fri. 12:00 - Sat. 19:00		
		FT.: Farm Management and Animal production Wed. 7:00 - Thur. 18:00			22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
Facilitating organic farming in tropical and subtropical regions (933.320 VS), Michael Hauser			PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Farewell party 15:00 – 18:30	29	
13:00 - 17:00	9:00 - 17:00	9:00 – 17:00		Debriefing Workshop 19:00 - 22:00		
30	31	1. Juni	2	3	4	
Departure for BKK 13:30 Students + Prof. Kasidit 23:30 Dr. Niparat					5	

Field Trip Animal Production II 6 and 7 May 2005, Styria

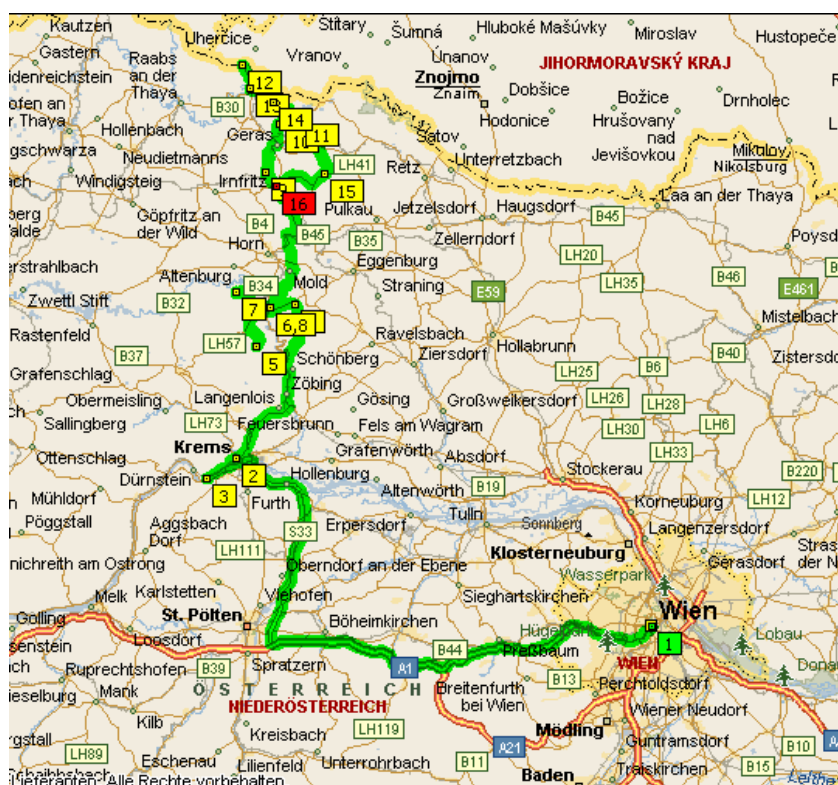
Day	km, h	Dept.	Arriv.	Farm, Meals
Fri.			7:00	▪ Departure BOKU
6.5.05	185, 2:15	9:30	11:00	▪ Free range chicken fattening Betrieb Pscheidt Ruppert (Christian), 8063 Purgstall bei Eggersdorf, Panoramastraße 24, 0664-260 48 34, 03117-3330;
	30, 0:43	11:45	13:15	▪ Lunch Buschenschank Fam. Ehrendörfer, 8330 Auersbach, „Steirerhendl“
	31, 0:50	14:15	15:45	▪ Piglet production (M-Styria Programm) M-S Schweinezucht GmbH, 8093 St. Peter/Ottersbach, Perbersdorf 117, 03477-29951, 0664-32 58 895, www.m-styria.at;
	37, 0:51	16:45		▪ Dairy cows, Cattle fattening, Breeding sows FS Hatzendorf, 8361 Hatzendorf 110, 03155-2252
				▪ Dinner
				▪ Accommodation FS Hatzendorf, 8361 Hatzendorf 110, 03155-2252
Sat.			8:15	▪ 7:30 Breakfast, Departure FS Hatzendorf
7.5.05	55, 1:00	9:15	10:45	▪ Dairy cows with on-farm cheese processing Betrieb Schützenhöfer (vlg. Kneißl), 8232 Stambach 38, 03338-2108, 0664-380 47 53;
	46, 1:06	12:00	13:15	▪ Lunch GH Reitbauer Robert, 8191 Rabendorf 30, 03174-3355
	Zu Fuß	13:30	14:30	▪ Bull fattening Betrieb Köck Martina+Josef, 8191 Rabendorf 23, 03174-3509, 0699-102 385 81; Anfahrtsbeschreibung siehe Beilage
	44, 0:59	15:30	17:00	▪ Sheep breeding and lamb fattening Betrieb Wilfinger Hermann, 8230 Hartberg, Mitterdombach 17, 03332-63 272, 0664-45 53 014;
	136, 1:40	18:45		▪ Arrival BOKU

Field Trip Farm Management and Animal Production 18 and 19 May 2005, Waldviertel

Day	km, h	Dept.	Arriv.	Farm, Meals
Wed. 18.5			7:00	▪ Departure BOKU
	90, 1:45	8:45	10:00	▪ Dairy sheep and goats, on-farm processing and direct marketing Betrieb Neuwirth Gottfried, 3573 Gars am Kamp, Wanzenau 17, Tel. 02985-2601
	65, 1:27	11:30	12:45	▪ Dairy cows, Farm management and accounting dairy Betrieb Neugschandter Maria + Franz, 3922 Großschönau, Thaures 14, Tel: 02815-6202
	15, 0:20	13:00	14:15	▪ Lunch GH Nordwaldhof, 3972 Bad Großpertholz 34, Tel: 02857-2236
	0, 0:05	14:30	15:45	▪ Waldviertler Viktualien and small abbatoir with meat processing 3971 St. Martin, Moorbad Harbachstr. 3, GF DI H. Leutgeb, 0676-3032428
				▪ Suckler cows
		17:30	19:45	▪ Dinner, horses, organic pigs, agricultural schooling system FS Edelhof, 3910 Zwettl, Edelhof 1, 02822-52402
				▪ Accommodation Bildungshaus Stift Zwettl, 3910 Zwettl, 02822-550
Thur. 19.5			8:00	▪ Breakfast, Departure
	10, 0:19	8:30	9:30	▪ Laying hens and egg packaging Betrieb Kurz Andreas, 3910 Zwettl, Jahrgings 9, 0664-17 26 937;
	15, 0:25	10:00	11:15	▪ Waldland marketing (flax/linnen, poppy seeds, lady's thistle) 3533 Oberwaltenreith 10, 02826-7443-0
	42, 1:02	12:30	13:45	▪ Lunch GH Strasserhof, 3491 Straß im Strassertale, Marktplatz 30 02735-2427
	8, 0:16	14:00	15:00	▪ Pig insemination station NÖ. Schweinebesamung und Genetiktransfer GesmbH, 3472 Hohenwarth-Mühlbach am Manhartsberg 178, 02957-446, GF Liebscher 0664-3010 427
	4, 0:08	15:15	16:45	▪ Pig breeding – F1 Sows Winter Gerhard und Maria, 3720 Ravelsbach, Pfaffstetten 20, 02958-830
	61, 1:03	18:00		▪ Arrival BOKU

Field Trip Organic Animal Production 20 and 21 May 2005, Weinviertel and Waldviertel

Day	Dept.	Arriv.	Farm, Meals
Fri.		12:00	▪ Departure BOKU
20.5	13:15	14:30	▪ Krems Visit of vineyards, tour through the old town of Krems and lunch
	15:00	16:30	▪ Organic pig fattening; Betrieb Norbert Haimerl
	16:30	18:00	▪ Organic arable farm, organic honey production ▪ Discussion on the local structure of the Ernte Verband Betrieb Robert Schneider
	18:30	19:30	▪ Suckler cows and farm holidays; Betrieb Hans Hörmann
		19:30	▪ Dinner and accommodation; Buchberger Waldhütten
Sat.		8:30	▪ Breakfast, Departure
21.5	9:00	10:30	▪ Organic pig farm (rare breed), direct marketing and composting; Betrieb Herbert Asenbaum
	10:45	11:15	▪ Victualien Markt in Gars am Kamp; Farmer market
	11:30	12:30	▪ Organic arable farm, spice production Betrieb Gottfried Steiner
	12:30	13:00	▪ Lunch
	14:00	15:30	▪ Organic pig breeding, horses; Betrieb Manfred Daim
	16:00	17:00	▪ Laying hens, on-farm composting of collected household waste; Betrieb Erich Prand-Stritzko
	17:35	18:58	▪ Return to Vienna by train



Dr. Niparat and Prof. Kasidit visiting (organic) farms



Various stable types were visited



Farm machinery



Sheep for milk production and direct marketing of cheese



Dairy cows



Egg production, sorting and packaging



Hygiene measures when visiting pig farms



Most of the visited farms were organic



Poppy seeds, a specialty of the Waldviertel



Organic pig farming



Composting

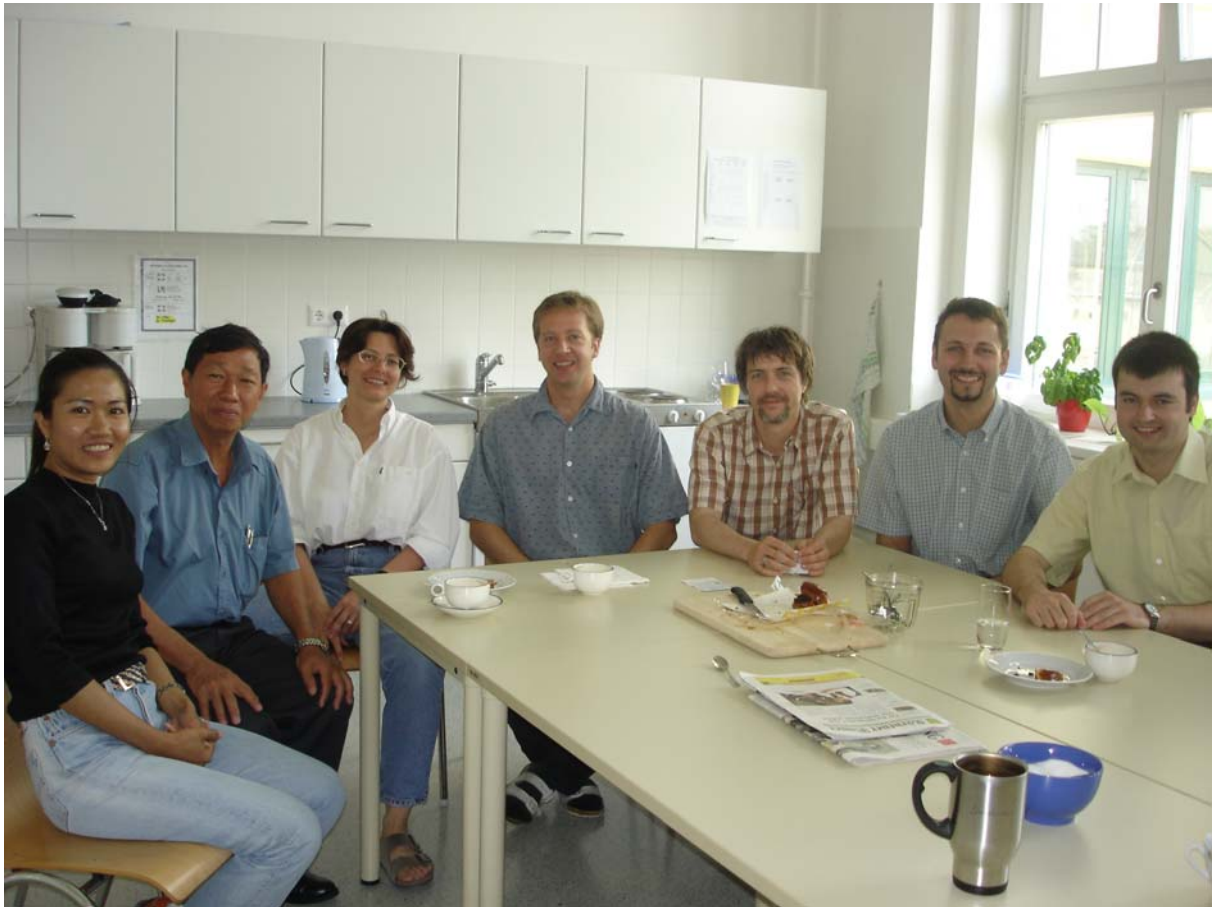


Inspecting an organic pea field



Enjoying the beautiful rape seed fields.

Discussions with colleagues at BOKU



With various colleagues from the Dept. of Economic and Social Sciences

Dr. Niparat Sritharet attended and completed following courses at BOKU:

- Organic land use and livelihood systems in tropical and sub-tropical regions (933.319, VS, 3 ECTS) held by Dr. Michael Hauser
- Facilitating organic farming in tropical and subtropical regions (933.320, VS, 3 ECTS) held by Dr. Michael Hauser

Prof. Kasidit Uechiewcharnkit attended and completed following course at BOKU:

- Facilitating organic farming in tropical and subtropical regions (933.320, VS, 3 ECTS) held by Dr. Michael Hauser

Farewell party at BOKU on 27 May 2005 in the TÜWI



Exercising their skills with "Bauerngolf"



The winning team (with Hildegard Gottfried of WWOOF)



Practicing Austrian folk dances



Group picture

Debriefing Workshop with Thai Students

TÜWI, 27 May 2005



1. You are back in Thailand. You are with your family and are telling them about your stay in Austria. What are your five best memories from your stay? What are the five things you liked most?

Danupon

- The farmer family was kind and interested in me and my friend. They took care of us and provided accommodation for us.
- The trains in Austria run on time and are very comfortable.
- The people's houses.
- The machines for agriculture.
- Method of working in agriculture.

Parkpoom

- The spirit of the host family.
- The weather in Austria.
- A strange/different house in many farms (poor and richer).
- The variety of work on the farms.
- Cooking food for my host family.

Aonnicha

- Austrian food (so sweet!!).
- Austrian traditions and customs (e.g. May tree) are very interesting.
- Variety of work: wood cutting, planting, making cheese, ...
- Good relationships with Austrian people.
- Austria is a beautiful country and the cities are very green.

Benjaporn

- I had a good experience with public transportation.
- Austria is a beautiful place.
- The festival of 1st May.
- Speaking with the host family.
- The Thai food party at the farm.

Usanee

- Learning a third language by action and mind.
- My camera and bag was lost and my host helped to find them.
- Everybody helped together when working.
- My (Austrian) mother was devoted and very kind to me.
- The beautiful view.

Sirilak

- My host family was very lovely and very kind.
- I learned Austrian words, that makes me very happy.
- I learned about Austrian traditions and customs, eating and drinking.
- Austria is a beautiful country and Austrian food is very delicious.
- The party at my home was very funny.

Usana

- Travelling in Vienna.
- I am impressed about the body language of Austrians.
- The host families are very kind (like in Thailand).
- The weather is good.
- I had a good experience in the Disco.

2. You meet a friend in Thailand. You talk about how things are different in different countries. Different behaviors, different customs, different languages, different traditions sometimes make it hard to feel well in a new country. Think about 5 behaviors or things or traditions in Austria which you find strange: what behavior, why was it confusing, how did it make you feel?

Danupon

- On one farm the host family could not speak English. And I can't speak German. That made communication difficult.
- I can only speak a little English, so that my host family did not understand me.
- Some people in Austria are not helpful, for example when I tried to take the bus, they did not help me.
- The exchange rate of the Euro is high. That makes things very expensive when compared to Thailand.
- I do not have a 5th idea, because Austria is a very good country.

Parkpoom

- The food is difficult to eat, e.g. black bread. There is very little rice, so after eating I still felt hungry.
- I don't know the German language.
- Many people in Austria do not know English, so they tend to mix German words with English words, which made it hard for me to understand them.
- One of my host changed moods often: he is kind, in the next moment he is angry. I did not understand the reason behind his changing moods.

- When standing at a bus stop in a rural area, nobody helped me understand when the next bus will be coming.

Aonnichia

- Sometimes I did not understand the German language.
- Once a bus driver let me pay (much) more than the normal fare.
- In some host families, there was smoking in the house. That is very bad for my health.
- Once, a chief wanted to steal my wallet in Vienna.
- In the countryside people drive very fast.

Benjaporn

- The Austrian way of greeting (handshake and kiss on cheeks) is very unusual for me.
- People eat their food on wooden plates. I am not sure if the wood plates are clean/hygienic.
- The way people display their affection in public is disturbing. This is not polite in Thailand.
- In Austria most water is sparkling (contains gas). In Thailand we prefer flat water.

Usanee

- The German language has a sound and tone that is difficult to understand.
- The weather in Austria always changes: sometimes it rains, sometimes it snows, and sometimes the sun is shining. That made me have a fever.
- When traveling most people do not speak English (in towns they speak English, but not in the rural areas).
- One farmer did not give me a key to my room. I did not feel safe for myself and my belongings. Once I noticed that someone has gone through my belongings.
- The food is too sweet and very different from Thai food.

Sirilak

- People kiss in the park or in the disco or other public places. This is disturbing to me, as in Thailand people do not show their affection in public.
- Austrian teenagers can smoke when they are 16 years old. It is not good for their (and my) health.
- In Austria, when greeting, one must touch the other person's body. In Thailand we do not touch each other.
- In Austria cars drive on the right side. This is confusing, as in Thailand we drive on the left side.
- In Austria people drink only beer.

Usana

- The way Austrians greet (handshake and kiss on cheeks).
- People tend to drink and drive. This is not safe.
- In Austria people eat their food with a fork (and a knife). In Thailand we eat rice with a spoon (and a fork).
- In Austria people show their love in public. This was disturbing for me.
- The food is sweet, which I do not like so much.

3. A friend from Thailand is getting ready to come to Austria and spend 2 months on WWOOF farms. She asks you for advice: what to be prepared for, what to be careful about, what not to miss, etc. What advice would you give her?

Danupon

- I would tell my friend that WWOOFing is very interesting and very important for students
- I would tell my friend should stay and work on many farms in Austria, more than 2 months, may be 6 months.
- My friend should bring "mama" for eating in Austria. Eating Thai food is very good when one is home sick.
- My friend should learn German before going to Austria.
- My friend should bring few clothes, but clothes which he can wear several times (like jeans, which you can wear for a week without washing).

Parkpoom

- Bring Thai food.
- Bring pictures of Thailand.
- Learn German.
- See where your farm is located on a map of Austria.
- Take medicine with you, as the weather can change quickly.

Aonnicha

- You must learn about the location of your farm. Have a clear idea of how to get to the farm, how far it is from Vienna, etc.
- You need to learn a bit of German and speak English very well.
- It is better to take a backpack than a suitcase. It is difficult to move/carry the suitcase around the farm and when traveling using public transport.
- Bring Thai food, both for yourself and to make food for the host family.
- You should think about bringing enough pocket money with you.

Benjaporn

- Don't forget to bring a German-Thai-English dictionary.
- Take a book of Thailand with you (with photos). This helps build a relationship.
- Take "quick" Thai food.
- Do not bring many clothes. Select clothes you can wear again and again.
- Be careful with choosing your farm: get information beforehand.

Usanee

- Learn German and take a dictionary with you.
- Take Thai food, pictures of Thailand and a book on Thai culture and Thai people.
- Inform yourself on the location of the farm, and the climate in the region of the farm. So you know how warm/cold it will be.
- Take a Thai (international) calling card. May be the farm does not have Internet access and then it is difficult to contact other people (other students as well as family in Thailand).
- Make sure to take clothes that protect you from the cold weather, e.g. an overcoat. Also take medicine against cold. Take large clothes as you might gain weight, and it should fit even if you get fatter.

Sirilak

- She should study German before coming to Austria.
- She should bring Thai food to Austria. Cooking Thai food for the host family is a good activity.
- She should know how to contact people both in Austria (e.g. other Thai students) and family back home in Thailand. Know if the host family has access to Internet/email and bring a (international) phone card from Thailand so you can call when you want.
- Learn about greeting, eating and drinking in Austria.
- Bring thick, warm clothes and good shoes. Do not bring thin clothes as it is too cold in Austria.

Usana

- Learn a little German.
- Bring Thai food and spices to make food for the host family.
- Learn about Austrian culture, and try to do like them. But don't forget to take care of yourself.
- Bring some medicine (against a cold).
- Be careful of your weight (do not gain too much weight) and work hard.

Cooperation partners

For the successful organization of various activities, many people played a key role and assisted me in various ways. I would like to thank following people and organizations for their generous and kind support:



Dr. Suthichai Somsook for coordinating all activities at Thammasat University and supporting Ms. Birgit Roitner-Schobesberger during her field work;
suthisomsook@hotmail.com
<http://www.tu.ac.th/>



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alfons.willam@boku.ac.at

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helmut.goetz@boku.ac.at

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christoph.walla@boku.ac.at



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WWOOF Austria
wwof.welcome@telering.at
<http://members.telering.at/wwof.welcome/>



Ing. Herbert Floigl for providing such a great entertainment at the Farewell Party
Bauerngolf
info@bauerngolf.at
<http://www.geocities.com/bauerngolf2002/>

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