

**AUGUST, 2016**

**Group from Chiang Mai Province, Thailand visits OUAVM as part of the JICA Partnership Program**

A group of 18 people from Chiang Mai Province in Thailand visited on August 30 as part of the Project for Industrial Advancement and the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) by Regional Branding through Food Valley Tokachi and Halal Correspondence, a JICA Partnership Program promoted by Obihiro City and the Obihiro Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Pairuch Toewiwat (vice-president of the Chiang Mai Chamber of Commerce and Industry) said a few words, followed by Noboru Inoue (a director and the vice-president of research of OUAVM), who gave an outline of the university. There were some questions from the group, including why the university attracts students from across Japan and why graduates remain in the region. In response, the Vice-president Inoue pointed out the rich natural surroundings of Hokkaido and conditions that allow students to use their acquired knowledge of agricultural and livestock industries.

Afterward, a party was held at Shoyosha (alumni building) with other people from Tokachi who are involved in the project. The group stayed for nine days, during which they had talks with business leaders in Tokachi and witnessed efforts to promote the region, including Tokachi Marche, a food and music event held in front of Obihiro Station.



Pairuch Toewiwat, vice-president of the Chiang Mai Chamber of Commerce and Industry