

Kasetsart University opens Asia's first 'Bee Learning Center'

Life is all a-buzz over at Kasetsart University's Faculty of Agriculture these days following the official opening of Asia's first Bee Learning Centre on December 2.



Entomologist Asst. Prof. Chama Phankaew says the centre aims to teach the public about the lives, work and benefits of various bees as well as sustainable agricultural practices that will help preserve the bee population. “It is the product of 3 years of research and teaching by KU's lecturers and scientists on the bee keeping industry and pollinating insects in Thailand,” she says.



Chama further explained that the centre's biggest sponsor is Bayer AG in Germany and its Thailand subsidiary, whose CSR policy aims to provide learning channels for students and general public about sustainable agriculture and environmental preservation. “The centre is located in the university and is surrounded by several other learning centres, including the 60th Anniversary Insect Museum, the Rapee Orchid Park, and the Cricket Centre,” she added.



“Within the Bee Learning Center there are exhibitions about bees showing various species of bees found in Thailand, their influence on the ecosystem, the biology of beehives and bee keeping industry in Thailand. There is also an outdoor park filled with activities for children and parents such as bee feeding and ‘Bee Little Scientists’ where kids can learn how bees work from a model hive.”



“The centre is opens daily except on public holidays from 9am to 4pm. Every Wednesday at 9-10am, there will be bee keeping demonstration, while other activities will be held in rotation each month. You can check the calendar at facebook: Bee Learning,” Chama added.

The centre is expecting to draw lots of visitors next year especially around national children’s day (January 11) and the World Bee Day (May 20).

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