

Abstract

The objectives of this study were (i) collecting bamboo and rattan germplasms and selecting suitable bamboo and rattan species for planting and utilization in highland area, (ii) selecting good seedling characteristic of bamboo for propagation, (iii) studying for management practices to increase bamboo and rattan productivity and quality, and (vi) surveying bamboo and rattan production and marketing.

The results showed that there were 62 species of bamboo had been planted and utilized in highland areas (12 genus 45 species of native bamboo of Thailand and 6 genus 17 species of foreign bamboo), while 2 genus 13 species of native rattan were collected. Five species of bamboo with good seedling characteristic were investigated for propagation. Good practices for bamboo shoot production comprised of weeding, water and fertilizer application, mulching and thinning could increase yields and off season producing. The first shoots would be shooting during April-June. For the clums production found that clump management by cut off all 3 year aged, nearby the ground could stimulate new shoot. The optimal time for thinning is between November to January. Rattan plantation for shoots showed that the plantation with fully opened canopy, pouring water, fertilization, and usually thinning would be increase rattan number and size of shoot. The first shoots could be harvested about 2-3 years old by cutting above the first bud nearby the ground. The proper length should not over than 30 cm. In the other hands, shading and other trees were nessesary for cane production. Mature stems should be cut at 10 cm above the soil surface,. Feasibility of demand and opportunities in bamboo and rattan marketing demonstrated the market demand still rising continuously. Products of bamboo and rattan tend to a good choice in the future, while the industrial pickled bamboo shoots in the market were reduced, because of lower consumption.