

PALD SUCCESS STORIES...

...A Family Escapes Poverty by Raising Breeding Boars

The story of Mrs Le Thi Thanh Nhuan in Van Chan district, Yen Bai province, Vietnam



In September 2009, Mrs Le Thi Thanh Nhuan, who lives in Zone 7, Nghia Lo farm town, Van Chan district, Yen Bai, received 50% of her capital expenditure from the PALD project to buy a boar. At the same time, she also participated in training courses on semen exploitation, dilution, conservation and insemination.

With guidance from PALD project staff, Mrs Nhuan developed a thorough understanding of boar breeding techniques as well as semen exploitation and artificial insemination (AI). Producing five semen doses each day, her business meets insemination needs for sows of PALD households within Nghia Lo town and nearby communes such as Cat Thinh, Thanh Luong, Thach Luong and Phu Nham.

Mrs Nhuan also got to grips with key veterinary medicines to prevent diseases in her boars. After several successful production cycles she used the profits to reinvest, increasing her scale of production. Her family is doing better now compared to when she was not participating in the PALD project.

“Before the PALD project began, my family did not raise boars for breeding. Then I was taught the techniques for raising Mong Cai boars and pigs, and I attended training courses on semen exploitation and artificial insemination organized by PALD. Since joining the project, I have become more knowledgeable and my family is able to raise many boars now,” Mrs Nhuan said.

Since 2013, Mrs Nhuan has bought one more Landrace boar from Yen Bai breeding center, and thanks to the knowledge she gained from PALD, she is able to train pigs on her own to get the semen and therefore increase her profits (in the past, trained pigs which were bought in the market were purchased ready for



*Mrs. Nhuan with her boars in 8.2014.
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semen exploitation). Additionally, she used only to work within her communal area but now she is expanding her business to practice insemination for sows in five more surrounding communes.

"In the villages, farmers are not likely to use artificial insemination for pigs because they have not yet known the effectiveness of AI," she explained. To promote her business, Mrs Nhuan works with people who have experience in raising pigs and offers promotions to encourage them to use her service. If farmers know about the effectiveness of AI, they will share this positive experience with their neighbors. Mrs Nhuan also has business cards printed to deliver to farmers so that they can easily contact her by phone when they need to use her services.

Every month, Mrs Nhuan provides insemination services amounting to approximately 100 semen doses at 70,000 VND (approximately \$3) per dose. In addition, she sells semen to other vets; approximately 150 semen doses per month. Her total income is now about 5-6,000,000 VND (equivalent to \$220-260) per month.

By the end of 2014 Mrs Nhuan expects to reconstruct her pig house and buy one more Duroc boar because there is a high market demand for this type of pig. As a result, the demand for artificial insemination using her pigs would increase. She would also bring her husband into the business to improve her capacity in meeting the needs of farmers in the region and to become more responsive and efficient, which will increase her family income.

Learn more: [Factsheet on PALD](#)