21 Years ACFS: Thai Agricultural Standards for Safety, Security, and Sustainability along the Value Chain



Annual Report 2023

The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS)


TAS
GMP

21 Years ACFS

Thai Agricultural Standards

for Safety, Security, and Sustainability along the Value Chain

Message from Secretary General

21 Years ACFS:

Thai Agricultural Standards for Safety, Security, and Sustainability along the Value Chain



The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS) has been the focal agency on the standardization of agricultural commodity and food. The agency is responsible for standard setting, promoting, controlling, and overseeing inspection and certification system from farm level to consumer. The agency also plays the roles on strengthening the quality and safety of farm and food products. Moreover, the agency also represents Thailand in the negotiation and in the dispute settlement related with sanitary and phytosanitary issues. ACFS integrates the work with related partner agencies, affiliating or non-affiliating to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, including civil societies, adhering to the principles of 3S (Safety, Security & Sustainability) as follows. On **Safety**, the work on food Safety focuses on the safety from farm production with GAP and organic standards, through to processing and packing practices with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards, and extending to the end consumer. On **Security**, the work on food security focuses on ensuring that everyone has adequate accessibility to food which is safe, and nutritionally valuable. The emphasis is on strengthening farmers and agricultural organizations, connecting consumers with suppliers or distributors, and elevating agricultural and agro-processing to high-value production. This includes developing and promoting new agricultural product standards, such as plant-based foods and economic insect, to meet the needs of consumers and the new global market era. Lastly, on **Sustainability**, the work on sustainable system focuses on agricultural production, processing, and marketing systems, taking into consideration of the protection of ecosystem, environment, and biodiversity. It promotes the development of the quality of life for farmers and consumers by establishing sustainable production standards guided by the BCG Model that creates balance and fair practices economically, socially, environmentally, and ecologically. It also promotes the quality improvement of agricultural products throughout the value chain, ensuring growth and advancement in the agricultural sector from source through to consumer in the end.

Among the upstream mission, national agricultural product standards have been established, totaling 409 standards, including new standards to align with the current agricultural sector. These include Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) of Collecting and Packing House for Durian, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Cocoa and Good Practices for Silk Cocoon Production, as well as Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System and Guidelines for Its Application, Guidelines on Bacterial Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing for Livestock, and Chain of Custody: Marine Shrimp Product from Sustainable Aquaculture. There are study projects on sustainable rice production model development, future insect food sources, participatory organic agriculture projects, and projects studying the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the agricultural sector. There has also been participation in international standard setting in organizations such as CODEX, WOAH, IPPC, and ASEAN.

Among the midstream missions, there are works such as the Implementation to drive the Royal Initiative Project with a new Product Certification Systems using Supplier Audit systems, Training Workshops on Developing agricultural product standards inspectors, a project on herbal plants, Q Volunteer Projects, project for Enhancing the use of GMP standards in enterprises, Safe Food Network Projects from young smart farmers to communities, development of farmer in collaborative farming areas to adapt their practices in line with standards, project on Whole Sale Markets, project on system accreditation, and project on Technology Support for works on agricultural standards Includes CAB services, TAS – License, E – Coding, and E-learning systems.

Towards the downstream, there are works on Standard Compliance Control, Overseeing the Monitoring and inspecting of mandatory standards, increasing traffic of usage of Agricultural Products traceability on Cloud Systems (QR Trace on Cloud) and DGTFarm websites, Promoting Q Product Consumption (Q market), Certification of modern trade Retail Locations selling Q Product, Upgrading Q Restaurants project, Q Canteen Projects, and Q Hospital Projects to promote and enhance the production of agricultural product for hospital food safety.

In addition, there are missions related to **the negotiation on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures, market access, and addressing import-export issues in agriculture and food products**. These include negotiations on SPS Chapters under various bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements, negotiation on relevant text within Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), participation in WTO SPS Committee Meetings, negotiations for exporting fresh mangosteens to Japan without vapor heat treatment, negotiation for market access of cooked duck meat from Thailand to Australia, and negotiation on Agricultural Product Transportation via railway routes to the People's Republic of China, and **Information Services to Provide/recommend** ACFS-related information, and publications via email (acfspr@gmail.com), Line Official @acfs (มาตรฐานเกษตรน่ารู้ โดย มกอช), the Facebook official page (มกอช.), and the website www.acfs.go.th.

ACFS has integrated all these work with various **partner organizations** include partners within the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives such as the Rice Department, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Extension, Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture, Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock Development, and partners from other Government Organizations including the Royal Project Foundation, the Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization), the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Public Health, Local Administrative Organizations at the sub-district, district, or provincial levels, Educational Institutions, and partners from Private Sector such as the Federation of Thai Industries, the Thai Chamber of Commerce, various Agricultural Producer Associations, Modern Trade chains, various Farmer organizations, and National Farmers Council. These comprehensive approach are for enhancing efficiency and standards of farm, fish, livestock products by taking the "3S" principles (Safety, Security & Sustainability) and the BCG Model as a guided framework to achieve sustainable development goals and make further progress in national food and agricultural standards to benefit farmers, the public, and the overall economy of Thailand.

Mr. Pisan Pongsapitch
ACFS Secretary General,



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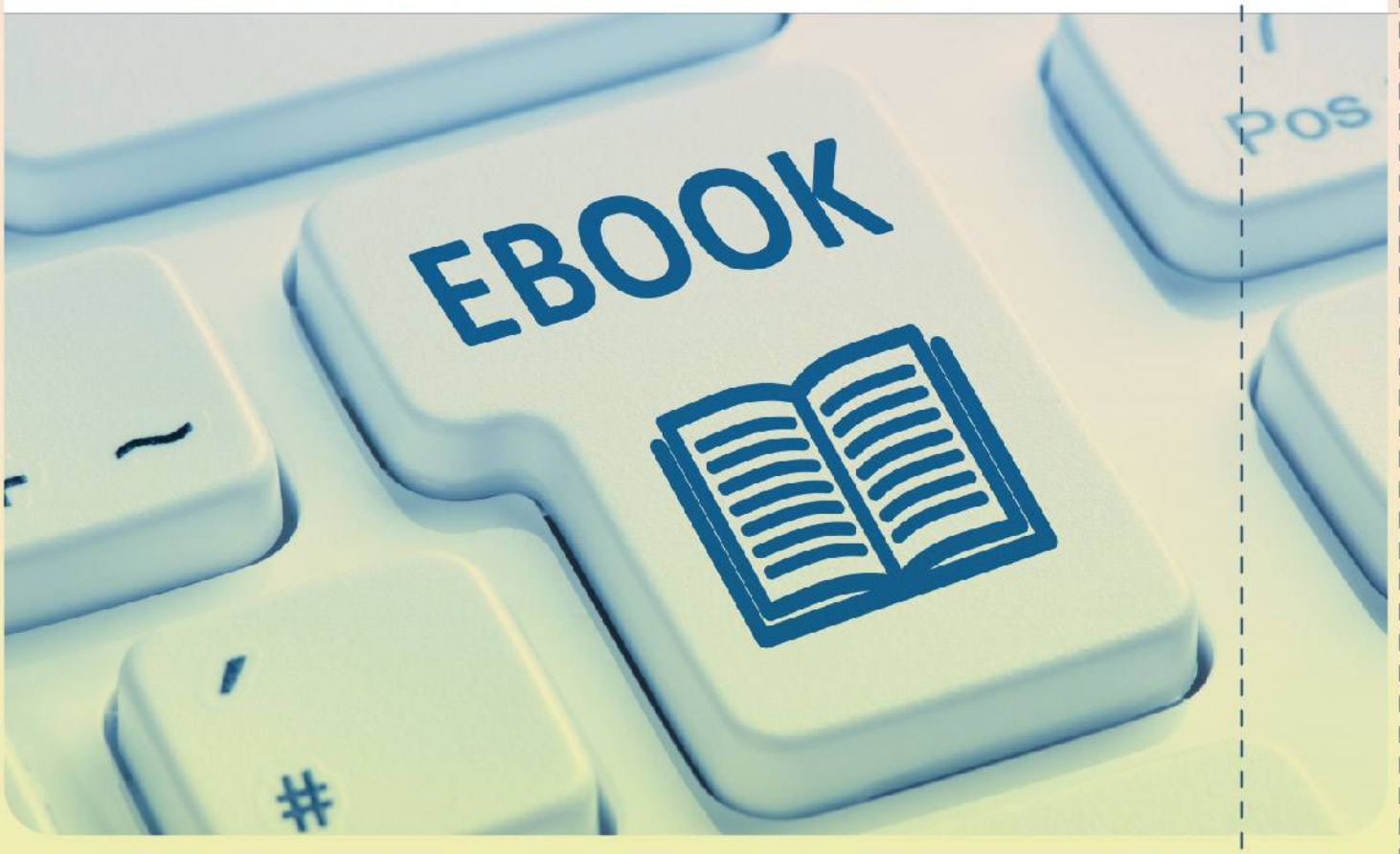
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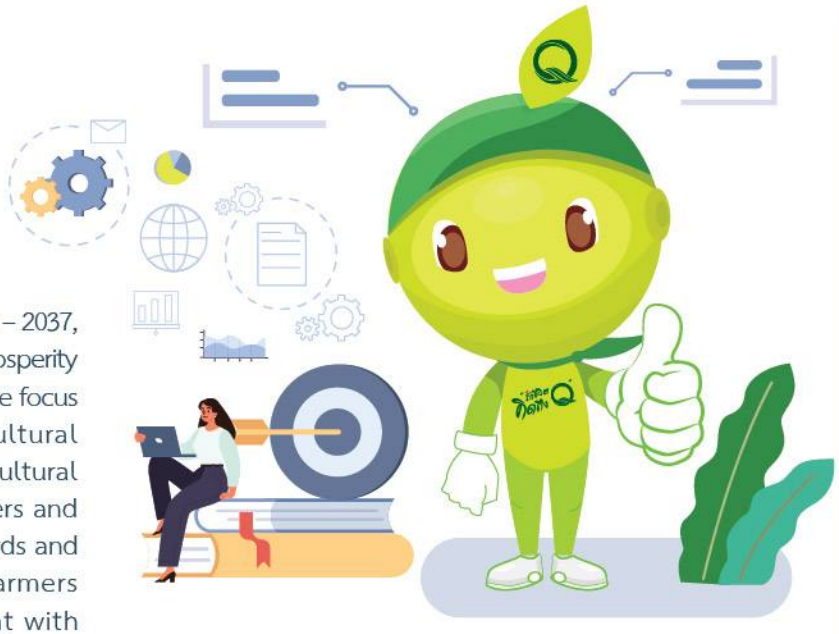



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Foreword

ACFS Year 2023



In alignment with the National Strategy 2018 – 2037, Thailand aims to be a "a country with security, prosperity and sustainability". Under the national strategy, the focus in agriculture is on transforming the agricultural production structure towards high-value agricultural products. Creating awareness among producers and consumers regarding the importance of standards and food safety is a priority. The support for farmers to produce agricultural products compliant with standards is emphasized. Furthermore, in the 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan, Target 1 designates Thailand as a leading country in agricultural products and high value agro-processing industry with a focus on enhancing productivity, earning high return per unit of production area, and improving product quality, standards, and safety for moving further ahead to bioeconomy. This aims to increase the value of agricultural products, creating opportunities for the agricultural and food sectors in the future while fostering collaboration between the government, private sector, and farmers across the entire agricultural supply chain.

The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS) is a focal agency responsible for agricultural and food product standards. Its mission involves standard setting, certification system accreditation, standard controlling, and promotion of standards for agricultural products, from the field to consumers. It also engages in technical trade negotiations to address and improve quality of agricultural and food products with standards. The goal is to enhance and elevate the quality of Thai agricultural and food products to meet international standards, ensuring competitiveness on the global stage. In the year 2566 BE (2023 CE), ACFS carried out significant missions, including:

1. upstream mission:

activities include establishing national agricultural standards and participating in standard setting in international bodies, such as CODEX, WOAH, IPPC, and ASEAN. Initiatives include the development of sustainable rice production models, insect-based future food sources, and participatory organic agriculture, reduction of greenhouse gas emission.

2. midstream mission:

activities include driving the application of Supplier Audit as a new product certification system for strengthening agricultural standards in royal initiatives projects, conducting workshop training programs for agricultural standard auditors, advancing initiatives in herbal plant cultivation, the Q Volunteer Project, promoting the adoption of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standards in enterprises, establishing a network for safe food from young smart farmers to communities, enhancing the capabilities of farmers to meet standards in collaborative farms, developing agricultural whole sale markets and technologies supporting standards include CAB services, TAS-License systems, E-Coding systems, and E-learning systems.

3. downstream mission:

efforts involve controlling, supervising, monitoring, and inspecting mandatory standards, increasing the users on the QR Trace on Cloud and DGTFarm platforms, promoting Q market, certifying Q Modern Trade, upgrading Q restaurants, and enhancing and elevating agricultural product production for Q Hospital.

4. Negotiations involve SPS measures, market access, and agricultural and food product import-export issues.

This includes negotiating and formulating provision text on SPS within the frameworks of various bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements, engaging in discussions of related text in the economic cooperation framework of the Indo-Pacific Economic Forum (IPEF), participating in meetings of the WTO SPS Committee, negotiating the export of fresh mangosteen to Japan without vapour heat treatment, opening the market for Thai cooked duck meat to Australia, and facilitating the transportation of Thai agricultural products via the railway to the People's Republic of China.

The achievements In 2566 were from the implementation of the missions to support the **"Market-Driven Production"** policy, propelled by the **"3S"** principles (Safety, Security & Sustainability) and the **BCG Model**. This aimed at sustainable development and elevating the standards of Thai agricultural and food products. The efforts continued in 2567 through collaboration with partners from the public, private, agricultural, and public sectors to harmonize and advance the development of standards for Thai agricultural and food products, aligning with the vision:

"ACFS is a globally recognized leader in agricultural and food standards, elevating the national production in agricultural and food products to international standards and creating added value."




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Achievements

Summary of Major Achievements in 2023

1. Setting of agricultural and food standards with a minimum of 15

There have been **409** standards already notified.

1.1 voluntary standards; There are 400 standards in effect.

Plant standards;

there are **147** standards

e.g. rice, durian, oil palm, maize, cassava, sugar cane, turmeric, ginger, coffee, and tea.

Livestock standards;

there are **81** standards

e.g. layer chicken, broiler, pig, beef cattle, dairy cattle, goat, bird nest, crickets, and animal disease control.

Fisheries standards;

there are **63** standards

e.g. shrimp, tilapia, cephalopod, crocodile, ornamental marine animals, ornamental freshwater animals, and fish landing site.

Organic product standards;

there are **9** standards

e.g. rice, livestock, bees, silk, marine shrimp, snakeskin gourami, and aquatic animal feed.

Other standards;

there are **87** standards

e.g. sericulture, Maximum Residue limits, glossary of phytosanitary terms, traceability system for food and agricultural products

1.2 mandatory standards; There are 9 standards in effect.



▶ Peanut kernels: Requirements for Aflatoxin Limit



▶ Code of Practice for Sulphur Dioxide Fumigation of Fresh Fruits



▶ Good Aquaculture Practices for Hatchery of Disease Free Pacific White Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*)



▶ Good Manufacturing Practices for Milk Collection Center



▶ Code of Practice for Mushroom Culture



▶ Good Manufacturing Practices for Frozen Durian



▶ Good Agriculture Practices for Layer Farm



▶ Good Animal Practices for Elephant Facility



▶ Good Agricultural Practices for Pig Farm

2. Enforcement administration of 8 mandatory standards



2.1 Code of Practice for Sulphur Dioxide Fumigation of Fresh Fruits
(since 4 May 2016)



2.2 Peanut kernels: Requirement for Aflatoxin Limit
(since 6 January 2017)



2.3 Good Aquaculture Practices for Hatchery of Disease Free Pacific White Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*)
(since 18 June 2017)



2.4 Good Manufacturing Practices for Frozen Durian
(since 30 July 2017)



2.5 Good Manufacturing Practices for Milk Collection Center
(since 17 October 2017)



2.6 Code of Practice for Mushroom Culture
(Since 12 April 2018)



2.7 Good Agriculture Practices for Layer Farm
(Since 21 February 2022)



2.8 Good Animal Practices for Elephant Facility
(to be effective from 19 August 2024)



2.9 Good Agricultural Practices for Pig Farm
(Since 4 May 2023)

3. Participation to establish standards in international organizations



Codex:

(Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programmes), Adoption of 20 international standards such as:

- Revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Essential composition of sunflower seed oils
- HACCP Decision-Tree in General Principles of Food Hygiene.
- Guidelines for the Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks
- Standard for Onions and Shallots, and Standard for dried or dehydrated chilli pepper and paprika.
- the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans.
- the Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempted from the establishment of maximum residue limits or do not give rise to residues
- Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of 310 pesticides.
- Maximum Limits (MLs) of 13 food contaminants, including the MLs of aflatoxins for Maize grain destined for further processing, Husked rice, and Polished rice, among others
- Significant regional standards in Asia, such as Chilli Sauce, and Gochujang

IPPC:

International Plant Protection Convention

- Adoption of 4 International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)

WOAH:

World Organisation for Animal Health

- Adoption of revised requirements for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).
- Adoption of new requirements for tilapia lake virus (TiLV).

ASEAN:

- Adoption of documentation for ASEAN food contact materials (ceramic).
- Approving ASEAN Maximum Use Levels (MLs) for 2 food additives.
- Approving the proposed ASEAN Harmonised MRLs for 7 values.
- Approving the list of plant protection substances in the ASEAN Harmonised MRLs plan, totaling 13 items.

4. Accreditation of certification/inspection bodies by international standards



4.1 There are 19 certification bodies (CB) that have been accredited for system processes (46 CB-scopes), including:

- **19 CBs** ▶ GMP/HACCP
- **13 CBs** ▶ GAP
- **4 CBs** ▶ Food Safety Management System (FSMS)
- **7 CBs** ▶ Organic
- **2 CBs** ▶ Agricultural Produce or Product
- **1 CB** ▶ Preventive Controls for Human Food (PCHF)

4.2 There are 7 inspection bodies (IB) that have been accredited.

- **7 IBs** ▶ GAP
- **2 IBs** ▶ Organic
- **1 IB** ▶ Agriculture Produce or Product

4.3 ACFS. has undergone an assessment for the scope of Product Certification and the scope of Food Safety Management System (FSMS) certification from the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC).

5. System Accreditation for Certification Bodies (CB)



5.1 System Accreditation for New and Expanded Certification Bodies (CB) as follows:

1) QAIC (Thailand) Co., Ltd. has been accredited for the first time under ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 standard, with the scope of GMP/HACCP and sub-scope ISIC Code 15.

2) Bureau Veritas Certification (Thailand) Ltd. has expanded its accreditation standard under ISO/IEC 17020:2012, with the scope of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in sub-scopes of crops and fisheries, and the scope of Organic Agriculture in sub-scope of crops.

3) Thai G.A.P. 09 Ltd. has expanded its scope under ISO/IEC 17065:2012 standard, with the sub-scope of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in sub-scope of crops.

5.2 Registration of Agricultural and Food Product Testing Laboratories certified with the International Standard ISO/IEC 17025

1) ACFS has registered Thai laboratories for testing agricultural and food products until the year 2023. There are a total of 111 laboratories, comprising:

(1) Service laboratories: 34 laboratories, including companies such as Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd., Laboratory Service Center for food industry, and the Foundation Industrial Development for National Food Institute.

(2) Factory laboratories: 69 laboratories, including companies such as Cargill Meats (Thailand) Ltd. and Ajinomoto Frozen Foods (Thailand) Ltd.

(3) Factory and service laboratories: 8 laboratories, including companies such as GFPT Public Co., Ltd. and International Foods Testing Laboratory Co., Ltd.

2) ACFS coordinates the registration of testing laboratories with foreign agencies for Thai laboratories seeking registration with organizations in other countries, such as the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) in Japan and the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) in the Republic of Korea The details are as follows:

(1) Laboratories registered with MHLW in Japan: 21 laboratories.

(2) Laboratories registered with MFDS in the Republic of Korea: 12 laboratories.



6. Market Access Negotiations, Problem Resolution, and SPS Measures for Agricultural and Food Products:

SPS

1) Market Access for agricultural and food products:

- Exporting fresh mangosteen to Japan
- Market Access for cooked duck meat to Australia
- Negotiating and drafting provision text on Agriculture in the 1st Cooperation Framework (Trade), under the Indo-Pacific Economic Cooperation.
- Negotiating and drafting SPS provision text under the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) within the bilateral framework, including Thailand-Sri Lanka, Thailand-UAE, Thailand-EFTA, and Thailand-European Union.
- Negotiating and drafting SPS provisions under the FTAs within the multilateral framework, such as ASEAN-Canada and ASEAN-China.

2) Negotiating to address issues related to agricultural and food products.

- Transportation of fruits to China



7. Publish regulations and measures of trading partner countries:

7.1 ACFS Early Warning System for Agricultural and Food Products

- Disseminate information through email, MOAC website, and the Early Warning Facebook Page.
- Prepare quarterly newsletters (16 pages each), totaling 4 volumes, to be distributed electronically.
- Study, analyze, and summarize measures of WTO member countries (October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023), totaling 2,539 copies, providing relevant information to relevant government and private sector agencies.

7.2 Seminars/Publications on Regulations for business operators:

- Workshop on the "Technical Guide on the New EU Regulation and Comparison to Local Standards."
- Disseminate regulations/measures of trading partner countries through early warning.
- Online seminars via electronic media on the "Technical Virtual Workshop on the Electronic Kingdom of Thailand SPS Certification System in the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Thailand."
- Seminar on regulations for exporting and using insects as animal feed (Black Soldier Fly: BSF) to drive the BCG Model in the Thai agricultural sector.

8. Promotion of Standards





8.1 Integration of Work in line with Organic Agriculture and Collaborative Farming Policy

8.1.1 Collaborative Farming

1) Enhance agricultural product production to meet standards in Collaborative Farming areas.

▶Elevate the production of economic herbs in Herbal City Uthai Thani province, Maha Sarakham province, and Amnat Charoen province.

▶Develop the potential of farmers in Collaborative Farming areas to be certified with the standard on good agricultural practices for food crops (TAS 9001), with 162 participants.

2) Develop the capacity of personnel in the promotion of standards in Collaborative Farming areas.

▶Farm Audits according to Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Internal Control System (ICS) in Tak province.

▶Develop 475 agricultural consultants

▶Develop 113 Q volunteers

3) Strengthen the standards of processing facilities (mills/packing house/collecting centers) in Collaborative Farming areas in Suphan Buri province, Phitsanulok province, and Maha Sarakham province.

8.1.2 Organic Agriculture

1) Develop a sustainable rice production model in Kamphaeng Phet province.

2) Project to develop models and create instructors on organic agriculture standards in educational institutions in Phrae province.

3) Certify 35 locations selling organic agricultural products that meet standards.

4) Develop internal auditors among the groups of participating organic farmers in Lopburi and Phetchabun provinces.

8.2 Knowledge Transfer in GAP/GMP Production to Farmers

1) Develop a sustainable rice production model in Kamphaeng Phet province.

2) Establish knowledge in accordance with GAP standards for crops, rice, fisheries, and livestock under the "Safe Food Network from Young Smart Farmers to Communities" project, involving 456 participants.

3) Strengthen GMP standards for packing/collecting facilities of vegetables and fruits under the Royal Project Foundation to prepare for GMP certification application from the Department of Agriculture.

8.3 Expand Food Education Learning for Continuity

1) Develop knowledge among personnel responsible and those involved to raise awareness of the importance of selecting safe raw materials and appropriate food production processes according to agricultural operation guidelines in educational institutions following agricultural and food standards.

8.4 Develop auditors to take up the responsibility on inspection and certification of Agricultural and Food Products after the transferring of the mission from governmental offices.

1) Develop Training of Trainers (TOT) instructors in agricultural standards.
2) Develop auditors and individuals involved in system certification under the Single Platform operational plan.
3) Prepare Inspection Bodies (IB) in accordance with international standards.
4) Develop auditors according to international and national agricultural standards.

8.5 Linking Production and Marketing of Q Products

1) Certify standard product retailers:



Q Restaurants in 77 provinces with more than **3,113** participating restaurants/ branches.





Q Markets in 70 provinces with **318** participating markets / **1,809** stalls



farm-gate stores **502** stores



in Bangkok with **16** participating markets / **216** stalls



Q Modern Trade with a total of **866** locations



2) Expand the use of Website - DGTFarm Online as a platform for safe, quality, and standardized agricultural product marketing transactions. The aim is to link markets for producers and business operators directly to consumers so that they can view and shop anywhere anytime. Currently, there are 4,092 registered users, including 872 sellers and 3,220 buyers, with 1,739 products listed on the website.

2.1) Number of Products (Categorized by Market Type):



▶Organic Product Market: **481** items



▶GAP Product Market: **832** items



▶QR Trace Product Market: **426** items

2.2) Number of Products (Categorized by Product Type):



▶Vegetables: **259** items



▶Eggs: **4** items



▶Fruits: **505** items



▶Fisheries: **36** items



▶Processed Products: **547** items



▶Livestock: **7** items



▶Rice and Cereals: **344** items



▶Herbal Plants: **37** items

9. Agricultural and Food Product Traceability (Traceability):

Expand the use of QR Trace on Cloud to assist farmers/business operators in managing the production process. This involves storing data from raw material reception, production steps, quality checks, packing, and product distribution to the next points of sell. QR codes are generated for each batch of products, affixed to the products or packaging, to communicate with consumers about the product's origin. This ensures consumers' confidence in the quality and safety of agricultural products. Currently, there are 3,287 members, categorized as follows:

- Vegetables/Fruits: 2,074 subscribers
- Livestock: 41 subscribers
- Rice: 547 subscribers
- Fisheries: 66 subscribers
- Eggs: 49 subscribers
- Processed Products: 510 subscribers

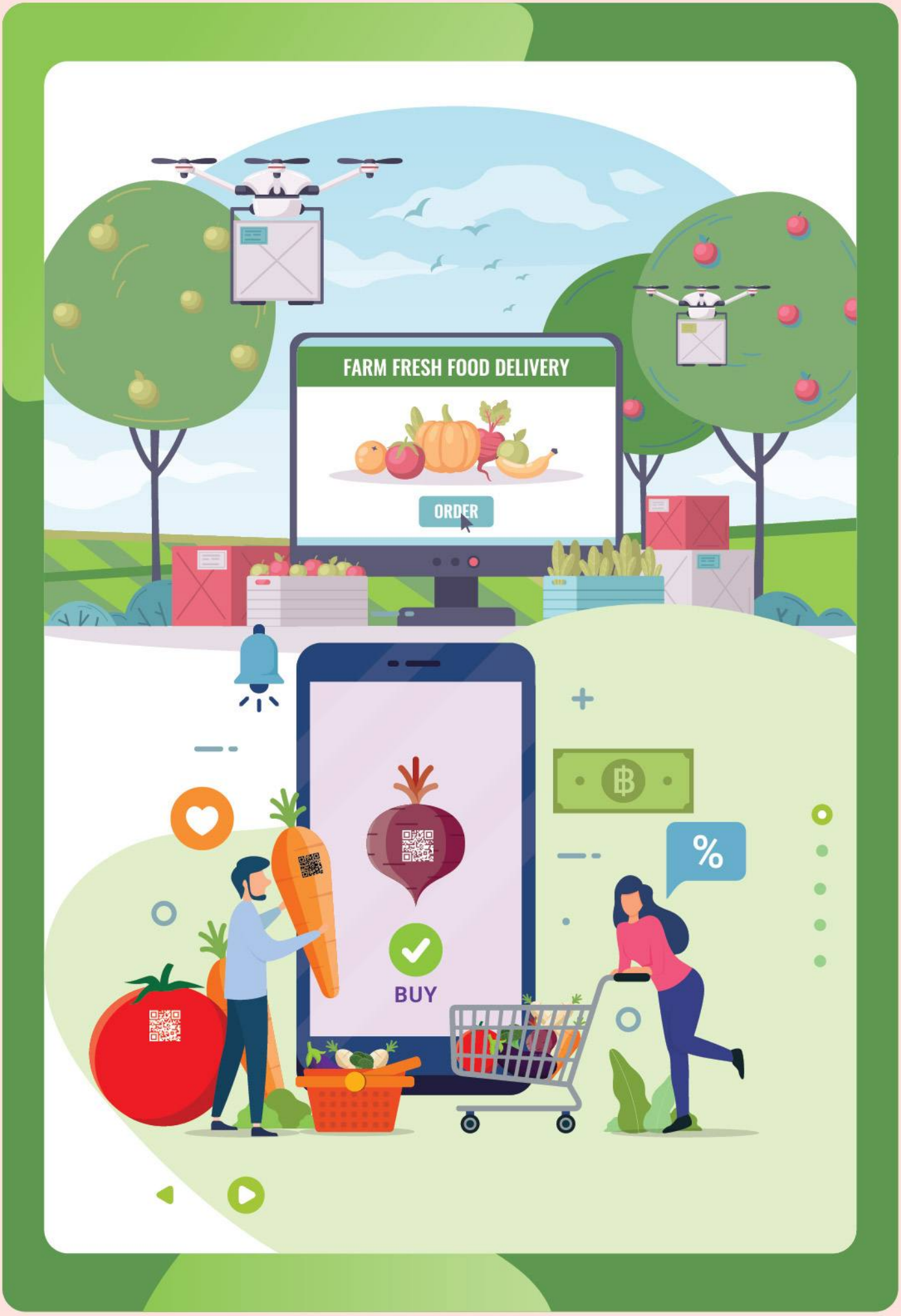








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Major Achievements in Fiscal 2023

Upstrem Mission

To ensure that the quality of agricultural products complies with standard from production sources to consumers, and business operators have guidelines for production and quality improvement of farm products, the compliance to standards of farm products is to be required and a consistent quality control of the production is to be achieved. Certification and inspection of agricultural products create confidence among both domestic and international consumers, enhancing the image of Thailand's agricultural product quality and increasing the export value. In the past year, ACFS has undertaken the following "upstream" initiatives:

National Agricultural Standard Setting

1. Agricultural standards with 409 standards in total

Voluntary standards totalling 400 standards

137 product standards,

202 production system standards,

and 61 general standards

Mandatory standards totalling 9 standards

1 product standard,

and 8 production system standards



2. Code of Practice on Inspection and Receiving of Durians for Collecting House and Packing House

ACFS has established the Code of Practice on Inspection and Receiving of Durians for Collecting House and Packing House (TAS 9070-2566). The Code specifies the procedures for inspecting and receiving durian fruit at collecting house and packing house, and training for harvest supervisors, inspectors for durian ripeness, and personnel involved in the inspection and acceptance of durian fruit. The code also specifies record-keeping for traceability, ensuring that only durians that meet the standards are marketed, exported, and imported. This builds confidence among consumers and in the trading arena. Furthermore, it provides guidelines for operators of collecting house and packing house to follow or improve their production processes, elevating the quality of Thai durians to meet the increasing competition in the global market. However, the standard does not cover the inspection and reception of durians for the production of ready-to-eat cut durian and frozen durian.













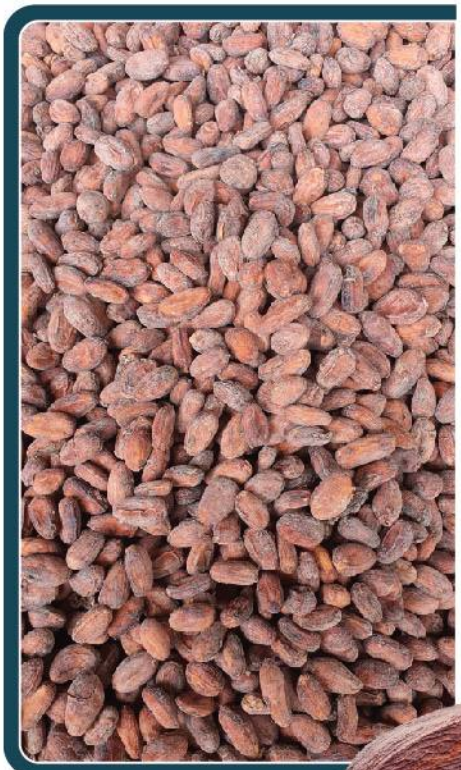
3. Cocoa Beans and Good Agricultural Practices for Cocoa

ACFS has established comprehensive standards for cocoa, covering from the cultivation field to cocoa beans sold for use as raw materials in the food industry. These standards have been set as a guide for the production of high-quality and safe-to-consume cocoa beans.

1) The agricultural standard "Good Agricultural Practices for Cocoa" is used as a guideline for producing *Theobroma cacao* L. It covers every step of cocoa production, including post-harvest practices and transportation, to ensure the resulting cocoa or dried cocoa beans after fermentation are of good quality and safe for consumption. The production process also focuses on environmental care and the safety of workers. This is in line with ASEAN standard "Good Agricultural Practices for the production of good quality cacao beans in the ASEAN Region" and the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ochratoxin A Contamination in Cocoa (CXC 72-2013)".







2) The agricultural standard for "Cocoa Beans" applies to whole fermented and evenly dried cocoa beans, which have not been roasted or deshelled before packing in containers that prevent external contamination and moisture. This standard includes requirements for essential components, quality criteria, sizing, size torelance, contaminants, pesticide residues, hygiene, criteria for packaging and quantity measuring, labeling, and methods of analysis and sampling.



4. Good Agricultural Practices for Mulberry Silkworm Farm

"Silk cocoons" are produced from the rearing of mulberry-eating silkworms belonging to butterfly scientifically known as Bombyx mori Linnaeus in the Bombycidae family. It is used as raw material for silk production. Additionally, the trend of consuming insects as food (edible insect), especially silkworm pupae, is increasingly popular. Therefore, ACFS has reviewed and amended the agricultural standard titled "Good Practices for Silk Cocoon Production," renaming it to "Good Agricultural Practices for Mulberry Silkworm Farm." The requirement has been updated to be more appropriate, encompassing the management of silkworm rearing locations, daily care and management of silkworms, handling mature silkworms, and harvesting to packaging. This ensures the production of quality young larva silkworms suitable for further rearing, grown silkworms and pupae for processing for safe consumption, or high-quality fresh cocoons for processing, thereby sustainably generating income for silk farmers.





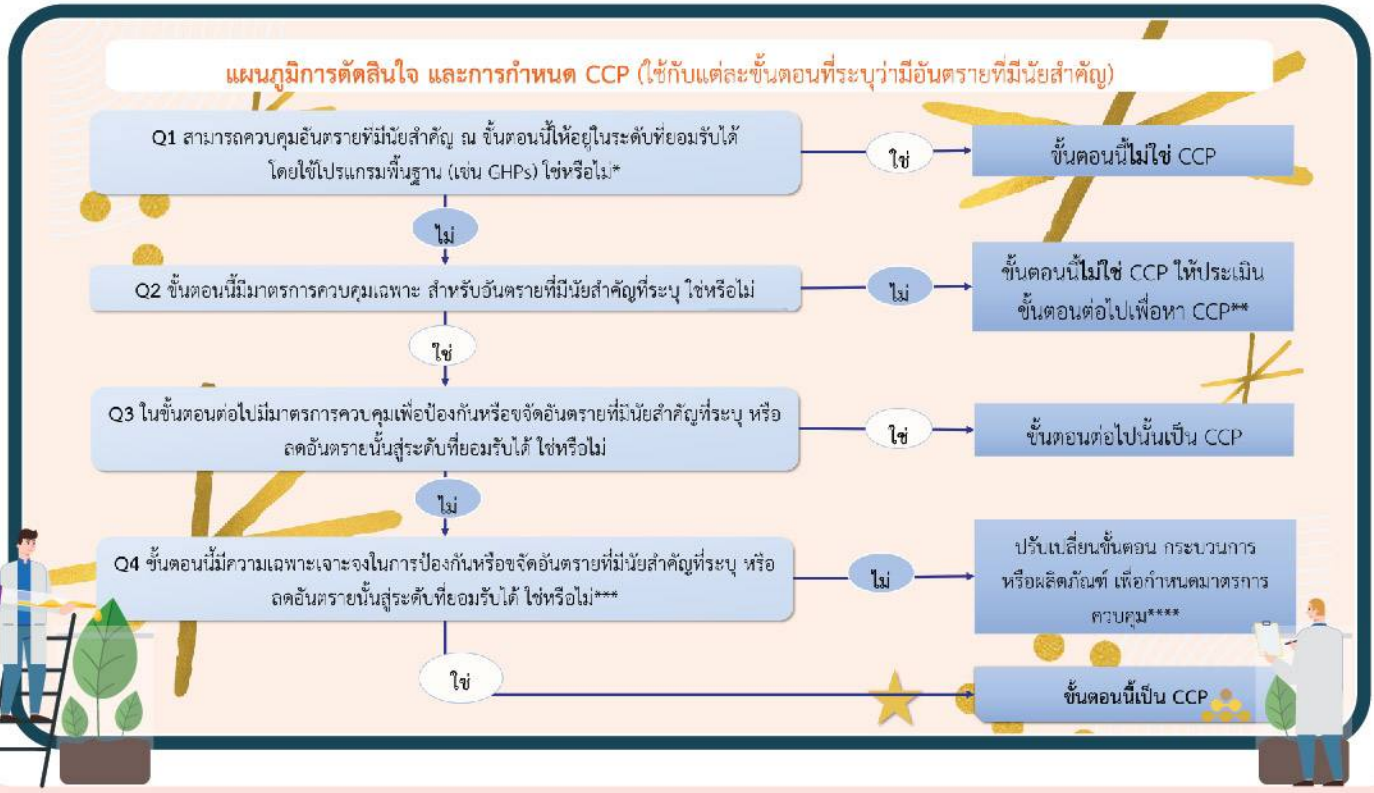


5. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System and Guidelines for Its Application,

The agricultural standard titled Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System and Guidelines for Its Application, (TAS 9024-2021) discusses the principles of the HACCP System. This system can be applied throughout the entire food chain, from primary production to final consumption. The application of HACCP should be based on scientific evidence, analyzing the likelihood and severity of hazards that affect human health. This ensures that agricultural products and food exported from Thailand are safe and responsive to changes, in line with international standards and consistent with the Codex General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969). This aims to protect consumer health and promote fair practices in the food trade.



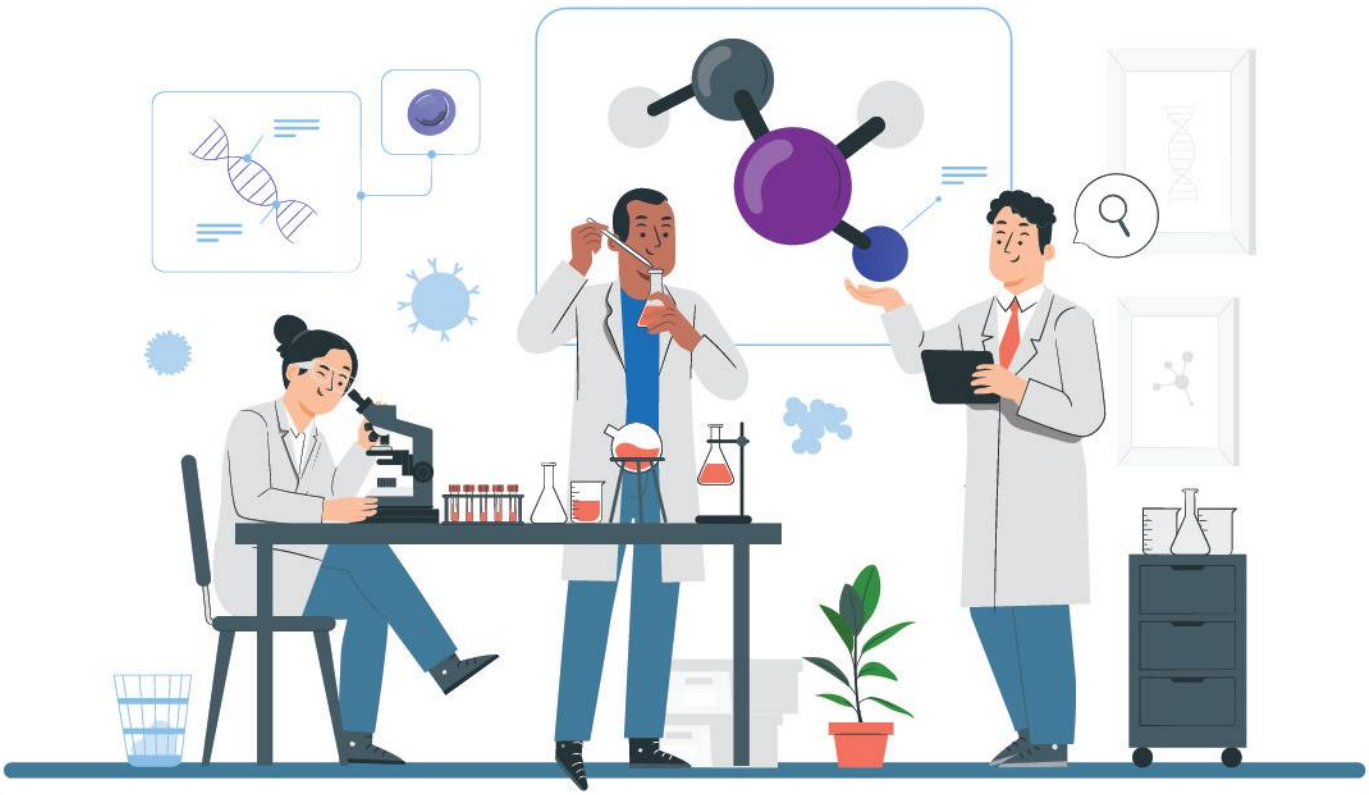




6. Guidelines on Bacterial Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing for Livestock



ACFS has established the agricultural standard titled "Guidelines on Bacterial Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing for Livestock" (TAS 9065-2023) outlining recommendations for laboratories conducting antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST). The recommendations provides guidance on standard testing methods recognized by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), and Codex Alimentarius (CODEX). These are methods of Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST), and International Organization for Standardization (ISO). In addition to the selection of testing methods, the recommendations also covers aspects such as choosing antimicrobial drug and the concentration for testing, interpretation of results, practical considerations, testing procedures, data recording and record keeping, analysis and reporting, and quality control and assurance, and proficiency testing in laboratory operations. This ensures the accuracy and global recognition of Thailand's laboratory testing for antimicrobial resistance in veterinary drugs, which can be applicable to the surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial resistance throughout the animal production chain and beneficial in promoting food safety.



7. Chain of Custody: Marine Shrimp Product from Sustainable Aquaculture



ACFS has established the agricultural standard titled "Chain of Custody: Marine Shrimp Product from Sustainable Aquaculture" (TAS 9066-2023) to enhance confidence in Thailand's sustainable marine shrimp production system throughout the production chain. It serves as a benchmark between Thailand's standard for certification system of seafood production and the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) and strengthens the country's competitiveness in international trade. This standard covers requirements within the chain of custody for marine shrimp products from farms certified with TAS 7401 or equivalent standards, including those recognized by GSSI or standards declared in TAS 9066-2023 by ACFS. The standard also includes provisions for operators in the supply chain, subcontractors, product segregation, personnel, documentation and record for traceability, labeling and claims, as well as record keeping. These requirements are references for enabling credibility and build consumer confidence that the shrimp products originate from a sustainable aquaculture system. The standard applies to both processed and unprocessed marine shrimp products.









8. Sustainable Rice Production Prototype Development Project

This project aims to educate and support farmers and farmer groups in understanding and adhering to the standard on sustainable rice production (TAS 4408-2022). The project also created a manual on practical guidelines for standard compliance in collaboration with relevant agencies. The project was implemented with farmer groups who are sustainable rice-producers of the Kha Nu Model from five sub-districts: San Tor, Pa Phutsa, Kong Phai, Ko Tal, and Pang Makha in Khanu Woralakburi District, Kamphaeng Phet Province, with 37 participants and covering approximately 180 Rai.





Initial assessments (Pre Audit) revealed that most participating farmers grow soft rice varieties like RD 79 and Hom Mae Jo 9. Some had prior experience in GAP production systems. They implemented sustainable rice standards in their fields, such as planning calendars for cultivation, preparing land for optimal conditions, and understanding safety principles and labor rights on farms. Some who have already harvested repurpose rice straw for other uses like selling as animal feed, thus avoiding burning and reducing pollution and greenhouse gases. They otherwise leave it to decompose in the fields and incorporate it as fertilizer for future cultivation.







9. Insects: Future Food Source and Sustainable Development



The use of insects as a supplement protein source in food can help reduce the use of agricultural resources and lessen environmental impacts. ACFS has taken various actions:

- Developed standards for insect farming, including Good Agricultural Practices for Cricket Farm (TAS 8202-2017). Also, standards for cricket products, such as dried and frozen crickets, are being established.







- Initiated a project to study best practices in producing Black Soldier Fly (BSF) larvae for use as animal feed.



- Implemented a project to upgrade cricket farm standards to high-value agriculture. This project aimed to train farmers according to the TAS 8202-2017 standard and prepare them for farm certification inspections by the Department of Livestock Development. The implementation was on July 18-19, 2023, 50 individuals from Phol and Nong Song Hong districts, Khon Kaen province, participated.





10. Driving Organic Agriculture in Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) into Certification System

ACFS has been implementing a project to upgrade organic agriculture in the Participatory Guarantee System into a certification systems since 2019, continuing until the present. The initiative aims to support the formation of groups of farmers engaged in organic agriculture in Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). This effort aligns with Agricultural Organic Action Plan 2017-2023 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. In 2023, the project was conducted in the provinces of Phetchaboon and Lopburi. The process involved surveying the areas to select groups of farmers suitable for development within the participatory certification system. Practical seminars were organized to educate farmers on the development of internal auditors within the participatory organic farming groups. Data in the Organic Agriculture Thailand Foundation's database found during

monitoring the progress of the participatory certification system revealed an increase of 72 farmers in in Phetchaboon province, and 19 in Lopburi province.









11. Study Project on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Agriculture for Trade Preparedness and Sustainable Production Development



Currently, reducing greenhouse gas emissions is an urgent environmental agenda of international concern. There is a global consensus on the necessity of reducing emissions in various production sectors, especially achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. This issue directly relates to the ACFS mission, as modern agricultural trade agreements are likely to incorporate sustainability aspects.

In 2022, ACFS initiated the "Study Project on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Agriculture for Trade Preparedness and Sustainable Production Development", having the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) as project advisor. The study focused on three products: rice, aromatic coconuts, and marine shrimp. In 2023, the project expanded to include other potential products and practices, launching "Phase 2 of the Study Project on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Agriculture for Trade Preparedness and Sustainable Production Development". This phase included studies on additional rice products and new studies on canned corn kernel and canned pineapple.

Current Status: ACFS and NSTDA are conducting in-depth data surveys, such as information on carbon labeling in trade partner countries and collecting data on production processes and environmental accounting of the studied products. The project is expected to be completed in January 2024.

Development of a web application: Last year, ACFS has developed a web application published online at **https://co2cal.acfs.go.th**, to enable farmers and operators to calculate and assess their own emissions. Upon completion of Phase 2, the project data will be added to this website.


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สำหรับคำนวณคาร์บอนฟุตพริ้นท์
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Participation in Standard Setting in International Organizations

Codex: Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programmes

Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and other Subsidiary Codex Committee

ACFS collaborated with relevant agencies to participate in the 45th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) in Rome, Italy, as well as via electronic media on November 21–25 and December 12-13, 2022. The meeting adopted standards for international implementation. Thailand has continuously played a role in drafting and providing feedback on standards which are crucial for production and trade.

1. Revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999): Essential composition of sunflower seed oils



2. HACCP Decision-Tree in General Principles of Food Hygiene



3. Guidelines for the Management of Biological Foodborne Outbreaks



4. Standard for Onions and Shallots, and Standard for dried or dehydrated chilli pepper and paprika



5. the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans



6. the Guidelines for the recognition of active substances or authorized uses of active substances of low public health concern that are considered exempted from the establishment of maximum residue limits or do not give rise to residues



7 adoption of 310 maximum residue limits; MRLs | **MRLs**

8 adoption of 13 maximum limits; MLs, including the MLs of aflatoxins for Maize grain destined for further processing, Husked rice, and Polished rice, among others.



In addition, Chilli Sauce, and Gochujang have also been adopted as regional standards for Asia Region.













ACFS and the 60th anniversary celebration of Codex

ACFS organized a seminar with the theme "60 Years of Codex: the Roles in International Standard Setting in Future". The seminar was convened on June 7, 2023, at the Best Western Nada Don Mueang Airport Hotel in Bangkok, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Codex and World Food Safety Day. The event aimed to promote awareness of Codex standards and highlighting the roles of ACFS's participation. There was a panel discussion on the direction of standard setting and elevating food production standards for future food safety, security, and sustainability.













WOAH: the World Organisation for Animal Health

The 90th General Session of the World Assembly of National Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

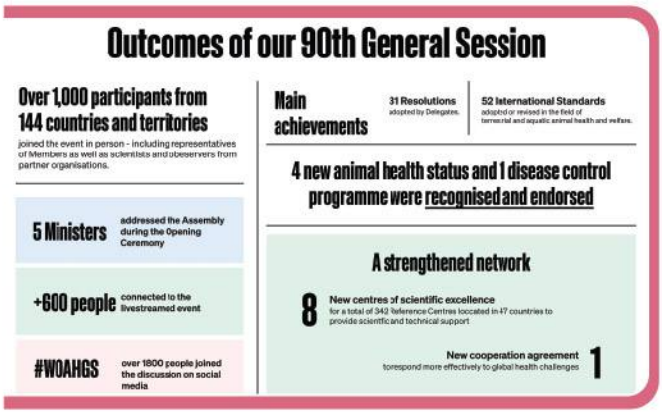
ACFS in collaboration with relevant agencies, participated in the 90th General Session of the World Organisation for Animal Health. The session took place from May 21-25, 2023, in Paris, France. the issues were:

1. Thailand was assigned as the representative to present the joint stance of the Asia-Pacific region on the support for the adoption of principles on compartmentalization with vaccination to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).
2. Thailand advocated for reassessing time/temperature parameters for aquatic animal products that do not impact product quality. The country proposed using scientifically appropriate evidence to designate these products as safe commodities, exempt from trade conditions for Tilapia Lake Virus (tilapia lake virus). WOAH acknowledged and placed this under study.
3. During the consideration on the recognition of animal health status of Members, Thailand successfully regained its disease-free status for African Horse Sickness.









IPPC: International Plant Protection Convention

17th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)

ACFS in conjunction with related agencies, participated in the 17th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) from March 27-31, 2023, in Rome, Italy. The key considerations and approved points included:

1. Adoption of four International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs):



- Additional amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms
- Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system : the Use of specific import authorizations
- the revision of Requirements for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure
- the irradiation treatment to control the mealybug Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi.

2. Adoption of the IPPC Communications Strategy 2022-2030 to enhance communication effectiveness supporting IPPC strategic objectives and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. Adoption on the establishment of a non-permanent sub-body of the CPM Bureau tasked with overseeing and managing international phytosanitary dispute suspension and designating the IPPC Secretary as the primary intake point for IPPC dispute submissions.

4. Participation in considering for a sustainable funding mechanism for the IPPC ePhyto Solution to support the operations of the ePhyto Hub. This would result in user countries contributing fees based on their development status as guided by World Bank criteria.





ASEAN Region

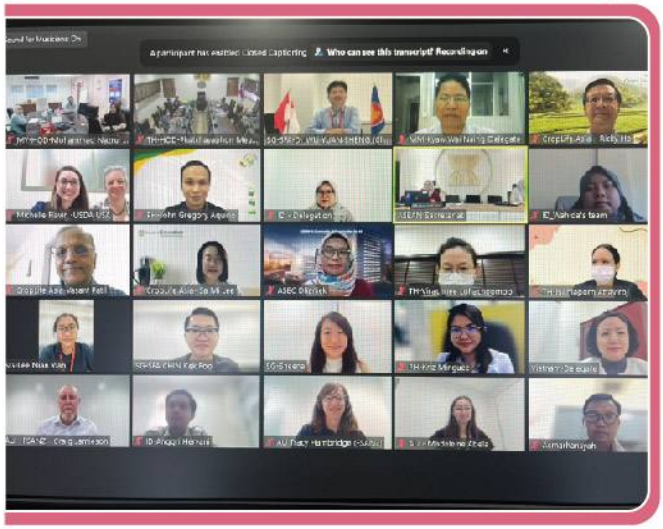
27th Session of The Experts Working Group on the Harmonization of Maximum Residue Limits (EWG-MRLs) of Pesticides among ASEAN Countries

ACFS together with the Department of Agriculture, (DOA), participated in the 27th meeting of The Experts Working Group on the Harmonization of Maximum Residue Limits (EWG-MRLs) of Pesticides among ASEAN Countries via electronic media on January 11-12, 2023. The significant issues considered and agreed upon are as follows:

1. Approval of the draft ASEAN Harmonised MRLs for seven values, six of which were proposed by Thailand, including: (1) Azoxystrobin in kale at 1.5 mg/kg, (2) Azoxystrobin in fruit- vegetables, excluding the cucumber family (except mushrooms and sweet corn) at 3 mg/kg, (3) Lambda-cyhalothrin in loose-skinned oranges at 0.2 mg/kg, (4) Emamectin benzoate in kale at 0.3 mg/kg, (5), Flonicamid in fruit-bearing vegetables, excluding the cucumber family (except mushrooms and sweet corn) at 0.4 mg/kg, and (7) Pyridaben in loose-skinned oranges at 1 mg/kg, and one value proposed by Malaysia: Cypermethrin in jackfruit at 0.4 mg/kg. It was deemed appropriate to propose these to the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC), the Senior Officials Meeting-ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF), and the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) for further consideration and endorsement as ASEAN Harmonised MRLs.

2. Approval of a list of 13 plant protection substances for inclusion in the ASEAN Harmonised MRLs plan, five of which were proposed by Thailand, including: (1) Emamectin benzoate in sweet corn, (2) Dinotefuran in durian, (3) Iprodione in kale, (4) Spinetoram in kale, (5) Tolfenpyrad in kale, and eight proposed by Malaysia, including: (1) Cyromazine in Chinese chives, (2) Tebuconazole in Chinese chives, (3) Trifloxystrobin in Chinese chives, (4) Cyromazine in spring onions, (5) Tebuconazole in spring onions, (6) Trifloxystrobin in spring onions, (7) Tebuconazole in coriander, and (8) Trifloxystrobin in coriander.





The 36th Session of Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group and Related Meetings

ACFS in collaboration with relevant agencies, participated through electronic media in the 36th Meeting of Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group (PFPWG) on February 27-28, 2023, the 9th Meeting of Joint Sectoral Committee on MRA for Inspection and Certification Systems on Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuff Products (JSC MRA on PF) on February 16-17, 2023 and the 7th Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Harmonisation of Prepared Foodstuff Standards (ACHPFS) on February 20-21, 2023. The significant outcome are as follows:

1. The Joint Sectoral Committee on MRA for Inspection and Certification Systems on Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuff Products (JSC MRA on PF) approved Thailand's proposal for the timeframe for ASEAN Member States to amend documents related to the assessment of inspection and certification system on food hygiene for prepared foodstuff products.





2. On the setting/harmonisation of ASEAN Prepared Foodstuff Standards

2.1 Approved the ASEAN Guidelines on Specific Measures for Ceramic Articles Intended to Come into Contact with Foodstuffs which Thailand has been the lead country for drafting the proposal.

2.2 Approved ASEAN Maximum Use Levels (MLs) for two food additives, namely butylated hydroxytoluene and sorbate.





Midstream Mission



To elevate agricultural production into a system in compliance with standards and ensure that the quality of agricultural products are certified, to equip farmers/operators/auditors with knowledge to enter standard production systems, and to enable production sources/business establishments to increasingly receive standard certifications, over the past year, ACFS has carried out related implementation as follows:"

1. Advancing projects inspired by royal initiatives:

This involves elevating the standards of agricultural products and cooperation between the ACFS, the Royal Project Foundation, the Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) (HRDI), and partner agencies. The goal is to promote, support, and develop a system for standardizing agricultural products for agencies involved in royal initiative projects. This creates a participatory process involving all network stakeholders, including local communities, the government, and the private sector. It is to develop the potential of producers to enter assurance system of agricultural products with safety standards. Key activities include:

▶▶▶▶▶ 1) Human resources development training for Royal Project officials and HRDI staff, on GAP standard for food crops (TAS 9001-2021) held on November 16-18, 2022, via Zoom Meeting, and on organic agriculture standard (TAS 9000-2021) on November 3-4, 2021, at the Rajapruek Park in Chiang Mai, with a total of 727 participants.









2) Development Project for Youth in Royal Project Foundation to be leaders in agricultural standards to prepare leaders among the youth in the project areas with knowledge of the project's operations and agricultural product standards. This was conducted three times with 150 participants, on:

- April 9-11, 2023, at the Mae Hia Agricultural Research, Demonstrative and Training Center and the Mae Hae Royal Project Development Center.
- April 28-30, 2023, at the Royal Project Foundation Meeting Room, Chanaka Dhibesra Damri, Royal Project Agricultural Research and Development Center and the Royal Agricultural Station Pang Da
- May 9-11, 2023, at the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon.













▶▶▶▶▶ 3) Development of Systems and Promotion of Standard Certification, including:

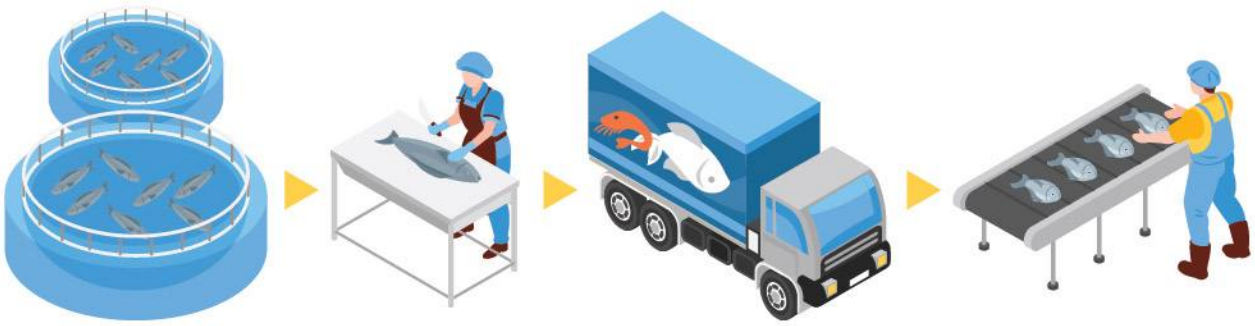
(1) The Standard for Good Aquaculture Practices for Food-Aquatic Animals Farm (GAP 7436-2020): Development of Royal Project aquaculture farms (Rainbow Trout and Sturgeon) to be ready for GAP certification from the Department of Fisheries. Two locations include the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon (already GAP certified) and the Royal Project Development Center Pa Miang (undergoing preparations for standard compliance).

(2) The Standard for Good Aquaculture Practices for Food-Aquatic Animals Farm (GAP 7436-2020): ACFS has collaborated with the Freshwater Aquaculture Research and Development Center, Region 1, Department of Fisheries. This Center is responsible for trout and sturgeon cultivation in the project "Little House in the Big Woods" as part of the Royal Initiative Projects, located at Doi Dam in Wiang Haeng, Chiang Mai. The aim is to achieve certification for trout and sturgeon aquaculture farms with the Standard for Good Aquaculture Practices for Food-Aquatic Animals Farm (GAP 7436-2020).









(3) Good Manufacturing Practices for Packing House of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (GMP 9035-2020): Implemented in collaboration with Royal Project Foundation to align production systems with the GMP standard aiming to earn certification from the certification body. Eight locations have received GMP certification from the Department of Agriculture.

- Huay Luek Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Mai
- Maesa Mai Royal Project Development Center , Chiang Mai
- Mae Lod Royal Project Research Station, Chiang Mai
- Tung Reng Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Mai
- Mon Ngor Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Mai
- Huai Lang Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Rai
- Pha Tang Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Rai
- Sango Royal Project Development Center, Chiang Rai

A total of 120 personnel with related responsibility in packing house of the Royal Project Foundation were trained in GMP standards.











(4) The standard on Good Manufacturing Practices for Collecting House of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (TAS 9047-2017): a project aims at agricultural and food product development in compliance with agricultural standard and training to prepare for the application for certification from the Department of Agriculture. The training was attended by 25 HDRI personnel and farmers from Highland Development Project, in Mae Jarim, Nan Province which is a project guided by the Royal Project Foudation model.

(5) The standard on Good Manufacturing Practices for Collecting House of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (TAS 9047-2017) in the "Rak Nam Phuae Phra Mae Kong Pandin" project: ACFS in collaboration with Phitsanulok Provincial Agriculture and Cooperatives Office, and HRDI to develop a collecting house for vegetables and fruits for a community enterprise of organic farming group "Rak Nam Lumnam Pak", in compliance with TAS 9047-2017 standard. The facility has applied for the GMP certification (GMP 9047-2017) from the Department of Agriculture.





(6) Good Manufacturing Practices for Packing House of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (TAS 9035-2020): ACFS in collaboration with the Pid Thong Lang Phra Foundation to develop production systems according to GMP standards (TAS 9035-2020) for a community enterprise group of organic coconut farmers in Thung Pong Sub-district, Ubon Ratchathani Province. The project aims to achieve GMP certification and the certification has been earned from the Department of Agriculture, in the scope of white trimmed, white trimmed with green base, trimmed with green husk coconut products. The project also aimes at development of knowledge and operation procedures for 20 personnel





▶▶▶▶▶ 4) Certification System Development:

(1) Training program on the requirements for applying for system certification (ILAC-P15: 05/2020) and risk and opportunity analysis for inspection units (Risks and Opportunities for ISO/IEC 17020) held on February 27-28, 2023, at Chiang Mai Grand View Hotel, Chiang Mai, with 20 participants.

(2) Training workshop program on the development of criteria and conditions for inspection and certification units for personnel from the Royal Project Foundation held on June 12-13, 2023, at Siripanna Hotel, Chiang Mai, with 23 participants.

(3) Preparedness and development project for Certification Bodies/Inspection Bodies (CB/IB) to develop human resources as personnel working within the quality system of the Royal Project Foundation. The project involves developing quality system documents and organizational work systems to become a certification body according to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 standards to provide certification services for both internal and external organizations on the audit of standards for food crops (eg. Chinese cabbage, cabbage, bell peppers, lettuce), and developing competent personnel for inspection roles. A total of 12 individuals have undergone training and received documentation on the quality control system according to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 for the inspection unit.

(4) A Meeting to discuss the development of work plans and criteria for assessing the competency of auditor personnel from Royal Project Foundation. This took place on October 19-20, 2023, at Siripanna Hotel, Chiang Mai, with 23 participants.









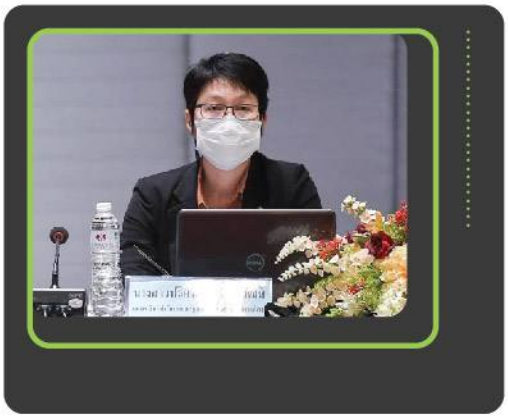


2. Development of a New Product Certification System through the Application of Supplier Audit System to Enhance Producers' Capabilities for Entering into the Standard Agricultural Product Certification System

ACFS has been assigned as the focal agency to coordinate with relevant agencies to take supporting actions on the policy of transferring the responsibility of inspecting and certifying agricultural and food products from the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 1) A public hearing session was held to take feedback on the draft manual for evaluating farmers/farmer groups under the Supplier Audit system for factories/businesses facilities. This seminar, aimed at listening to stakeholders' opinions, led to improvements and finalization of the manual. This complete manual was then disseminated to provide guidelines for controlling raw materials and production processes to ensure safety throughout the supply chain. The event took place on December 19, 2022, at TK Palace Convention Hotel with 90 participants.







2) A workshop titled “Integration for Facilitating business operators who use the Supplier Audit Manual” was conducted on August 23, 2023, at Amari Don Muang Airport Hotel, Bangkok, with 60 participants.















▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 3) A training program for farmers on “Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops and Internal Control System (ICS) for Application with Supplier Audit” was held on February 15, 2023, at Monte Maesot Hotel, Tak Province, with 49 participants.

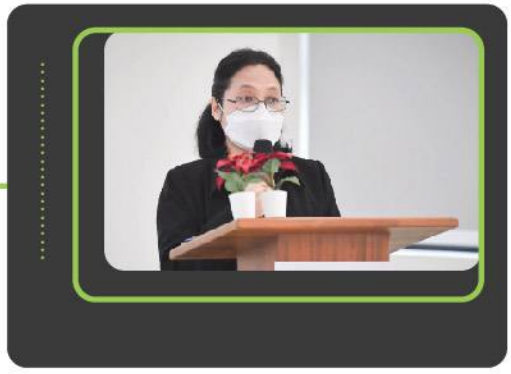
▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 4) A training course for agricultural consultants on GAP standard for food crops for application with the Supplier Audit system took place on February 16, 2023, and between February 21-22, 2023, at Monte Maesot Hotel, Tak Province, with 38 participants.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 5) A workshop training session on “Approaches and Techniques for the Audit Based on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops and Internal Control System (ICS) for Application with Supplier Audit”system was held on March 8-9, 2023, and March 15-16, 2023, at Monte Maesot Hotel and a local farm in Tak Province, with 40 participants.











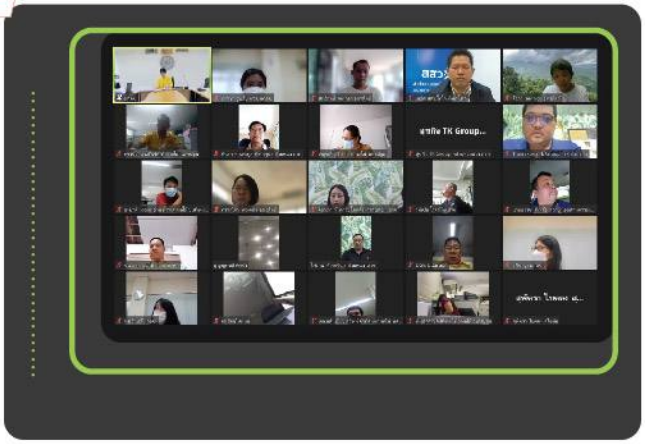
6) A training program to prepare for the certification of produce and products through the application of the Supplier Audit system for factories/business faciities was conducted in an online format via Zoom on June 19, 2023, with 65 participants.





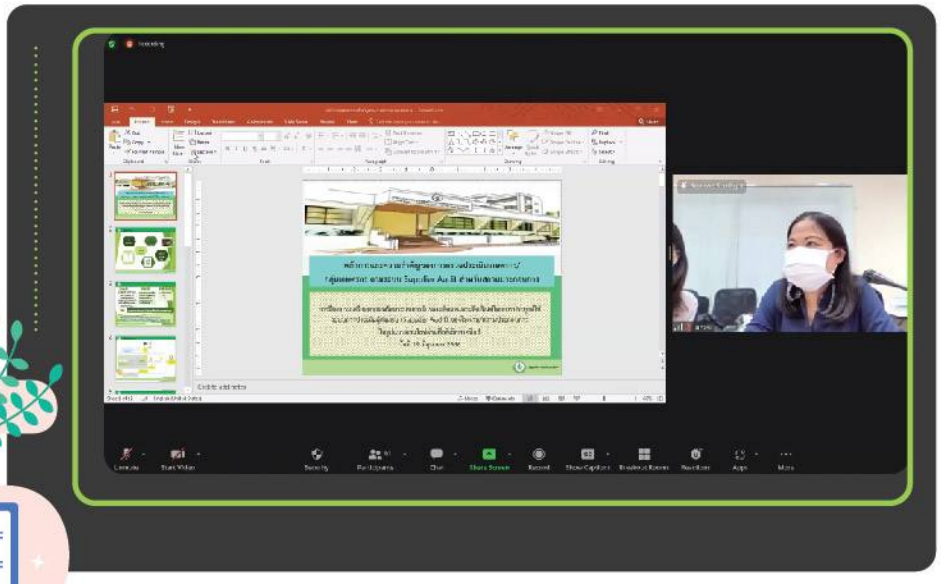












3. Training Course Workshop on the Development of Agricultural Standard Auditors



1) Training course workshop on audit inspection according to sea salt standard from April 24-26, 2023, at I-thara Resort and Spa and a sea salt farm in Petchaburi Province. Thirty-one participants attended the training from the Department of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Extension, and the Department of Fisheries.













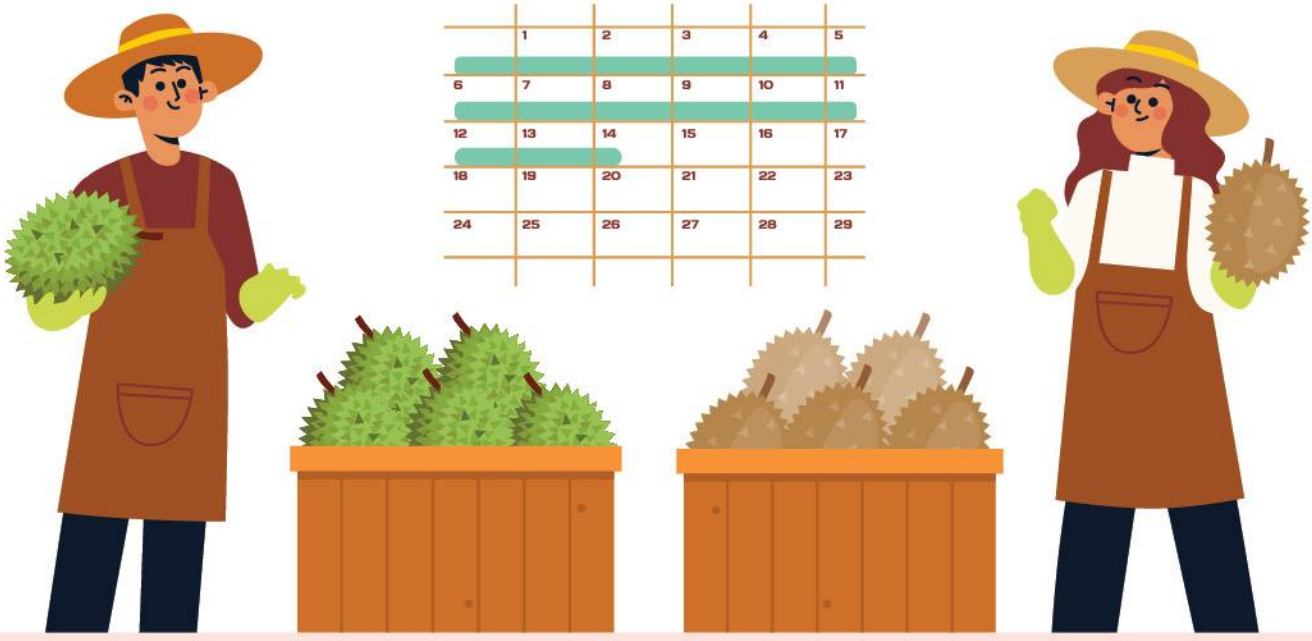
2) Training course workshop on the development of auditors according to the agricultural standard, on the Code of Practice on Inspection and Receiving of Durians for Collecting House and Packing House. The training took place on August 21-22, 2023, at Asia Airport Hotel in Pathum Thani. Thirty-nine participants attended the training from the Department of Agriculture and private-sector certification bodies.













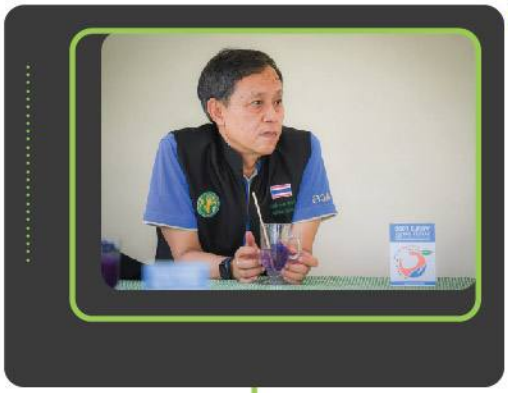
4. Herbal Plants

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has notified the Agricultural Standard "Good Agricultural Practices for Herbs (TAS. 3502-2018)", covering all stages of herbal plant production, from cultivation to post-harvest practices, including packaging and/or collecting for sale. This ensures the quality and safety of herbal raw materials suitable for processing into herbal products, considering environmental, health, safety, and worker welfare. This also supports the efficient implementation of standard TAS. 3502-2018 and backs the national policy according to the second National Herbs Action Plan, 2023-2027, with the following activities:

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 1) Project to enhance the capabilities of agricultural advisors in the standard of economic herbal plants (TAS.3502-2018) in Chiang Rai Province, involving 60 individuals.







▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 2) Project to promote and upgrade the production of economic herbal plants in Herbal City according to the standard of herbal plants (TAS 3502-2018), targeting farmers in Uthai Thani Province, with 100 participants.









3) Project to elevate and promote the application of the GMP standard TAS. 9023-2021 in business establishments (herbs) at the community enterprise group processing herbs in Nong Koo, Na Dun, Mahasarakham Province





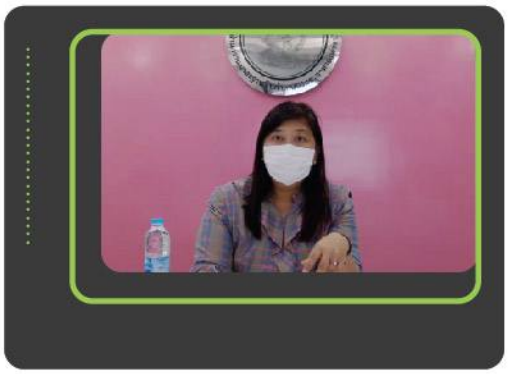


4) Developing "guidelines for the application of the standard "Good Agricultural Practices for Herbs" to provide detailed academic explanations and methodologies in line with the requirements of the standard TAS. 3502-2018.



5. Q Volunteer Project

ACFS has undertaken the Q Volunteer Project for agricultural standards since the 2016 fiscal year. This initiative aims to create personnel who act as representatives of ACFS, serving as consultants in agricultural standards, capable of providing preliminary audit, and offering advice to farmers to guide them in aligning their practices with agricultural product standards. Those who successfully complete the Q Volunteer training will be registered in the "Agricultural Volunteer Database (AVD)" and in the “Village Agriculture Volunteer Database (VAVD)” (https://asa-center.doae.go.th) managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Currently, there are 591 Q Volunteers actively participating in the project.











6. Boosting and Promoting GMP application in business establishment



The project to boost and to promote GMP application in business establishment was conducted to elevate the hygiene practices in agricultural production during packing and processing of agricultural products, The activities include training on Good Manufacturing Practices for the Collecting House of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (TAS 9047-2560), developing quality system documents as per GMP standards for the collecting house of fresh fruits and vegetables, implementing the quality system documents in operational facilities, conducting internal audits, and assessing readiness for GMP certification. The initiative involves 17 participants from the community enterprise "Collaborative Organic Vegetable Farm" at The Sufficiency Economy Agricultural Estate in Wang Nam Khiao District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province













7. Phase 2 of the Safe Food Network of Young Smart Farmers to Communities Project

ACFS launched Phase 2 of this project to transfer knowledge on Agricultural Standards (TAS) across various scopes including plant, fisheries, and livestock. The aim is to promote the application of these standards and to enhance understanding of safe food production and consumption. The project educates young smart farmers on standards like Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for food plants, fisheries, livestock, rice, and Organic Agriculture Standards (TAS 9000-2564) for use in education or future operations as knowledgeable young smart farmers in agricultural standards, and be safe food producers, able to strengthen, and promote sustainable food security for communities. The target groups are students and staff in agricultural vocational education. Last year's achievements include:

1) Academics and students from agricultural vocational education institutes, agricultural and technology colleges, and affiliated fisheries colleges participated in GAP training for plants, rice, fisheries, livestock, and organic standards through online sessions, totaling 34 institutions / 364 individuals.









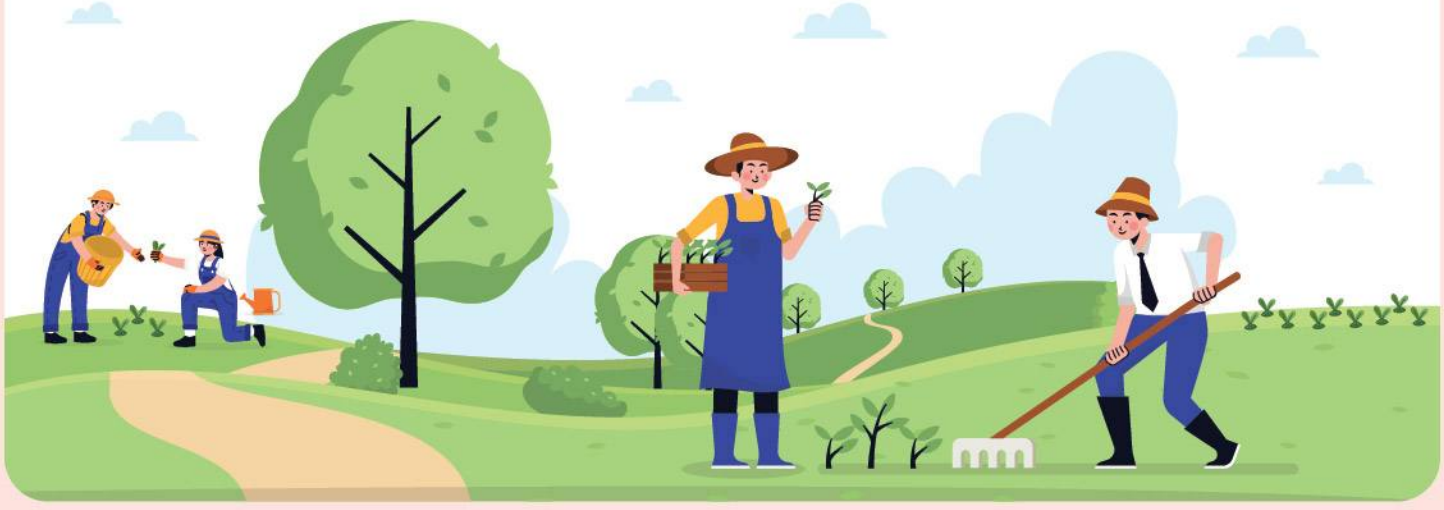
2) Agricultural and Technology Colleges submitted 16 projects for competition, with 43 projects. Among these, 23 projects met the criteria and were selected.











8. Capacity Development on Agricultural Standards for farmers in Collaborative farms

ACFS executed the Capacity Development project on Agricultural Standards for farmers in Collaborative farms in 2023 in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province. The project aimed to enhance production and elevate the quality of agricultural products in collaborative farms to meet certification standards. The activities included:

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 1) Developing knowledge for farmers' in mangosteen collaborative farming on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops (TAS 9001-2564) to enter the certification system.





▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 2) Conducting training sessions to provide understanding on displaying certification marks for collaborative farmers in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province.







3) Developing collecting houses for fresh fruits and vegetables to comply with the Good Manufacturing Practices for collecting house of fresh fruits and vegetables (TAS 9047-2560).



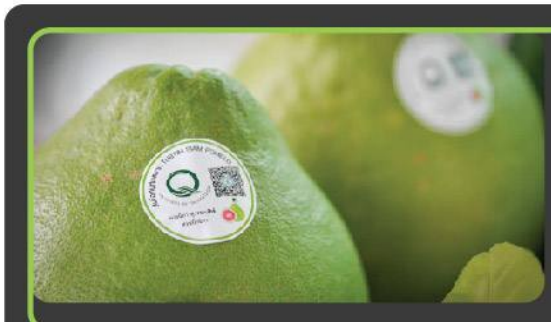


4) Organizing a seminar to summarize the results of the agricultural capacity development project in collaborative farms to wrap up challenges and threats in 2023, awarding certification (TAS 9001-2564) to 85 certified farmers and supporting the display of certification marks (Q marks) for 60 individuals. The seminar also covered the topic "Opportunities and Challenges of collaborative farm Products in Nakhon Si Thammarat," with speakers from Nakhon Si Thammarat Provincial Agricultural Extension Office, Marketing Organization for Farmers (MOF), TOP Supermarket, ACFS, and mangosteen farmers. The event aimed to exchange knowledge, discuss issues and challenges, suggest marketing strategies for receiving higher price for collaborative farm products, and facilitate market matching sessions to improve farmers' product sales and address the issue of low prices for agricultural products.









9. Agricultural Wholesale Market

Agricultural Wholesale Market is a venue for the sale of agricultural products in bulk volume. It plays a crucial role in consolidating and distributing produce within the supply chain of production, further sale, or export. Therefore, it is vital for managing quality and food safety before products reach consumers. To ensure that the goods from the central market are safe for consumption, traceable back to their source, and manageable before entering the market, while quality is maintained, losses are reduced, and handling processes are easy until they reach the consumer. ACFS and related agencies have integrated and driven management practices for the Agricultural Wholesale Market to be effectively implemented and yield tangible results, as follows:

1) In the project to upgrade the quality of products in agricultural wholesale market, ACFS in collaboration with the Thai Agricultural Wholesale Market Association (TAWMA), signed an agreement on September 29, 2021, to promote and support the application of agricultural product standards (TAS standards) in Agricultural Wholesale Markets. This has been implemented in two phases:

- Phase 1: Developing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for applying TAS standard on fresh fruits and vegetables in Agricultural Wholesale Market.





- Phase 2: Developing a prototype for applying TAS standards in Talad Thai Agricultural Wholesale Market, and preparing for Phase 3, which is readying the system for inspection and certification according to quality standards.





2) Establishing agricultural standard on Management for Agricultural Wholesale Market (TAS 9069-2023), covering requirements for quality and food safety management in Agricultural Wholesale Market for food crops and herbal plants, such as requirements on food safety management of products without certification and those which are certified products with voluntary or mandatory standards, venue, and facilities. This does not cover wholesale market for rice and field crops as per the regulations of the Department of Internal Trade on the promotion of agricultural wholesale market establishment, B.E. 2554.

















10. System Accreditation

Currently, ACFS is recognized for its Accreditation system by three international organizations:

1) The Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC),

2) The International Accreditation Forum (IAF),

3) The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC).

This recognition from these international organizations enhances confidence in Thailand's inspection and certification systems at both national and international levels. It promotes international trade, reduces redundant inspection processes at destination countries, and increases the flow of trade for Thai agricultural and food products.











11. Technology Supporting Standards

ACFS has leveraged technology to enhance agricultural and food production, preparing for standard certification systems. This initiative promotes the adoption of agricultural standards throughout all sectors of Thai agriculture, enabling farmers to create opportunities and expand market access, trade, and investment. It aligns with the ongoing digital transformation globally. The key technologies include:



11.1 CAB Services System

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 1) Services system comprising certification system, licensing system for certified operators, and registration system for agricultural and food testing laboratories.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 2) Data Linkage system with government databases:

- Population database of the Ministry of Interior through the Linkage Center system.
- Corporate database of the Department of Business Development, Ministry of Commerce, through the Government Data Exchange Center (GDX) of the Digital Government Development Agency (Public Organization).
- Database for laboratory certification of the Bureau of Laboratory Quality Standards, Department of Medical Sciences, Ministry of Public Health.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 3) Supports e-Signature on license documents and e-Payment through Crossbank Bill Payment.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 4) API data linkage with the Biz Portal system to facilitate service requests.

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 5) The service for issuing licenses to operate as a Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) through the electronic system (CAB Services: https://cabservices.acfs.go.th) in the fiscal year 2023 can be summarized as follows:

(1) Issued 11 new certifications for certification bodies,
(2) renewed 29 certifications, and
(3) revised 19 certifications (standard changes).

▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶ 6) Conducted practical training for three courses:

(1) Online training for enhancing skills and understanding of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard requirements, with 328 participants.
(2) Online course on the importance of instrument calibration for food industry and agricultural products according to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard, with 305 participants.
(3) Online course on decision rule for laboratory test results under the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard, with 224 participants.



CAB Services

การเปิดระบบการออกใบอนุญาต เป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน (CAB Services)



E-services บริการออกใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน ตามพระราชบัญญัติมาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตร พ.ศ. 2551 และที่แก้ไขเพิ่มเติม แก่หน่วยรับรอง (CB) และหน่วยตรวจ (IB) มาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตร (มกษ.) ที่ได้รับการรับรองระบบงานจากหน่วยรับรองระบบงานของประเทศไทย

ผู้รับบริการสามารถยื่นคำขอได้ดังนี้

01 ขอรับใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน	5,000 บาท/ฉบับ
02 ขอต่ออายุใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน	2,500 บาท/ฉบับ
03 ใบแทนใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน	50 บาท/ฉบับ
04 ขอเปลี่ยนสถานที่ทำการประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน	ไม่มีค่าธรรมเนียม

เปิดลงทะเบียนใช้งานตั้งแต่วันที่ 28 กุมภาพันธ์ 2565 เป็นต้นไป

https://cabservices.acfs.go.th

สำนักงานมาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตรและอาหารแห่งชาติ
กองรับรองมาตรฐาน กลุ่มวิชาการห้องปฏิบัติการและการอนุญาต
โทร. 02-5612277 ต่อ 1241-1247 e-mail: labacfs@gmail.com

ขั้นตอนการออกใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ประกอบการตรวจสอบมาตรฐาน ผ่านระบบ CAB Services หรือระบบ Biz Portal



สำนักงานมาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตรและอาหารแห่งชาติ (มกอช.)
กองรับรองมาตรฐาน (กรร.)
กลุ่มวิชาการห้องปฏิบัติการและการอนุญาต
โทร. 02-5612277 ต่อ 1241-1247
e-mail : labacfs@gmail.com

https://bizportal.go.th/ https://cabservices.acfs.go.th/



11.2 TAS – License System

: This is an electronic system for submitting applications for licenses as a producer, exporter, or importer and for notifying agricultural imports and exports in compliance with mandatory standards. This system offers services and conveniences to related operators, including:

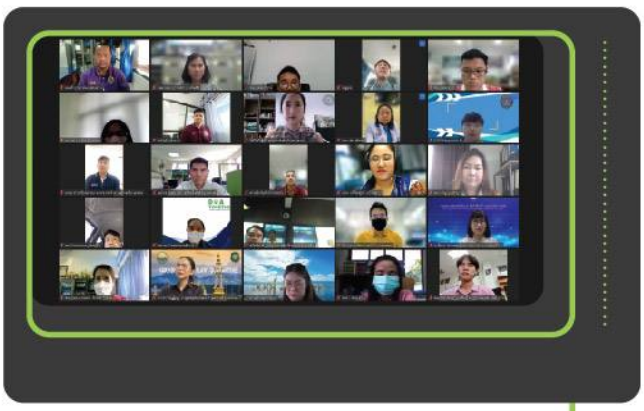
- Electronic signature (E-signature) for document authentication.
- Electronic payment options for license fees, such as Internet Mobile Banking, Cross Bank, Counter Service, etc.
- Linking import-export notification data of agricultural products under mandatory standards with specific customs codes, in coordination with the Customs Department through the National Single Window (NSW) system.
- Integration of standard certification data with the E-Coding system.
- A dashboard report summarizing license issuance and import-export notifications.
- Delegation of license issuance and import-export notification responsibilities to other agencies.

In the 2023 fiscal year, the system resulted in a total of 4,551 licenses issued, 23,016 export notifications with a volume of 767,554 tons and valued at 37,948 million baht, and 1,112 import notifications with a volume of 61,687 tons and valued at 1,842 million baht.











ระบบ TAS-License

ระบบยื่นคำขอรับใบอนุญาตเป็นผู้ผลิต ผู้ส่งออก ผู้นำเข้า และแจ้งการนำเข้า-ส่งออกสินค้าเกษตรตามมาตรฐานบังคับ (TAS-License) เป็นระบบให้บริการด้านการจัดการใบอนุญาตสำหรับผู้ประกอบการสินค้าเกษตรตามมาตรฐานบังคับภายใต้พระราชบัญญัติมาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตร พ.ศ. 2551 โดยระบบดังกล่าวพัฒนาการบริการในรูปแบบเว็บเซอร์วิส รองรับกับการใช้บริการผ่านเครื่องคอมพิวเตอร์ แทบเล็ต และโทรศัพท์มือถือในระบบ IOS และ Android ซึ่งมีเมนูการใช้งานที่สำคัญ ได้แก่



1. การยื่นคำขอรับใบอนุญาต (มกษ.1,3 และ 5) และการออกใบอนุญาต (มกษ.2, 4 และ 6)
2. การยื่นแจ้งส่งออกสินค้าเกษตร (มกษ.7) และการออกใบรับแจ้งส่งออก (มกษ.7-1)
3. การยื่นแจ้งนำเข้าสินค้าเกษตร (มกษ.8) และการออกใบรับแจ้งการนำเข้า (มกษ.8-1)
4. การขอต่ออายุใบอนุญาต (มกษ.9) การขอใบแทนใบอนุญาต (มกษ.10) การขอย้ายสถานที่ทำการ (มกษ.11)

ทั้งนี้ระบบ TAS-License มีการเชื่อมโยงข้อมูลกับกรมการปกครอง และกรมพัฒนาธุรกิจการค้า เพื่อตรวจสอบข้อมูลความเป็นบุคคลตามกฎหมายในขั้นตอนการพิจารณาออกใบอนุญาต นอกจากนั้นยังเชื่อมโยงข้อมูลกับระบบ National Single Windows ของกรมศุลกากรในการส่งข้อมูลการรับแจ้งส่งออก-นำเข้าสินค้าเกษตร เพื่อจัดทำใบขนสินค้าและการตรวจปล่อยสินค้าของเจ้าหน้าที่

ขั้นตอนการขอรับใบอนุญาต ผ่านระบบ TAS-License

1. ผู้ประกอบการลงทะเบียนสมัครสมาชิก ผ่าน http://tas.acfs.go.th/nsw
2. กรอกแบบฟอร์มขอรับใบอนุญาต เป็นผู้ผลิต ผู้ส่งออก หรือผู้นำเข้า และแนบเอกสารให้ครบถ้วน
3. เจ้าหน้าที่ตรวจสอบความถูกต้องของข้อมูล
4. ผู้ประกอบการชำระค่าธรรมเนียมใบอนุญาต
5. ออกใบอนุญาตและเสนอผู้มีอำนาจลงนามแบบอิเล็กทรอนิกส์ (e-Signature)
6. ผู้ประกอบการพิมพ์ใบอนุญาต และใบเสร็จรับเงิน ผ่านระบบ TAS-License





สามารถเข้าถึงระบบ TAS-License ได้ที่ https://tas.acfs.go.th/nsw

Scan QR Code

ติดต่อสอบถามข้อมูลเพิ่มเติม

กลุ่มงานอนุญาตและขึ้นทะเบียน กองควบคุมมาตรฐาน สำนักงานมาตรฐานสินค้าเกษตรและอาหารแห่งชาติ
โทรศัพท์ 02-561-2277 ต่อ 5227, 098-248-1233, 095-871-2113
Line ID : permitacfs
e-mail : permitacfs@gmail.com



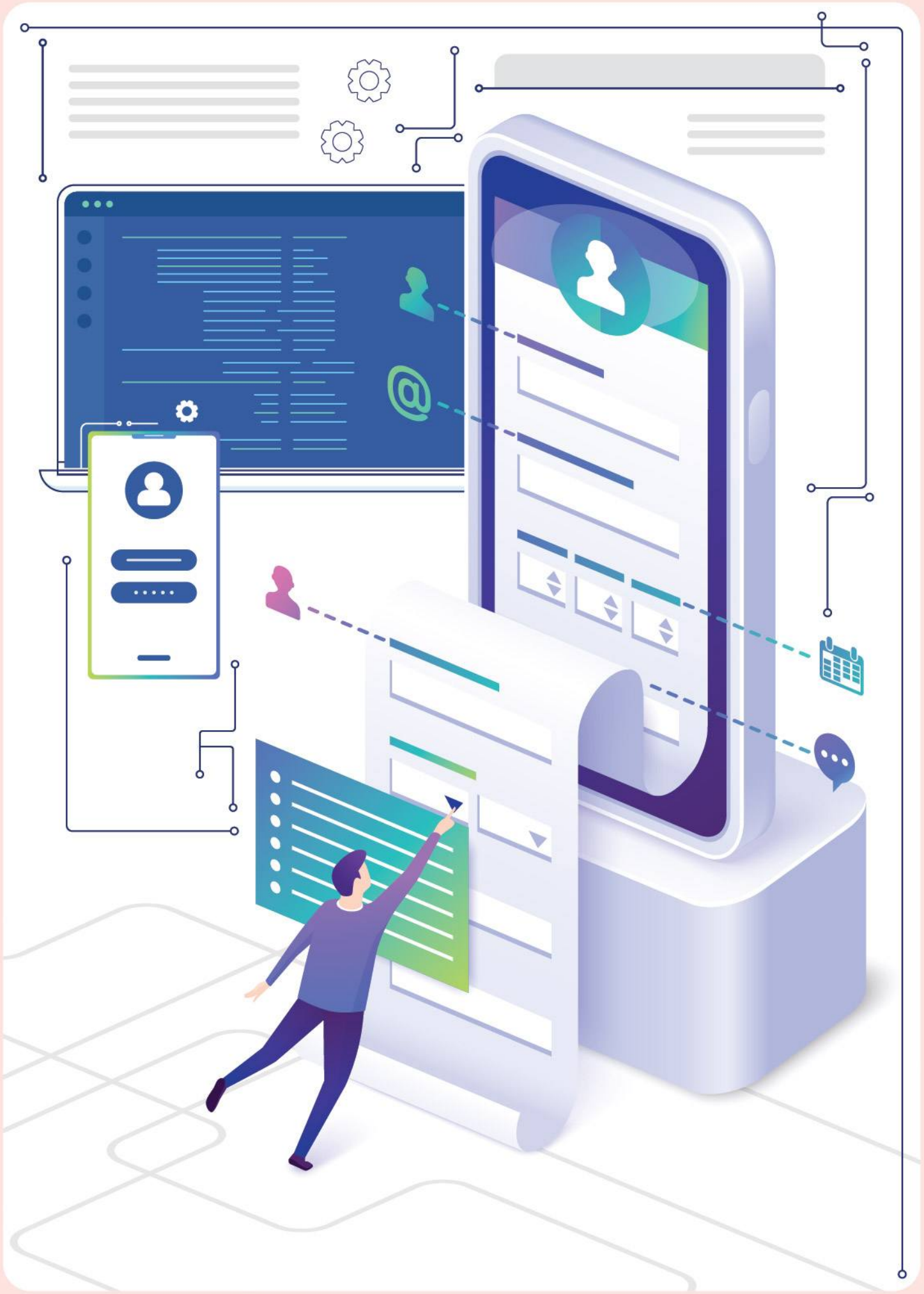
11.3 E-Coding System

: A Web Service platform that facilitates standards certification operators (CB/CA) and importers in applying for agricultural product standard certification codes, including:

- Integration of the ThaiTRACES and TAS-License systems to simplify the service request process for applicants (Single entry service & policy).
- Electronic signature (E-signature) for document authentication.
- An automated system for approving certification codes and a notification system for suspending, revoking, or canceling standard certifications for relevant officials.
- Utilization of artificial intelligence for automatic verification of code approval requests.
- Provision of QR code generation and the creation of QR code pages for promotional purposes for those who are certified.
- A system for recording the buying and selling of agricultural products throughout the production chain.

In the 2013 fiscal year, a total of 3,591 codes were approved under Section 27, and 832 codes were approved under Section 29.





11.4 Online Learning System (E-learning) [https://elearning.acfs.g.th]

ACFS has implemented two online learning courses, namely Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops (TAS 9001-2021) and Organic Agriculture: The Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produce and Products (TAS 9000-2021). In total, 1,123 individuals enrolled (some registered for more than one course), with 627 people registering for the GAP Food Crops course and 495 for the Organic Agriculture course.

Additionally, ACFS plans to develop two more courses: Internal Control System and Agricultural Standard on Code of Practice on Inspection and Receiving of Durians for Collecting House and Packing House (TAS 9070-2023).



Downstream Mission

To ensure that agricultural products have quality consistent with standard, and are safe before reaching consumers, efforts have been made to promote the production sector and the certification bodies to use the Q mark as an indication that agricultural produce is of quality, safe, and conforms to production standards. The online channels have also been created for the sale of standard agricultural products.

1. Control, Supervision, Monitoring, and Inspection of Mandatory Standards

The operation of controlling, supervising, monitoring, and inspecting the activities of licensed producers, importers, and exporters regulated by the mandatory standards under the Agricultural Product Standards Act, B.E. 2551 (2008), is a crucial task to ensure that licensed operators comply with relevant regulations and laws, fostering consumer confidence in the quality and safety of agricultural products.

1.1 Agricultural Product Supervision Project under the Agricultural Standards Act, B.E. 2551 (2008)

- Monitoring 496 licensed producers, importers, and exporters of agricultural products.
- Monitoring 5 certification bodies and laboratories.









1.2 Agricultural Product Safety Surveillance Project According to Mandatory Standards

▶Random check on agricultural product quality according to mandatory standards was carried out in laboratories accredited under ISO/IEC 17025, including 40 samples of longan, 20 samples of frozen durian, and 10 samples of peanuts, totaling 70 samples.





1.3 Agricultural Product Safety Surveillance Project According to voluntary standard

▶ Random check was carried out in laboratories accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 for 4 groups of pesticides (Pesticide 4 groups) in 231 in vegetable samples and 70 fruit samples, accredited under ISO/IEC 17025, totaling 301 samples.







+



1.4 Inspection of the Use and Display of Agricultural Product Standard Certification Marks (2564-2566)

▶ Q mark for voluntary standards in **300 samples.**

▶ Q mark for mandatory standards in **247 samples.**



1.5 The delegation of duty to the Department of Livestock Development on issuing licenses for producers, exporters, or importers of agricultural products according to the mandatory standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Pig Farm (TAS 6403-2565).

ACFS has issued a notification delegating the Department of Livestock Development to issue licenses for the production, export, or import of agricultural products according to the mandatory standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Pig Farm (TAS 6403-2565). This is to facilitate operators in obtaining licenses and to enhance efficiency in controlling and supervising pig farms in compliance with the Agricultural Product Standards Act, B.E. 2551 (2008), as driven by both ACFS and the Department of Livestock Development, as follows:

1) Organizing seminars to educate pig farm operators, totaling 272 people.



2) Exchanging working procedures for receiving applications and considering issuing licenses for producers, exporters, and importers of agricultural products according to mandatory standards through the TAS-License system. This is to ensure that the Department of Livestock Development officials can correctly use the system in considering license applications, totaling 50 people.



3) Deploying a Mobile Unit service, in conjunction with the Department of Livestock Development officials, to accept license applications for producers of agricultural products according to the said mandatory standards. This aims to create understanding about the application process and the use of the TAS-License system among farmers, operators, and local Department of Livestock Development officials, and to accept license applications for pig fattening farms with at least 500 pigs and pig breeding farms with at least 95 pigs.

Currently, a total of 5,084 licenses have been issued, divided into:

- 5,046 licenses for producers
- 31 licenses for exporters
- 7 licenses for importers



2. Expanding the implementation of the Agricultural Product Inspection System on the Cloud (QR Trace on Cloud) and the Standardized Agricultural Product Online Platform (DGTFarm).

ACFS has expanded the utilization of QR Trace on Cloud and DGTFarm platforms as follows:

1) Conducted seminars to build confidence in standardized agricultural products through the utilization of QR Trace on Cloud system and DGTFarm platforms. This was done twice in the provinces of Khon Kaen and Phitsanulok.

2) Organized training sessions on using the QR Trace on Cloud system and the DGTFarm website six times in Chiang Rai, Samut Songkhram, Nakhon Sawan, Phatthalung, Prachinburi, and Maha Sarakham. These sessions were provided to farmers, operators, and government officials, totaling 413 participants.

3) Implemented the QR Trace on Cloud system and the DGTFarm website in the past year, resulting in:

▶▶▶▶▶ (1) 387 users subscribed on the QR Trace on Cloud system,

category	Vegetable/ fruit	rice	egg	fish	processed	total
number	322	43	3	4	15	387

▶▶▶▶▶ (2) 458 users on the DGTFarm website, including 301 buyers and 157 sellers, with 113 stores and 241 products listed.

category	Vegetable	fruit	Rice and cereal	processed	total
number	40	60	37	104	241









4) Overall summary of the number of users using the QR Trace on Cloud system and the DGTFarm website:

(1) QR Trace on Cloud system: 3,287 accumulated users

category	Vegetable/ fruit	rice	egg	livestock	fish	processed	total
number	2,074	547	49	41	66	510	3,287

(2) DGTFarm website: 4,092 accumulated users, including 872 buyers, 3,220 sellers, 806 stores, and 1,739 listed products.

category	Vegetable	fruit	Rice and cereal	egg	livestock	fish	processed	herb	total
number	259	505	344	4	7	36	547	37	1,739





3. The Promotion Project to encourage consumption and use of Q products (Q market)

by the audit and certification of Q product distribution locations. This includes:

- in Bangkok — **16** markets, **216** vendors
- participating outside Bangkok — **70** provinces
  - fresh markets — **318** markets / **1,809** vendors
  - farmgate — **502** stalls







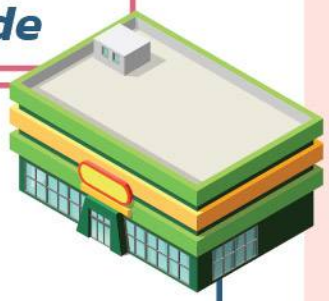








4. The Certification Project for Q Product Distribution Locations in Modern Trade



includes the following companies and their respective branches:

- Central Food Retail Company Limited (Tops): **295 branches**
- Betagro Agricultural Industry Company Limited: **213 branches**
- Big C Supercenter Public Company Limited: **198 branches**
- CP All Public Company Limited (Makro): **145 branches**
- The Malls Group Limited: **15 branches**

This totals **866 branche** nationwide.









5. Premium Q restaurant Project

Background : ACFS has driven the project with the objective to elevate high-potential restaurants to the premium level. This initiative promotes the use of safe Q-labeled farm-produced ingredients, enhancing their safety and standard quality. Restaurants participating in the Premium Q Restaurant Project that opt to use premium-grade Q-labeled products must meet the following criteria:

- Maintain a status as a Q Restaurant for at least one fiscal year.
- Utilize Q-labeled farm-produced ingredients.
- Attain an overall assessment score in the checklist based on the criteria for certifying Q Restaurant in each category not less than 90%.

Restaurants are categorized into two types:

1. A la carte menu restaurants: Use Q products certified as safe by the project as the main ingredient in one or more menu items.

2. A banquet menu restaurants: Use Q products as the main ingredient in the restaurant, with no less than 10 different menu items.

Presently, ACFS in collaboration with Provincial Agricultural and Cooperative Offices, is elevating Q Restaurant to Premium Q Restaurant status. Certification has been granted to 87 restaurants in 18 provinces, including Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Chaiyaphum, Phetchaburi, Ayutthaya, Phitsanulok, Nakhon Sawan, Phatthalung, Udon Thani, Sing Buri, Phrae, Ranong, Lop Buri, Nakhon Pathom, Nakhon Ratchasima, Songkhla, Nan, and Bangkok.













Restaurant Premium

อิ่มอร่อย ปลอดภัย ร่างกายแข็งแรง
กระทรวงเกษตรและสหกรณ์



6. Q Canteen School Project

ACFS has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on collaboration to implement the Q School Canteen project with the Association of Private Educational Administrators in Nonthaburi, the Association of Private Educational Administrators in Pathum Thani, Prasartvidhyanonthaburi School, Pongsuwanwittaya School, and Beaconhouse Yamsaard Rangsit School. The collaboration aims to jointly promote the establishment of Q canteens in schools, fostering awareness of quality life development through consumed food. Moreover, it extends to the promotion and cultivation of a safe food culture within schools. In the year 2023, ACFS carried out promotion and certification activities for schools participating in the Q Canteen School \ Project. The results of the 2023 operations certified a total of 8 schools:

1. Beaconhouse Yamsaard Rangsit School, Pathum Thani Province
2. Prasartvidhyanonthaburi School, Nonthaburi Province
3. Pongsuwanwittaya School, Pathum Thani Province
4. Lekkomes Anusorn School, Nonthaburi Province
5. Theppitak School, Nonthaburi Province
6. Charu Watthanakun School, Bangkok
7. Interkids Bilingual School, Nimitrmai, Bangkok
8. Prasarnmit School, Pathum Thani Province



In the year 2023, the Q Canteen School Project enrolled a total of 5,859 students.









7. Q Hospitals Project

ACFS enhances knowledge related to food safety, agricultural product standards, and traceability systems for farmers, operators, and stakeholders. This initiative aims to encourage the adoption of Thai Agricultural Standards (TAS) and develop a model for farmer groups to procure and purchase agricultural products in accordance with standards. Additionally, the project establishes Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for procuring and purchasing agricultural products according to standards (Q mark) for hospitals. The following activities were carried out:

▶Training sessions providing knowledge on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) standards for farmers producing agricultural raw materials, conducted in 2 sessions with a total of 84 participants.

▶Panel Discussion session on "Standardized Raw Material Supply Chain for Safe Hospital Food in 2023 " at Amari Don Muang Airport Hotel, Bangkok, and streamed online via Zoom Meeting with 280 participants.



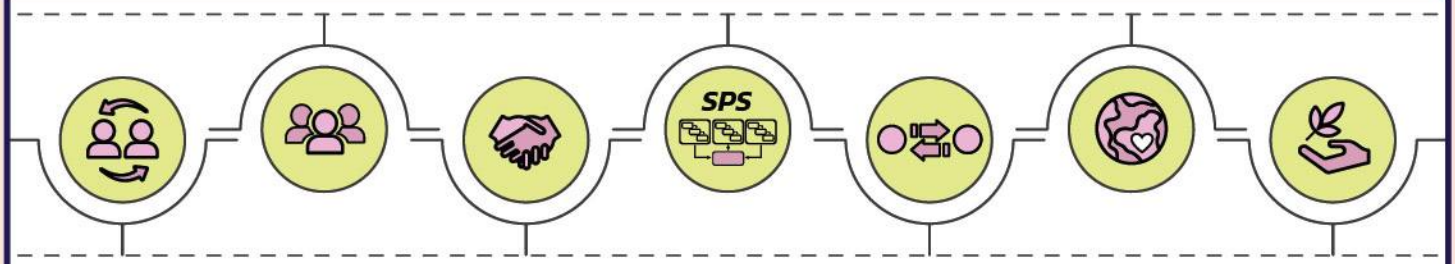


Q Hospital





Negotiations on SPS Measures, Market Access, and Food Import-Export Issues



ACFS, as the primary coordinating agency on sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) in Thailand, has engaged in negotiations to formulate SPS provision text and other related clauses. This falls under the framework of free trade agreements (FTA), both bilateral and multilateral, as well as other cooperative frameworks. The objective is to establish a framework, components, and guidelines for negotiating SPS provision text that are appropriate and mutually beneficial in the current global trade context. This aims to protect the life of plants, animals, and humans in member countries from diseases or plant pests that may be introduced through the import and export of goods. It also ensures not to become obstacles to agricultural and food trade between nations. These negotiations include efforts to open agricultural markets, address import-export issues, and facilitate trade. Notably, significant activities in this regard were carried out in the fiscal year 2566.





1. Negotiations for the Formulation of SPS provision text under the Free Trade Area (FTA) Framework and Related Provisions under Other Cooperative Frameworks

1.1 Negotiations for Drafting Agricultural-related provision text of the 1st Pillar (Trade) under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)



The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), is a framework for international cooperation initiated by the United States. The IPEF aims at enhancing economic cooperation, trade, and investment with countries in the Indo-Pacific region, consisting of 14 nations, including the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, South Korea, Japan, India, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Malaysia. The framework focuses on elevating economic benefits and addressing emerging challenges through cooperation under four pillars: (1) Trade (which India did not participate in), (2) Supply Chain Resilience, (3) Clean Economy, and (4) Fair Economy. The discussions encompass various issues, however, do not include market access and are not classified as FTAs.

In the most recent meeting held from November 5-7, 2566, in San Francisco, the United States, significant progress has been made in negotiations, covering the following:

▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ 1) Drafting Provision text addressing SPS issues, trade facilitation, and new issues not present in Thailand's general FTA agreements. These include sustainable agriculture, food security, trade in goods from modern biotechnologies, and product and establishment registration.

▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ 2) Collaborative discussions have successfully covered all articles, with agreement on most text of issues on sustainable agriculture, trade in goods from modern biotechnologies, risk analysis, adaptation to regional conditions in pest free and low pest areas, SPS certification, equivalence of sps measures, emergency measures, food security, application of non-tariff measures, cooperation, and the agricultural trade committee.













1.2 Negotiations for Drafting SPS provision text under the Free Trade Area (FTA) Framework

1) Within the Bilateral FTA Framework: ACFS has actively participated in negotiations to draft sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) provision text within the framework of four bilateral FTAs, namely Thailand-Sri Lanka, Thailand-UAE, Thailand-EFTA, and Thailand-European Union. Meetings have been conducted in each framework, and SPS provision text have been successfully completed for Thailand-Sri Lanka and Thailand-UAE.





2) Within the Multilateral FTA Framework: ACFS has engaged in negotiations to draft SPS provision text within the framework of three multilateral FTAs, namely the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA), ASEAN-Canada FTA, and ASEAN-China FTA. Meetings have taken place within each framework, but negotiations are ongoing. It is anticipated that member countries will reach a collective conclusion for ATIGA and ASEAN-China FTA within the year 2024.







2. Participation in the WTO SPS Committee Meetings

ACFS attended three sessions of the SPS Committee in November 2022, March 2023, and July 2023. The committee presented statements addressing trade concerns of WTO member countries as follows:

2.1 86th Meeting of the SPS Committee

Objectives: To define Thailand's position for participating in the SPS Committee, including providing verbal statements in response to trade-related concerns following Thailand's measures, or the follow up with progress in market access and new measures by trading partners were discussed, including:

1) Bilateral Negotiations between Thailand and Trade Partners

Thailand and the European Union:

On the follow up by EU, EU representatives sought updates on Thailand's consideration for allowing the import of livestock and products, and fresh pears. Specifically, they urged Thailand to review the Department of Livestock Development's notification on the temporary suspension of imports or transit for pork products, especially canned pork and Parma Ham from Italy. This precaution was due to reported outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) in pigs. However, as per the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines, pork products packaged in sealed containers are considered safe, and the Parma Ham production process is capable of eliminating ASF. Therefore, Thailand is requested to align its measures with international standards.

Thai representatives clarified that these pork products fall under the definition of "animal carcasses" according to Thailand's Animal Epidemics Act of 2015. This led to the temporary suspension of imports or transit until Italy regains ASF-free status from WOAH. Additionally, Thailand requested the European Union to conduct an inspection to evaluate the restoration of disease-free status related to African Horse Sickness in horses in Thailand, expected by the end of 2023. The EU informed that they could conduct the assessment in early 2024.









Thailand - Russia

Thai representatives have requested a meeting with Russian counterparts to follow up on the lifting of temporary import suspensions and the registration of new facilities for Thailand's animal feed and fisheries product manufacturing plants. Russia has committed to expedite the evaluation and inform Thailand of the results within the third quarter of the year 2023. Simultaneously, Russian representatives have sought updates on the progress of permitting the import of livestock and products from Russia to Thailand. Thailand, having assessed the risk of beef products, will promptly communicate the official decision to Russia. Regarding pork and poultry products, Thailand will consider market access requests once Russia achieves disease-free status for ASF, avian influenza, and Newcastle disease, respectively.



2.2 Explanation in response to trade concerns raised by WTO member countries regarding Thailand's SPS measures:

1) Concerns related to Thailand's health requirements for the import of Wet Blue Leather have been consistently raised by Brazil, marking the fifth occasion. Brazil requests Thailand to reconsider and cancel the health certificate requirement for importing Wet Blue Leather, arguing that Thailand's regulations are not in line with the standards set by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and it imposes restrictions on low-risk products related to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). Brazil urges Thailand to provide scientific evidence categorizing Wet Blue Leather as animal carcasses under the Animal Epidemics Act, considering the potential risk of other serious diseases. Thailand reaffirms its actions based on the agreements involving the enforcement of sanitary and phytosanitary measures and WOAH, free from trade barriers. Thailand also calls on Brazil to act in accordance with the outcomes of bilateral negotiations on June 20, 2023.

2) Thailand's delayed consideration for permitting the import of animal products from Russia has become a trade concern for the third time, following discussions in March 2022. However, Russia has withdrawn this trade concern during the current SPS Committee meeting. This withdrawal is a result of Thailand's pre-meeting negotiations with Russia before the 86th SPS Committee meeting. Thailand has informed Russia of progress in considering the request to open the market for poultry, pork, and cattle products. Additionally, Thailand has followed up on the registration of facilities for animal and fisheries products, including the consideration to lift the temporary import suspension from Russia.







3. Market Access for Agricultural Products and Resolving Agricultural Export Issues



3.1 Successful Negotiation for Fresh Mangosteen Exports to Japan without Vapor Heat Treatment





Background: The 13th meeting of the Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Food Safety under the Thailand-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (JTEPA) took place on August 7, 2023, in Tokyo, Japan.

Thai delegation composition: ACFS, Department of Agriculture

Japanese delegation composition: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF)

Objective: To provide alternative measures for exporting fresh mangosteens to Japan without vapor heat treatment for controlling fruit flies, aiming to reduce costs and expand opportunities for Thai fruit exports.

Achievements:

▶ Japan has granted permission for Thailand to export fresh mangosteens without vapor heat treatment, as notified in the new conditions published in Japan's Official Gazette on August 7, 2023. This success signifies the outcome of negotiations, instilling Japan's confidence in Thailand's fruit fly management and control system, ultimately accepting the export of Thai mangosteens without vapor heat treatment.

▶ The first batch of mangosteens without vapor heat treatment was exported from Thailand to Japan on August 23, 2023.

Benefits: Exporting fresh mangosteens to Japan without vapor heat treatment not only helps reduce production and export costs for Thailand but also preserves the freshness and quality of mangosteens without damages. It extends the shelf life of mangosteens, adding value to Thailand's fresh mangosteen exports, estimated at around 200 tons annually, with a value exceeding 120 million baht.

Export Conditions for Japan:

▶ Mangosteen orchards must be registered with the Department of Agriculture and undergo an inspection and certification process for export to Japan.

▶ Mangosteen producers must manage orchards and harvesting according to the production standards for export to Japan. They also need to undergo training on exporting fresh mangosteens under the new regulations set by the Department of Agriculture.

▶ Packing house operators must register their facilities with the Department of Agriculture. They need to submit a list of mangosteen orchards that will be exported to Japan under the new regulations.



3.2 Market Access for Cooked Duck Meat from Thailand to Australia:

Background: The initiation on market access for cooked duck meat from Thailand is part of the activities under the framework of the SPS Expert Group, a component of the Free Trade Agreement between Thailand and Australia.

Thai delegation composition: ACFS, Department of Livestock Development, Office of Agricultural Affairs at the Royal Thai Embassy in Canberra.

Australian delegation composition: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry of the Australian Commonwealth (DAFF) and the Australian Embassy in Thailand.

Objective: The aim is to expand the export market for Thai poultry products, thereby increasing economic value overall. Additionally, this initiative seeks to enhance confidence and the image of Thailand's poultry production by improving food safety management and control systems.

Achievements:

▶In May 2023, Australia granted permission for the market access of cooked duck meat from Thailand.

▶On June 12, 2023, Thailand exported the first batch of frozen cooked duck meat to Australia, totaling 5,052 kilograms with a value of 1,310,000 Baht. It is anticipated that Thai exporters will continue to send a minimum of 1,200 tons annually, amounting to an estimated 400 million Baht.

Benefits: Thai businesses can now export cooked duck meat to Australia, with a growing trend in export expansion. Australian consumers have increased options for purchasing and consuming such products.

Import Conditions for Australia: The imported duck meat must come from the Anas platyrhynchos domesticus or Cairina moschata breeds. It must be cooked to a minimum core temperature of 70°C for 8.2 minutes (or an equivalent standard approved by DAFF and specified in the permit). Additionally, the products must use raw materials from Thailand, be processed and exported from Thailand, and consist of boneless duck meat. The export must adhere to Australia's biosafety and food safety requirements.





4. Transportation of Thai Agricultural Products via Railway to the People's Republic of China

Background: Thailand and China signed an agreement on quarantine and inspection requirements for the export and import of fruits through the third country. This agreement stipulates that exported fruits must pass through designated entry and exit points, as mutually agreed upon by Thailand and China. One of these checkpoints is Mohan Railway Port in China, serving as one of the ten inspection points for mutual fruit trade. This checkpoint commenced operations on December 3, 2022.

Thai delegation composition: ACFS, Department of Agriculture.

Chinese delegation composition: General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC).

Achievements: To provide alternative measures for exporting fresh mangosteens to Japan without vapor heat treatment for controlling fruit flies, aiming to reduce costs and expand opportunities for Thai fruit exports.

Achievements:

Following China's announcement of inspection control points for imported fruits on November 30, 2022, the Mohan Railway Port was prepared to inspect and quarantine imported fruits according to GACC regulations. Thailand exported fresh fruits, including lychee and durian, on December 3, 2023, totaling 12 containers (8 lychee, 4 durian).

Thailand has significantly increased the export of agricultural products via this railway route. The products are transported through Nong Khai checkpoint to the Lao-China railway, entering Mohan Railway Port and distributing agricultural goods to various parts of China. From January 1 to June 14, 2023, over 12,000 tons of fruits were exported, amounting to a value of over 1.7 billion baht. China, having allowed fruit imports through this railway for over a year, reported importing more than 83,500 tons of vegetables and fruits, with over 72,500 tons being fruit imports and over 11,000 tons being exported vegetables and fruits.

Currently, Mohan Railway Port has specialized inspection areas for fruits (15 lanes), chilled seafood (4 lanes), and imported crops (7 lanes). This presents both opportunities and alternatives for transporting various agricultural products through the railway route. Relevant agencies are working to facilitate trade and maximize the benefits of this bilateral trade agreement for the transportation of agricultural products between Thailand and China.






TAS
GMP



Appendix

Excellence Awards 2023

1. Outstanding Public Sector Management Quality Award 2023

Category: Advanced Public Sector Management Quality 4.0

Presented by: Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC)

ACFS is committed to transforming the organization into a Government 4.0 system. Utilizing PMQA 4.0 tools for organizational management and advocating for digital technology that benefits the public, ACFS has adapted and integrated work processes, focusing on synergy and connecting departmental data. This aims to evolve into a new-era organization with potential, inviting public participation transparently to drive organizational operations. Verification is possible to ensure the well-being of the nation and its citizens.

In the fiscal year 2023, ACFS submit an application for the Outstanding Public Sector Management Quality Award 4.0 (PMQA 4.0) from the OPDC. The assessment resulted in a score of 426.17, meeting the criteria for being an Advanced level (Advance) organization in the assessment of the Government 4.0 system.











2. Honorable Organization Award: Q Restaurant Project

ACFS has been awarded with the Honorable Organization Award from the Q Restaurant project in the year 2022. The accolade was presented during the Senate's Hall of Honorable Organizations ceremony by the Commission on Higher Education, Science, Research and Inovation of the Senate, acknowledging and praising organizations from the public, private, and social sectors adhering to principles of ethics and morality, contributing to the development of a virtuous individuals, with skill and brevity and providing opportunities for sustainable development in Thailand. The award ceremony took place on April 4, 2023, at the House of Senate,.











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