



National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019





# Annual Report 2019

National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards

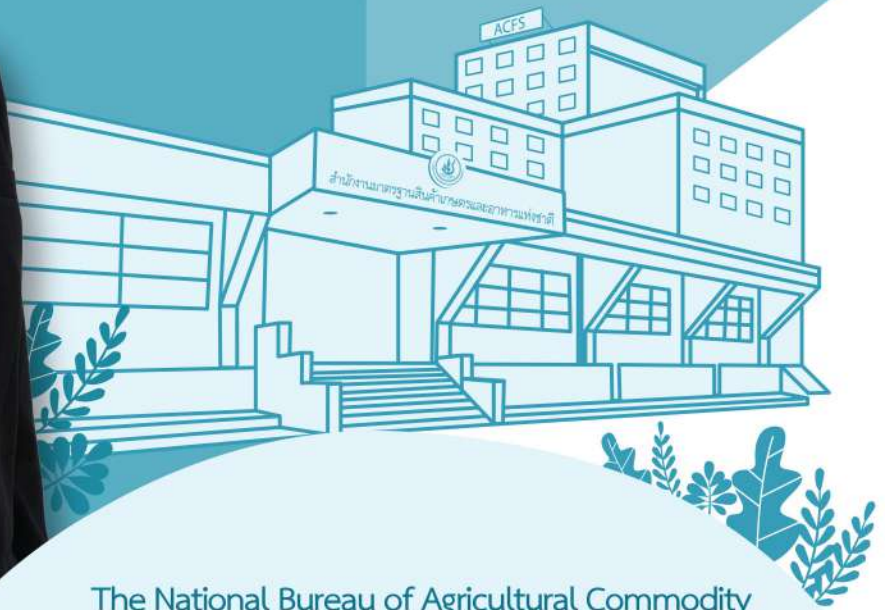




## Message from the Secretary General

Miss JUADEE PONGMANEERAT

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF ACFS



The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS) is the core agency responsible for food and farm standards with the functions on the standard setting, accreditation,

standard control, and promotion of standards from farm to consumers, as well as on the negotiation to resolve technical obstacles to trade. ACFS has therefore implemented these functions to improve and raise the quality of food and farm products to meet the standards in compliance with international quality and safety standards, enhancing national competitiveness in global market. ACFS has also implemented other crucial projects according to the policy guidelines of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.







Nevertheless, there are many important work which need to be continued into 2020. For examples, those in the area of standard setting are such as the enforcement of GAP for layer farm as a mandatory standard, the GAP for sea salt farming, and the GAP for cricket farming. In the area of international negotiation, there are the negotiation with UAE to resolve export of halal products such as chicken and chicken products, the agreement with China on the protocol for exporting fresh fruits by truck via Dongxing border post and by train via Pingxiang border post to open up more routes for exporting Thai fruits to China.

Due to the outbreak of Corona Virus Disease 2019 or Covid-19, ACFS has customised the way we work in response to the circumstance, and has been able to drive ahead our own important mission as well as those directed by the Ministry policy with the newly established digital services to facilitate farmers, business operators, and general public in order to avoid the risk from the outbreak. These services are



1. TAS-License (<http://tas.acfs.go.th/nsw/>) which is the electronic system to apply for a license and permit for the import-export of agricultural products with mandatory standards.



2. Online systems at [www.acfs.go.th](http://www.acfs.go.th) for the registration of food and agricultural products testing laboratories and the system for the licensing of inspection bodies.



3. An audit of certification bodies can be applied through E-mail at [Labacfs@gmail.com](mailto:Labacfs@gmail.com).



4. The certification code can be requested online at [www.acfs.go.th](http://www.acfs.go.th) or at [tascode.acfs.go.th](http://tascode.acfs.go.th).



5. Information on standards, advices/publications can be requested by E-mail at [acfspr@gmail.com](mailto:acfspr@gmail.com) and Line Official (@acfs).



Furthermore, there have been other online activities such as the public hearing on standard setting which have been conducted on the website [www.acfs.go.th](http://www.acfs.go.th), the online market for agricultural products which has services provided at [www.dgtfarm.com](http://www.dgtfarm.com), and other online services on YouTube, and on Facebook Official page. All these online activities provide services on information regarding agricultural standards to farmers, business operators, and general public to enable them on the implementation of food safety mission uninterrupted during the outbreak situation.

ACFS has received an excellent cooperation from all parties in driving the policy with an approach of having the market to lead the production in many ways, ranging from the establishing and strengthening 'standards' of safe agricultural products, organic products, and halal products; continuing on the negotiation to resolve trade obstacles and gaining new market access; fostering international cooperation, establishing the link between production and marketing via online market with retail shops, to the capacity building of personnel in farm sector. These activities are to prepare for the changing environment into the digital era and to create competitiveness of farm sector in the global arena.



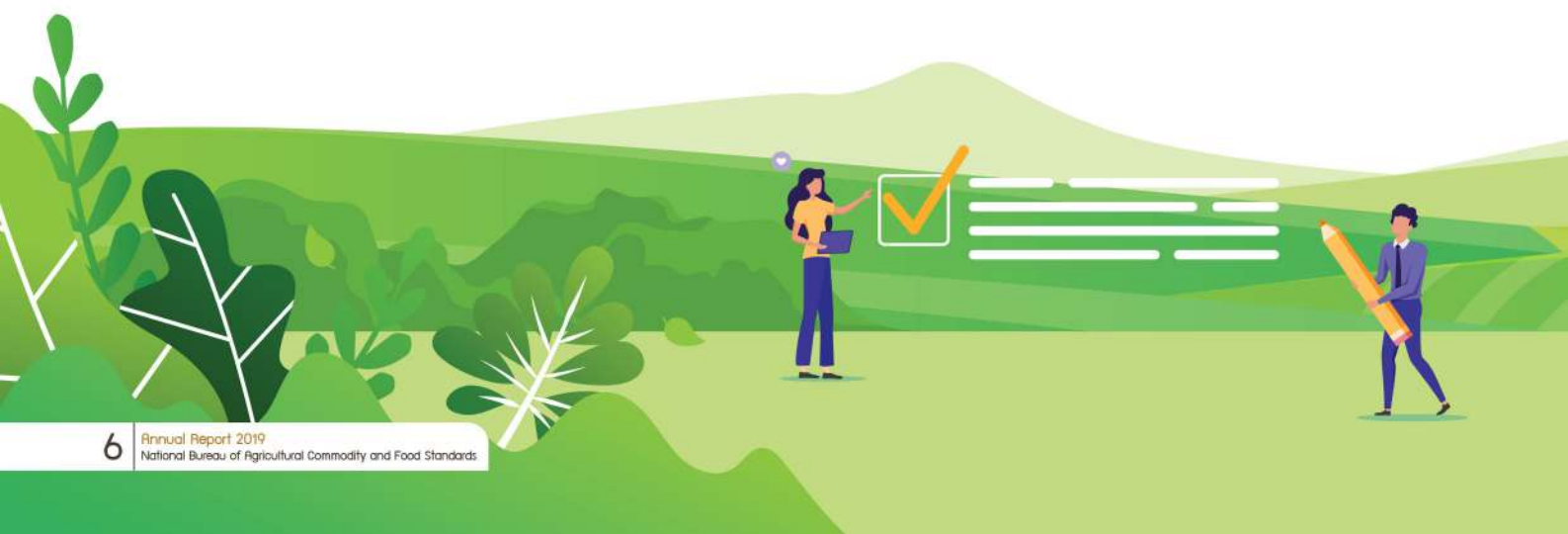
(Dr. Juadee Pongmaneerat)

Secretary General



# Content

Message from the Secretary General	2
Summary of major achievements in fiscal year 2019	9
Performance Outcomes	19
Agricultural Standards	20
● Oil palm bunch	20
● Marine shrimp farm	22
International standards	24
● Codex	24
● OIE: World Organization for Animal Health	34
● ASEAN Meetings	36
Accreditation System	38
● Strengthening of the Organic Farming under Participatory Guarantee System through the application of standard Certification System	38
● Strategic thrust on Halal Accreditation	40
Negotiation and Cooperation on Resolving Obstacles to Agricultural and Food Trade	44
● Notifications on SPS/TBT measures	44





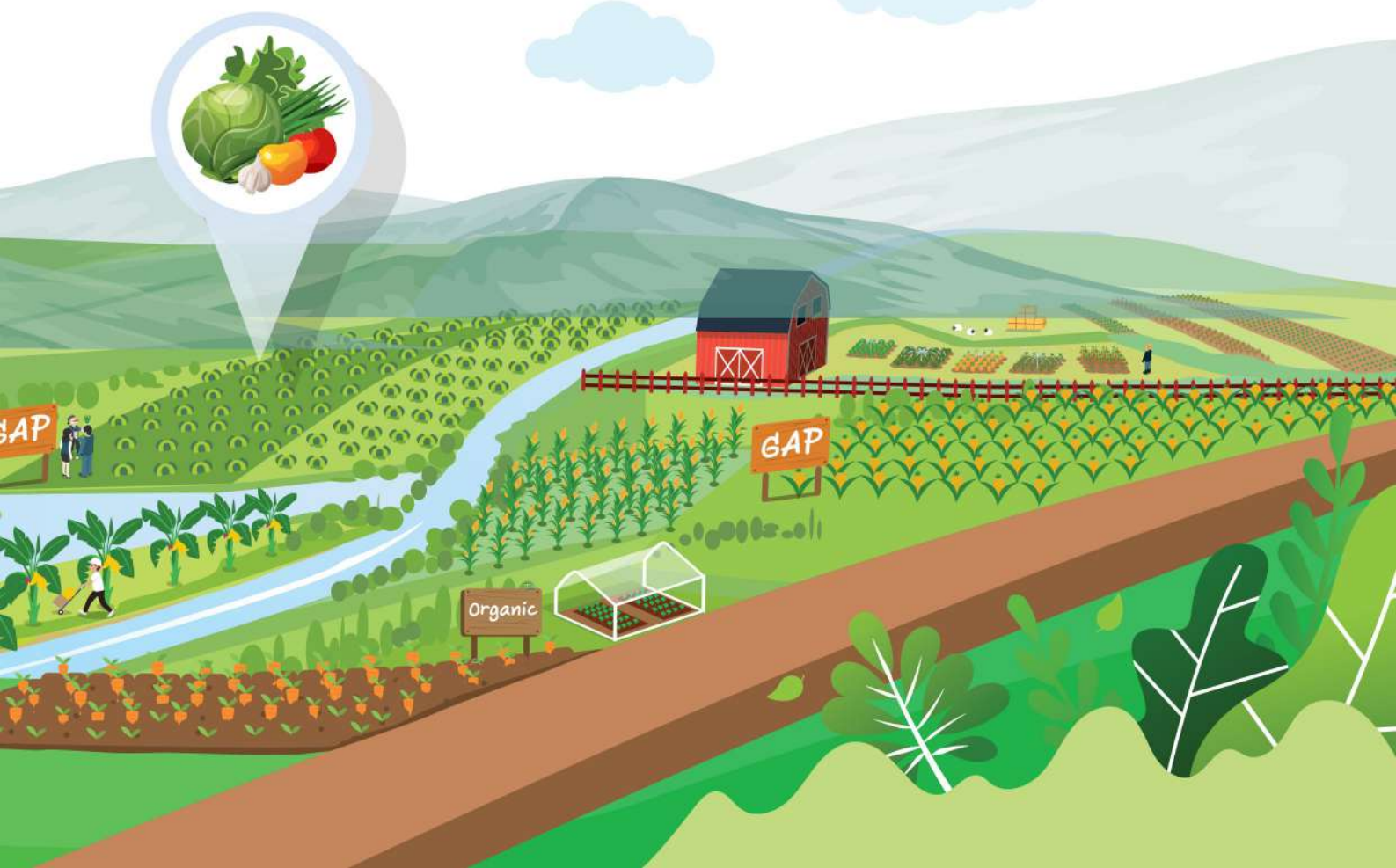
● The Success of ACFS in RCEP Negotiation on SPS Chapter-----	47
● Thai-Japan Cooperation in Food Safety-----	49
● The 5 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiation for Thai-Turkey FTA Agreement-----	50
● Exchange of Electronic SPS Certification between Thailand and New Zealand (E-Cert Workshop)-----	51
<b>Standard control-----</b>	<b>52</b>
● Safety Control, Inspection, Surveillance on Agricultural Commodity-----	52
● Control Inspection of Peanut Imported under Mandatory Standard Scheme-----	53
● Database System on Agricultural Product Standard Control, Inspection and Surveillance-----	54
<b>Application of Digital Technology in Agricultural Standard-----</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Standard-----</b>	<b>58</b>
● 1. Capacity building program for ACFS officers-----	58
● 2. Capacity building for human resources in agricultural sector-----	60
: Farmers/Public officers-----	60
: Education institutes-----	64
● 3. The improvement of facilities/operators/farmers-----	67
● 4. Certification body and Inspection body-----	79







# Summary of major achievements in fiscal year 2019



# Summary of major achievements in fiscal year 2019

## 1 Standard setting for agricultural commodities



from 2002 until present, a total of 340 standards have been published.

### 1.1 Voluntary standards; There are 334 standards in effect.

- Plants standards; There are 121 standards e.g. Rice, Longan, Durian, Oil Palm, Maize, Cassava, Sugar cane, Chili, Mushroom
- Livestock standards; There are 70 standards e.g. Chicken, Pig, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Goat, Bird nest
- Fisheries standards; There are 53 standards, e.g. Shrimp, Tilapia, Cephalopods, Soft Shell Crab
- Organic products standards; There are 9 standards, e.g. Marine Shrimp, Rice, Snakeskin gourami, bees
- There are 52 general standards, e.g. Pesticide residues: Maximum Residue limits, Animal disease diagnosis
- There are other 29 standards; e.g. Mulberry, Silk,



### 1.2 Mandatory standards; There are 6 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





## 2 The enforcement of 6 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)

## 3 Participation in international standard setting process

### 3.1 International standards

Codex: International food standards organization

- Food safety standards such as Arsenic content in rice, Lead content in canned fruits
- Determination of veterinary drug residues in honey, fisheries products, meat, offal
- Product standards such as Canned fruits and vegetables, Durian, Canned tuna, Fish sauce

OIE: World Organization for Animal Health

- Standards on animal health of terrestrial and aquatic animals, Control of African swine fever
- Standard for Infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis (IHHN) disease

IPPC: International Plant Protection Convention

- Guidelines for the surveillance of plant pests
- Requirements for the eradication of plant pests using temperature control as phytosanitary measures



CODEX

OIE

IPPC



### 3.2 ASEAN Standards

- Livestock standard, Contact material standard
- Guidelines for certification, criteria for standard revision, interpretation and equivalence of organic standard
- Requirements for animal disease vaccine, Broiler farm/Layer farm
- MRIs (9 values) such as methidathion for tangerine,  $\lambda$ -cyhalothrin in longan, imidacloprid and carbaryl in longan and mango, spinetoram in litchi, buprofezin in eggplant, and spinetoram in mango
- Soursop, baby corn, coconut, sweet potato, common bean, jelly mushroom, taro
- Pleurotus mushroom, sugar apple (cherimoya), sweet tamarind, marine shrimp, ornamental fish, broiler chicken, layer chicken

## 4 Accreditation of Certification and Inspection Bodies by ISO standards



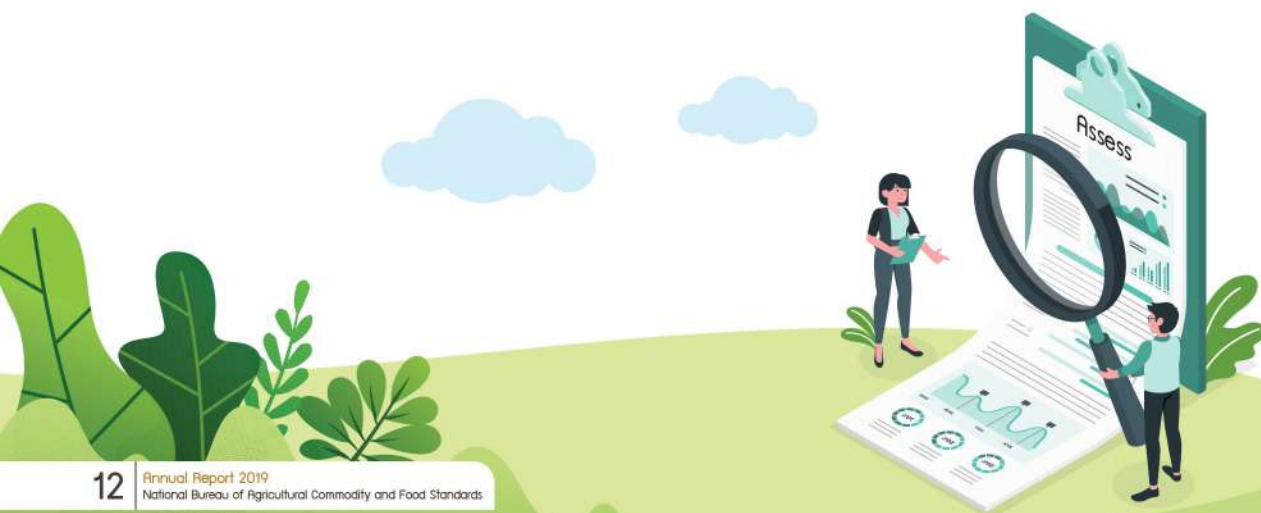
4.1 There were 29 audits of certification bodies (CBs).

● GMP/HACCP	11 audits
● GAP	10 audits
● Food Safety Management System: FSMS	4 audits
● Organic	3 audits
● Agricultural Produce or Product	1 audit

4.2 There were 8 audits of inspection bodies (IBs)

● GAP	7 audits
● Organic	1 audit

4.3 ACFS has been mutually recognized by PAC and IAF on the accreditation of Food Safety Management System.





## 5 Registration of ISO/IEC 17025 certified laboratories



Registration of 103 laboratories certified with ISO/IEC 17025 for the testing of food and farm products. These laboratories were such as the National Food Institute, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research, and SGS (Thailand) Co.

## 6 Negotiation for market access and resolving SPS concerns with trading partners



- 1) Market access
  - Open up new routes for exporting fruits to China
  - Open up Australian market for mango
- 2) Settle SPS disputes on food and agricultural products with partner countries
  - Cut flowers and ornamental plants to Australia
  - Cassava to China
  - Halal products to UAE
  - Halal food to Indonesia
  - Food safety agreement under JTEPA with Japan
  - SPS chapter under RCEP
  - SPS chapter under Thai-Turkey FTA



## Dissemination of trade regulations and measures imposed by partner countries



7.1 ACFS early warning system delivered via daily email to more than 3,800 subscribers who mostly are food business operators

7.2 Circulated 1519 WTO notifications on SPS measures of member countries to relevant agencies in public and private sector and submitted 721 NTB notifications on food and agriculture measures to WTO.

7.3 seminars and publications

- 1) China regulations on cassava
- 2) Good understanding on import and export procedures for a successful market access of plant products
- 3) Setting and improving of rules and procedures for trade facilitation in ASEAN
- 4) Overcoming challenges and exercising forceful game to tackle Australian market for Thai fishery products
- 5) Things exporters need to understand before exporting to USA: US Official Perspectives
- 6) Brain storming on threats and opportunities of Thai farm products in global markets
- 7) Thai halal food products and requirements in major halal markets
- 8) Electronic system for exchanging SPS certificates between Thailand and New Zealand
- 9) Annual and quarterly publication on Early Warning for Food and Agricultural Products
- 10) Publication on rules for food labeling imposed by major trade partners of Thailand





# 8 Promotion of TAS Standards



## 8.1 Integration of work program in relation to the policy on organic and collaborative farming

### 8.1.1 Collaborative farming



- 1) Developed 5 model factories for food processing to add value to products
  - A Q-rice mill in Srisaket Province
  - Three packing houses for fruits and vegetables (Khon Kaen, Ang Thong, and Ayudhya provinces)
  - A collecting house for fruits and vegetables in Rajburi province
- 2) Knowledge transfer program on GAP production to producers of three products in 8 locations
  - GAP for the production of Maize for animal feed to 40 producers (Phetchaboon and Lopburi provinces)
  - GAP for cricket production to 144 producers (Sakeaw, Pichit, Khonkean, Mahasarakham, Nakhonpanom provinces)
  - GAP for food crops production to 292 producers (Trat province)
- 3) Development of Q volunteer programs to assist the preparation of farmers to adopt agricultural standards system in their practices.
  - A program on food crops to 52 volunteers (Prajinburi, Chacheongsao, and Nakhonnayok provinces)
  - A program to create Q volunteer network in 590 farms (Kampaengphet, Pitsanulok, Pichit, Phetchaboon, Nakhonnayok, Sakeaw, Prajinburi, Chacheongsao, and Patthalung, provinces)
- 4) A program for farmers in collaborative farms on how to build public awareness on agricultural standard along the whole food supply chain

### 8.1.2 Organic farming



- 1) Developed group certification system to support certifications of organic farming to 17 farmer groups (Surin, and Yasothorn provinces)
- 2) Support the setup of 1 packing house (Petchaboon province)
- 3) Strengthened organic farming groups with the Participatory guarantee system in two provinces to upgrade them for the certification with organic standard (Chiangrai and Lampang provinces)
- 4) Certified organic product retailer outlets at 285 locations (Tops, Rimping, The Mall, Makro, Dairy Home, Big C, and Lemon Farm)
- 5) Improved public awareness on safe food/organic food using an online media



## 8.2 Food education program for continuous learning

- 1) Promoted the application of agricultural standards in 9 secondary schools (Nan and Burirum provinces)

## 8.3 Human Resources development in the area of inspection and certification to support the outsourcing program of the functions on food and farm certification

- 1) Trained 339 auditors from public and private sectors on international standards and Thai Agricultural Standards
- 2) Trained 89 auditors on mandatory standards (Sulfer dioxide Fumigation, mushroom culture, frozen durian)
- 3) Trained 29 Young Smart Farmers to be Pre-auditors on GAP for food crops standard.
- 4) Trained 77 university lecturers to be Auditors on GAP/Organic farming standards (Train of the trainer)

## 8.4 Created link between production and market for Q products

- 1) Certification of premises supplying Q products
  - (1) Q Restaurants in 77 provinces with the participation of more than 2,750 branches/locations
  - (2) Q markets in 66 provinces with the participation of more than 1,686 vendors
  - (3) Q modern trade with the participation of 5 brands with 743 branch stores
- 2) Expansion of DGTFarm.com online users among producers, traders and consumers to increase the number of searches for business matching with more than 555 quality products available on the site
  - (1) 145 varieties of organic products and green products
  - (2) 262 GAP products from collaborative farms
  - (3) 148 products with QR trace
- 3) Published 9 pieces of manual and media on safe food and organic products to improve public awareness on agricultural standards





## 9 Traceability of Food and farm products

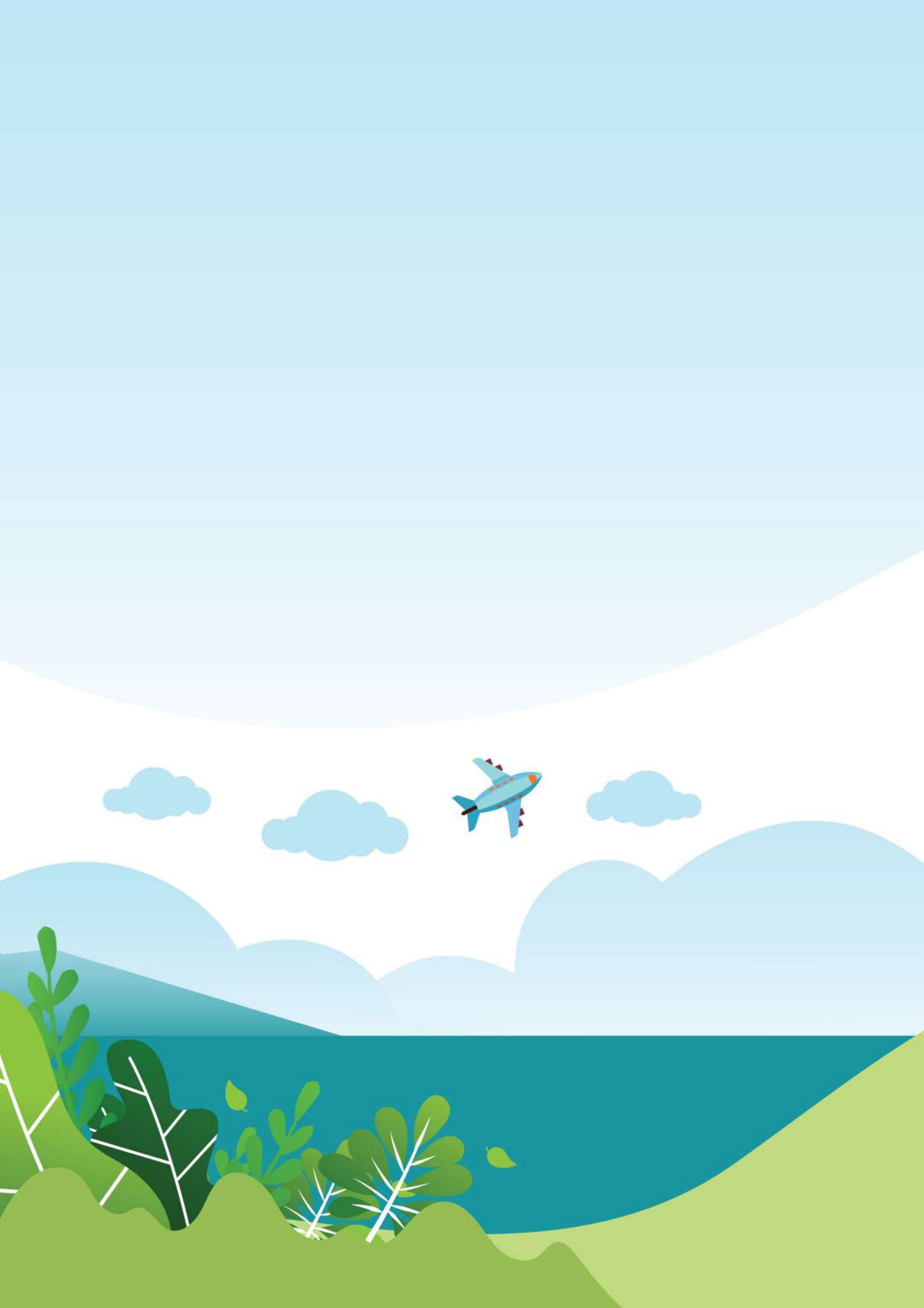
9.1 Provided training and followed up on the use of QR Trace system in order to increase the number of QR Trace users to 682 users

- 1) 450 users in fruits and vegetables producer groups
- 2) 94 users in rice producer group
- 3) 8 users in egg producer group
- 4) 16 users in livestock producer group
- 5) 15 users in fisheries group
- 6) 99 users in food and processed products

(One user may subscribe to more than one group of product)

9.2 There are more than 7600 farmers in the network with the production area of 50,000 Rai and more than 270,000 tons annually.

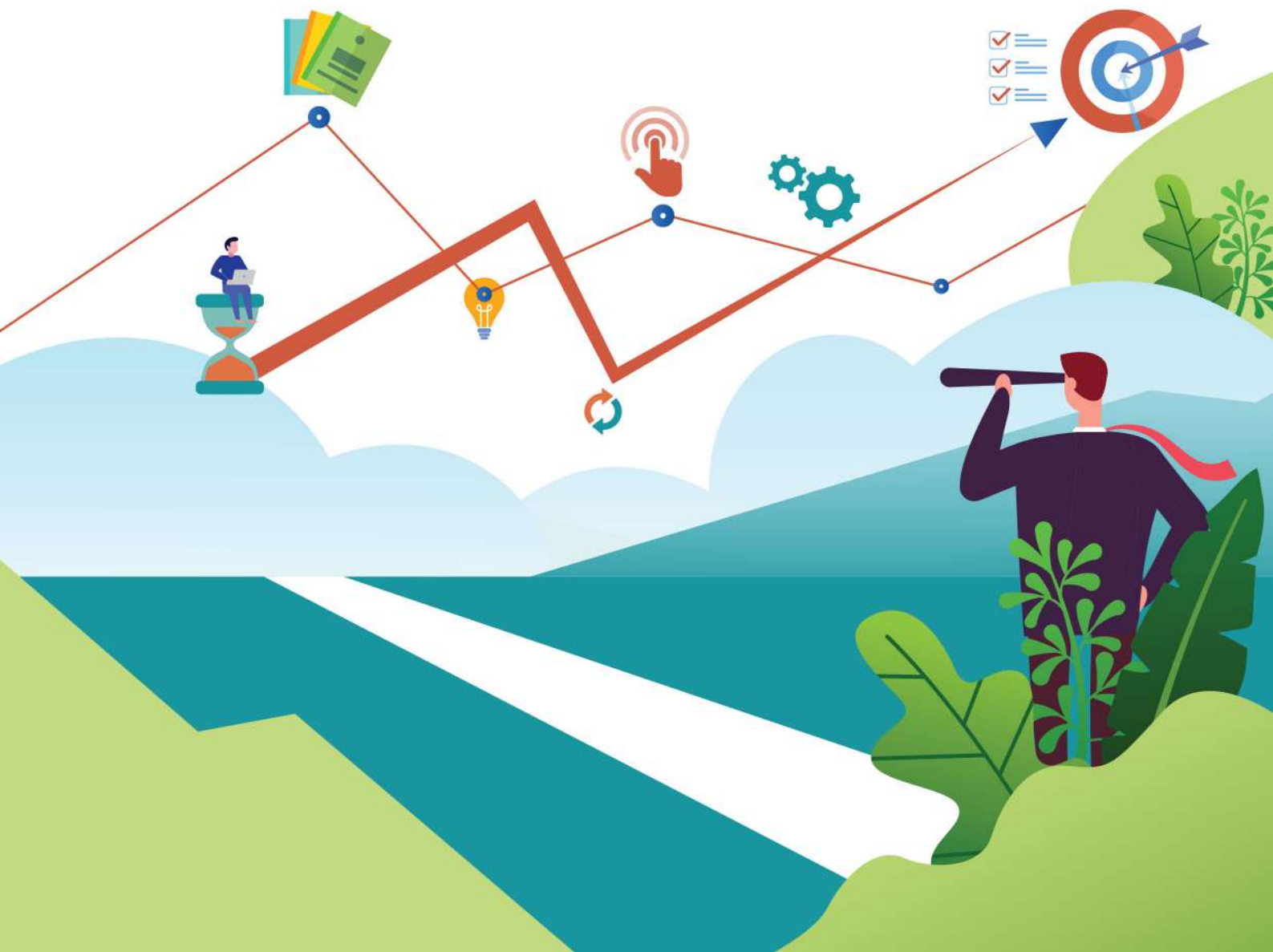






# Performance Outcomes

---



# Agricultural standards

Standard setting of agricultural commodities has the objective to create a tool for controlling and promoting of agricultural products so that they are safe ensuring protection for consumers and prevention of harmful damages occurring to farmers, agricultural trade, or national economy. The standard setting is also to fulfill the international commitment. The standards which have been notified in 2019 are highlighted hereunder.

## Oil palm bunch

Oil Palm is one of the important economic crops of Thailand. In 2018 there was a growing area of 5.76 million Rai and the yield of 15.39 million tons which was increasing from 2017. Southern region has been the area where oil palm is grown most, with 87% of the national total growing area. At present the area has been expanded more and more to other regions such as central, eastern, northeastern, and northern region and therefor oil palm production has been increased.

The Strategic Plan for a comprehensive reform of oil palm and palm oil (2017-2026) has set the direction on its strategic actions.

One of these actions was to revise standards relating to oil palm to ensure the consistency with practices. ACFS has therefore taken the role to amend and update those standards so that they could be used as a guide to improve the production and the guide for the audit. It can also be used as the reference in trade. ACFS has notified a new version of the standard on Oil Palm Bunch (TAS 5702-2019). The updated version has required that only fully mature bunch can be harvested and it also provided a quality classification based on oil/bunch ration or oil extract rate (OER) in line with trade practices.



ทะลายปาล์มที่ผลปาล์มมีผิวเปลือกสีส้ม



ทะลายปาล์มที่ผลปาล์มมีผิวเปลือกสีแดง







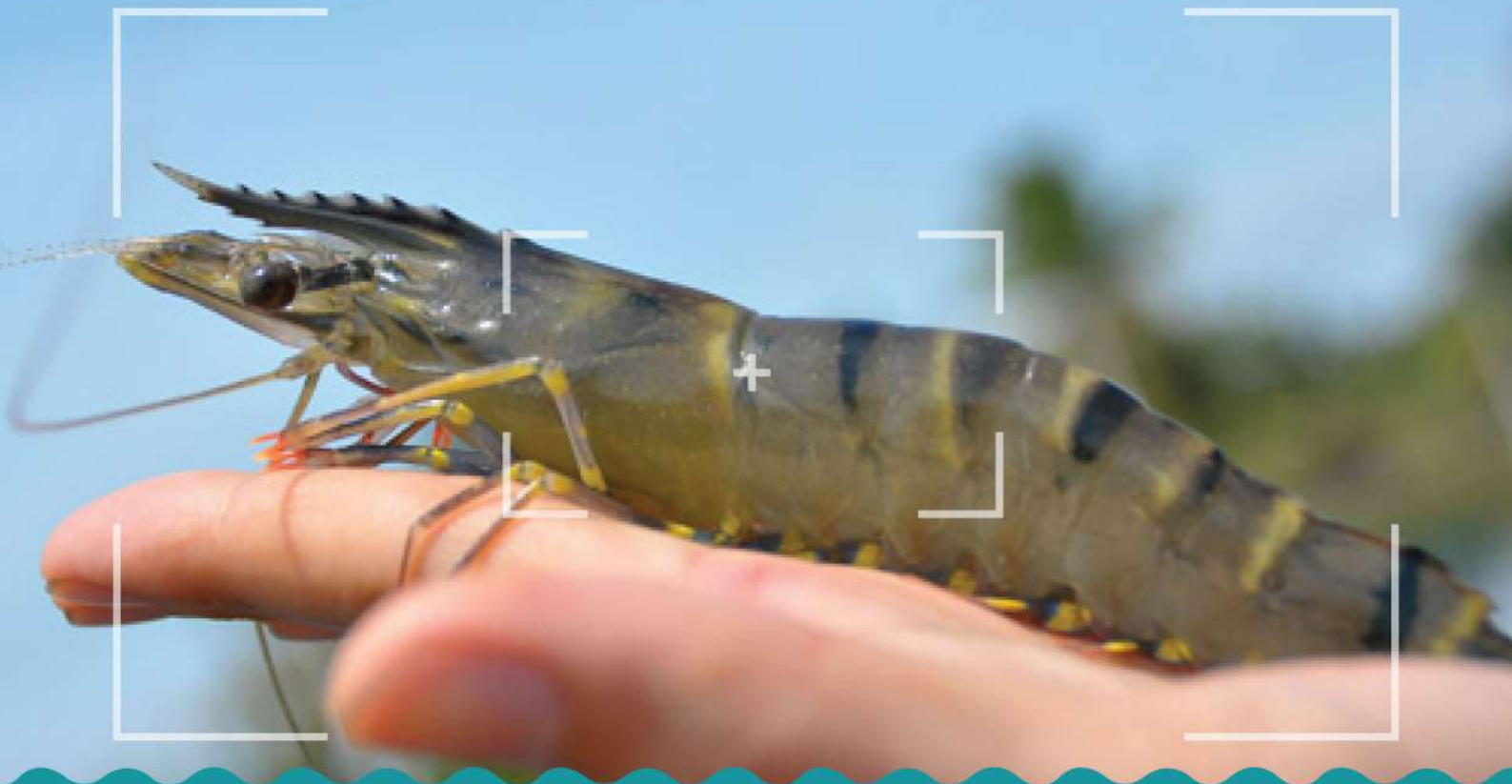
## Marine shrimp farm

Thailand has been the leader in shrimp production and export since 1990. In 2017 the export of shrimp and shrimp products mounted to 205,000 tons with the value of 70,000 million baht. The major export markets of shrimp from Thailand are USA, Japan and the EU. The standard

and certification system have been put in place since 1998. The Thai Agricultural Standard has been established by ACFS on the Good Aquaculture Practices for Shrimp Farm (TAS 7401-2014) which is conforming to ASEAN and FAO standards.







ACFS and the Department of Fisheries have coordinated on the benchmark of TAS standard and the certification system with the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiatives (GSSI) to ensure the acceptability of shrimps and its products from Thailand by trading partners. For a successful benchmark, it has been necessary to put in place and strengthen the whole set of the quality standard system for shrimp farming and certification system. It was also necessary for the revision of the Good Aquaculture Practices Standard for marine shrimp farming (TAS 7401-2014) for a consistency with GSSI's requirements. To this effect, TAS 7401-2019 has been notified as the new standard. The essential points in the revised standard have been placed on the improved efficiency

of the disease control measures by the quarantine of shrimps being introduced into the farm from natural sources. In addition, the application of veterinary drugs required a prescription by an Aquatic Health Professional who could be a veterinarian, or an expert on aquatic animal diseases. There was however no need for 24-hour presence of these persons. Another emphasis has been on the governance of labor related issues which can be inspected such as the employment contract, the age limit of no less than 18 years old, an official passport and a work permit for foreign guest workers, and the issue of labor welfare. The TAS 4701-2019 has been notified since 18 September 2019





# International standards

## Codex

### Codex Alimentarius Commission 42<sup>th</sup> session; CAC

During 8 – 12 July 2019 ACFS and the representatives from Thai FDA, Department of Fisheries, Thai Food Processor's Association, and The Federation of Thai Industries, have attended the 42<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Geneva, Switzerland. The agenda for consideration at this meeting were the draft standards on spices and herbs, oil crops, the hygiene requirements for food safety, food additives, pesticide residues, contaminants, methods for analysis, labeling, nutritional food, certification and inspection system for import/export, and guidelines for international standard setting.





The Meeting has endorsed and adopted 29 standards and the important one was the addition of quality criteria for rice bran oil to include the criteria on free fatty acids as proposed by Thailand because the criteria have been used in present-day food trade. Other standards adopted were such as almond oil, palm oil with a higher content of oleic acid, dried or dehydrated garlic, 154 of maximum level (ML) values of food additives, which 8 values among these were proposed by Thailand on the maximum levels of food additives used in fluid plain dairy products. Other ML values adopted were lead content in wine and animal offal, 325 values of maximum residues of pesticides. The methods for analysis in numerous group of food have also been adopted.



The Meeting has agreed to revise the guidance for the prevention and reduction of lead contamination in food by the elaboration of a labeling guideline for the internet sales and labeling for food allergen. The Meeting also agreed for the CAC to consider the draft standards of dried fruits and mixed fruits in hermetically sealed containers which have been drafted by Thailand.





The Codex Coordinating Committee for Asia has been established to promote the communication on food safety among Member States in Asia and to develop food product standards in the region. It has been the starting point for the collaboration in health protection for consumers and fair practices in trade. Thailand as a member of the Coordinating Committee for Asia has attended the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting in Goa state, India.

The Meeting focused on the cooperation among Member States in driving the operation on food safety and keeping it sustainable in the region. Thailand has taken part in formulating the action plan according to Codex strategy for 2020-2025. In addition, Thailand has participated in the consideration of three new works as regional standards i.e.

1) the standard on the fermentation of soy bean by *Bacillus subtilis*, 2) the standard of frozen dumpling, and 3) the standard of cooked rice wrapped in plant leaves.

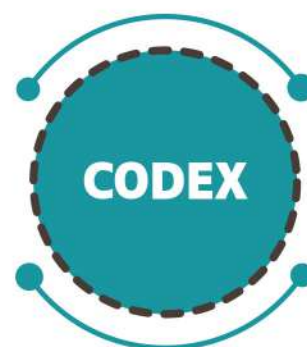
The CCASIA Meeting has been the forum where Asian countries have emphasized highly as their priority because it has been the forum to determine the common position among members in the region in the area of standard setting for food products, and in advocating on the issues currently under Codex consideration to make sure that these standards were beneficial to the production and the intra trade within the Asian region. ACFS has been therefore proactive in data preparation and data analysis, and in deciding the national position for the participation and offering views at the Meeting to achieve highest advantage to the country.





The 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling was held during 27-31 May 2019 in Budapest, Hungary. ACFS as the National Codex Coordinator has presented views and participated in the consideration of the analysis and sampling methods to be used as criteria for the determination of the safety and quality of agricultural commodity and food in the international trade in line with international principles and guidelines. The important issues which Thailand took part in sharing the views in the Meeting were on;

1. The analysis method of free fatty acids in virgin palm oil.
2. The analysis method of 9 kinds of vitamins and minerals to be used in the Standard on Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants.
3. The revision and amendment of the method of analysis for dairy and dairy products.
4. The revision and amendment of the codex standards on methods of analysis and sampling.
5. The revision of the guidelines on measurement uncertainty at step 5.
6. The revision of the general guidelines for sampling.
7. The elaboration of a guideline for the validation of a method of analysis which can be followed clearly during a validation process or the revision of methods of analysis. The guideline has been published on Codex website.





The 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses was held during 24-30 November 2019 in Berlin, Germany. ACFS together with Thai FDA, and the Federation of Thai Industries have attended the Meeting to participate in standard setting of nutrition and foods for special dietary uses. The issues discussed were;

① The review of standard on the follow-up formula for older infants (CXS156-1987) focusing on the issues of essential nutrients for infants and older infants. The point for consideration was separated into two different age groups, which were the standard on the follow-up formula for 6-12 months old and the product standard for 12-36 months old infants. Another point was on the equivalence of dextrose used as sweetener in non-dairy products focusing on the scope, definition, and labeling on infant food. Thailand proposed to forward the standard to be adopted for the consideration further by CAC.

② The proposal on the claim that free trans fatty acids required to contain no more than 1 gram of trans to a hundred gram of fat, plus to have a low content of saturated fats. There was also a proposal for an opportunity to elaborate a document on risk management for a reduction of trans fatty acids because some countries have imposed a ban on trans fatty acids including Thailand where trans fatty acids produced from partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs) have been prohibited.

③ The reference values of nutrients recommended for infants and older infants. The document on the standards of food for infants and older infants and related standards were considered. Related standards were also considered such as the guidelines for nutrition labeling, the standard for processed cereal based food for infants and young children, and the standard for follow up formula. Vitamins, minerals, and proteins have been listed and prioritized for the determination of recommended values for dietary reference of intake levels in infant foods. The consideration was also made on how to apply it.





The 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils was held during 25 February-1 March 2019 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The participants were from 37 countries, European Union, and 5 International Organizations. During the Meeting, Thailand has proposed to add requirements on free fatty acid, and testing method of acid value, in refined rice bran oil because it was the important indicator of the rancid smell in rice bran oil. The Meeting agreed to the Thai proposal and agreed to forward it for the adoption by CAC as the standard of vegetable oils. In addition, the Meeting has reached the agreement on standards for new kind of vegetable oils namely, the standard for palm oil with higher content of oleic acid, and standards for almond oil, pistachio, hazel nut, walnut, and flax seed.





The 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables was held during 7-11 October 2019 in Monterrey, Mexico. The important agenda which Thailand has participated in sharing views were, the determination of tolerance for the decay of kiwi fruits, the standards for garlic, potato, onion, and shallot, date, edible tuber (yam), and berries. The participation was also on the fruit and vegetable standards of which Thailand has potential to produce and export as well as import. The standards were to ensure a health protection for consumer and a fair practice in international trade.





The 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods was held during 29 April-3 May 2019 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Meeting agreed to forward to the CAC for the adoption of 4 standards namely

- 1) Maximum level of lead in wine and offal of livestock, swine, and poultry,
  - 2) Maximum level of cadmium in chocolate with cocoa content less than 30%,
  - 3) Code of conduct for the reduction of 3-monochloropropane-1, 2-diol ester (3-MCPDE) and glycidyl esters (GE) in modified oils and food produced from them and
  - 4) Guidelines for risk analysis of chemicals inadvertently present in food and those found at low level.
- The Meeting also agreed on four new work for the consideration in the next meeting i.e. 1) the determination of maximum level of aflatoxin in cereal and products 2) maximum level of lead in food for infants and young children, spices and herbs, eggs, sugar and confectionary, 3) revision of code of practices for prevention and reduction of lead contamination in food and 4) code of practices for prevention and reduction of cadmium contamination in cacao seeds.





# CODEX TFAMR

## 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance

9 - 13 December, 2019 Pyeongchang Alpensia Resort, Republic of Korea



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



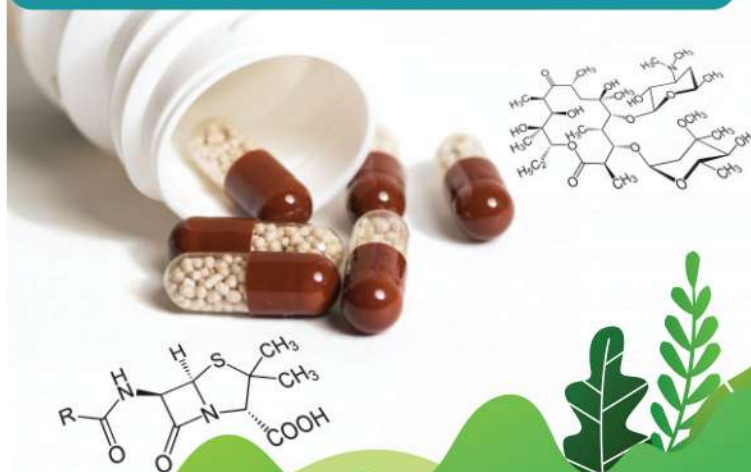
World Health  
Organization



Ministry of Food and  
Drug Safety

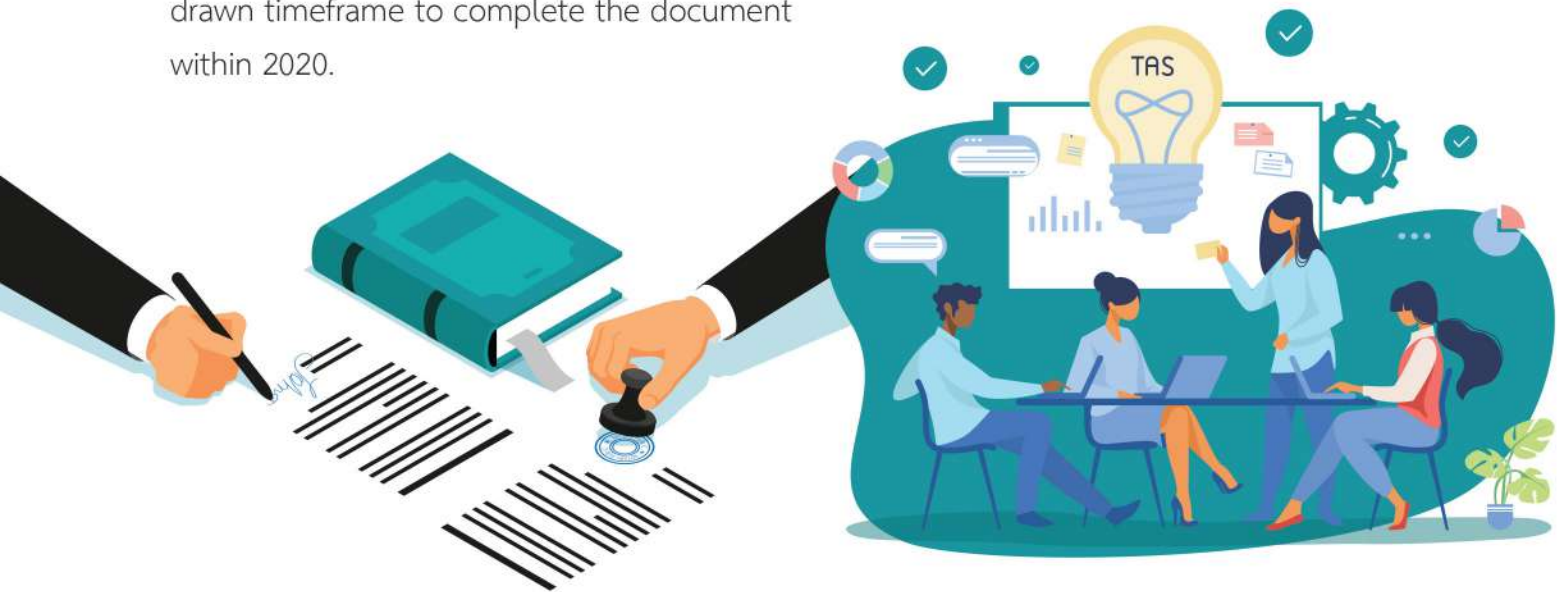


ACFS has been joined by representatives from the Thai FDA, and the Federation of Thai Industries to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Codex Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) held during 9-13 December 2019 in Pyeongchang, Korea. Thailand has shared views on draft revision of the code of practices to minimize and contain foodborne antimicrobial resistance, CXC 61-2005 or COP. The draft has specified the roles of parties, who managed the antimicrobial resistance along the food supply chain, on a responsible and reasonable use of drugs. Thailand also participated in exchanging views on the drafting of guidelines on integrated monitoring





and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance, GLIS. The draft has put in place the operating procedures for the monitoring and surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance focusing on the flexibility and applicability in Member States with different capacity so that the problem of antimicrobial resistance could be managed efficiently along the whole food supply chain. TFAMR has drawn timeframe to complete the document within 2020.





# OIE: World Organization for Animal Health

## General Session of the World Assembly of National Delegates of the OIE

ACFS teaming with representatives from the Department of Livestock Development and the Department of Fisheries have attended the 87th General Session of the World Assembly of National Delegates of the OIE held during 26-31 May 2019 in Paris, France, having Mr. Sorawit Thaneto, Director General of the Department of Livestock Development as the Head delegate.



The objective of the Meeting was to set and review OIE standards on animal health and animal welfare, and to set global strategy on the control and prevention of the African swine fever. During the agenda on the review of the OIE standard, Thailand has supported the endorsement of draft standard on the African swine fever recognizing the importance of the standard in increasing the number of safe animal products and the flexibility on methods to be used for killing the virus in pork meat which would be beneficial to pork meat production in Thailand.





For the OIE standard on aquatic animal diseases, Thailand abstained on the endorsement of the guidelines on enlisting of susceptible species which OIE proposed to enlist as a genus instead of species by species according to scientific evidences. There was a concern that the enlisting by genus would unnecessarily require exporting countries of aquatic animals, including Thailand, to increase their surveillance of the diseases in all species belonging to the genus in spite of the lacking of an evidence to confirm the susceptibility of those animals.







## The 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Task Force on ASEAN Standard for Horticultural Produce and Other Food Crops



ASEAN region is having the potential for the production and export of fresh fruits and vegetables to other region, the ASEAN Member States have therefore set the standards for fresh fruits and vegetables to improve their capacity and to be used as criteria in trading. In 2019 ASEAN has published 5 standards on fresh fruits and vegetables namely tomato, lime, calamansi, taro leaves, and taro stems. The Meeting also drafted four standards on straw mushroom, lettuce, potato, and strawberry. The potential for production and intraregional or international trade of these fruits and vegetables have been recognized by the group. The drafts were to submit for endorsement in the next Meeting.







ACFS together with the Thai FDA, the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Livestock Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the Federation of Thai Industry, have attended the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACCSQ Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group and related Meetings, which were held during 17-21 June 2019 in Manila, the Philippines.

During the Meeting, Thailand has offered an observation with regard to the elaboration of the checklist for the audit of the inspection and certification of food hygiene system of ASEAN that the checklist should fit with product lists under the HS code 16-22 to make them in line with the Mutual Recognition Agreement in the field of food products. In addition, the Thai delegation has informed on the progress of the 1st draft of the ASEAN Guidelines for Good Manufacturing Practice for Food Contact Materials and the ASEAN Food Safety Network.





## Strengthening of the Organic Farming under Participatory Guarantee System through the application of standard Certification System

ACFS has conducted a project on the Strengthening of Organic Farming under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) through the adoption of standard Certification System with the aims to build the understanding in the certification system for organic farming established by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and to enable the entering of farmer groups with organic farming into PGS scheme and proceed to the organic standard certification eventually. The activities under the project are described hereunder.

1. Conducting a survey in the area of Chiangrai, Lampang, and Payao provinces during 16-20 December 2018 to identify farmer groups with potential to apply the PGS scheme successfully. The survey showed that farmer groups in Chiangrai and Lampang provinces were interested in joining the project whereas the group in Payao province decided to implement on their own.





2. Training has been conducted during 15-18 February and 10-13 March 2019, to register the farmers and to verify the implementation system of the group. There were representatives from Organic Thailand Foundation to provide knowledge and there were 118 farmers to attend the training, 44 were from Chiangrai province and 74 from Lampang province.



3. A discussion forum has been organized during 20-23 July 2019 for improving awareness on the PGS certification system and getting the farmers ready to apply for the organic farming certification system of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. There were 91 farmers in total joining the forum, 53 of them were from Chiangrai province, and 38 from Lampang province. There were 58 applications for the certification to be conducted by the Department of Agriculture and the Rice Department, 38 were from Chiangrai province and 20 from Lampang province.

4. A follow up of the implementation of the project has been conducted by witness visits for farm audits on 17 May and on 21 September 2019 at Wiengtan organic farming community in Lampang province.





# Strategic thrust on Halal Accreditation



At present there has been an economic growth for halal products and services especially those responding to the demand of the increasing Muslim population which has a high purchasing power. It is necessary therefore, to have the production of certified halal products.



Thailand has been with high capacity for the production of certified safe food and farm products including halal food. To ensure the confidence of traders in Member states on halal certificates, Organization of Islamic Cooperation or OIC with its headquarters in Saudi Arabia has been established as the organization for setting halal standards and halal certification, and for supervising halal certification bodies. The system however, has strict religious requirements which may be obstacles to halal export from non-Islamic countries. The United Arab Emirates has recognized the importance of certification system on the issues of technical barrier to trade and therefore initiated the establishment of the International Halal Accreditation Forum or IHAF in November 2016 to create a network of accreditation bodies and set a system for the recognition of the inspection and certification system consistent with international principles. The IHAF system offer more flexibility and recognition of non-Islamic countries. IHAF has expressed the admiration on the determination and the cooperation of ACFS.



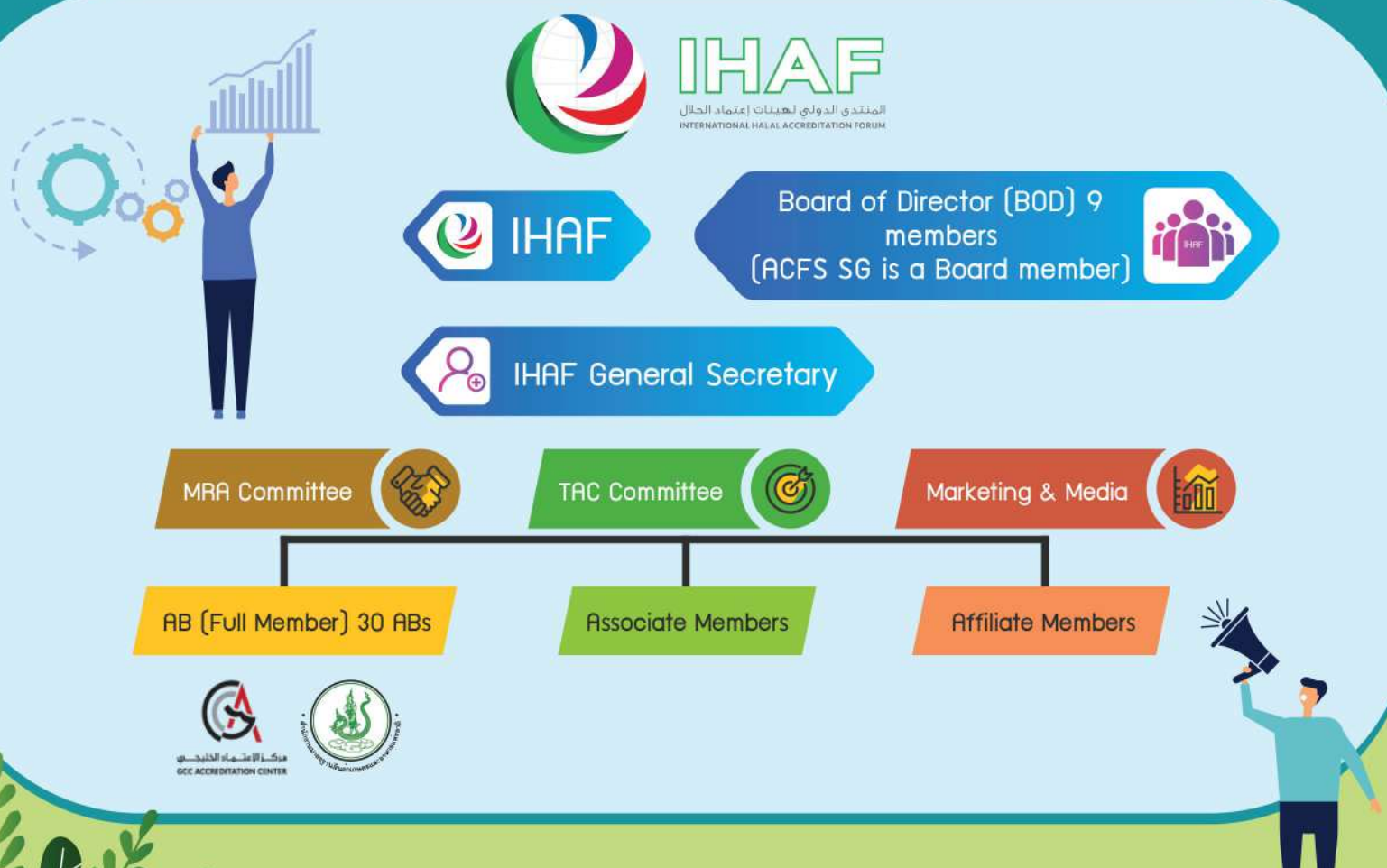


The Secretary General of ACFS has been therefore designated as a member of the IHAF Board of Director or IHAF BoD among its nine members.

### Emirates National Accreditation System (ENAS), Chaired by UAE

AB from Islamic countries		AB from non-Islamic countries	
Saudi Arabia Accreditation Center (SAC) (Vice Chair)	Saudi Arabia	The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS)	Thailand
National Council for Accreditation (EGAC),	Egypt	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)	USA
Gulf Accreditation Center (GAC)	Gulf Countries	National Accreditation of Hungary (NAH)	Hungary
Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC)	Pakistan	Accredia	Italy

Officials from ACFS have been appointed in other committees such as Multilateral Recognition Arrangement, (IHAF MRA).







On 19 October 2019 Dr. Juadee Pongmaneerat, the Secretary General of ACFS has been reappointed for another term as a member of the Board of Director (BoD) of IHAF. She therefore has attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting during 17-18 February 2020 held at Grand Hyatt Dubai, Dubai, UAE. During the Meeting, the Secretary General has participated in the agenda on the consideration of the 5 years Strategic Plan and setting the policy direction for taking steps to become the leader organization in halal at the international level. In addition, there were agenda for appointing IHAF Chairman and approval of new members. The agenda was also on the cooperation in harmonization of halal standards and mutual recognition of halal certificates, with relevant bodies such as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, OIC. The cooperation was necessary because there have been obstacles to Thai halal producers due to the need for complying with numerous standards and a repeat inspection and certification at destinations. The cooperation was to facilitate the import and export of halal products in the international markets. The Strategic Plan (2020-2024) comprising 3 directions has been currently open for views and comments and was expected to enter into force in October 2020.







### Strategic Direction (1):

- System establishment for the facilitation of international halal trade
- Consumer protection
- Ensure the recognition of IHAF MRA by competent authorities and relevant bodies



### Strategic Direction (2):

Promotion IHAF as the result based organization on international halal accreditation



### Strategic Direction (3):

Ensure sustainability of IHAF by the innovative, diverse, and proactive directions

In the past, Thailand has suffered from technical barriers for exporting halal food especially poultry and their products to UAE because CICOT has not been certified with the new UAE requirements. During the negotiation in late September 2019, UAE has agreed to the Thai proposals to speed up the dispatch of a team to audit CICOT which is the halal certification body in Thailand. On 18 February 2020 CICOT has been certified with the standard UAE.S 2055-2:2015 and OIC/SMIIC 1: 2019 in the scopes C, D, E, and L from Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC), and has been registered by ESMA as a certification body on 2 March 2020.





# Negotiation and Cooperation on Resolving Obstacles to Agricultural and Food Trade

## Notifications on SPS/TBT measures

There have been notifications on SPS/TBT measures from WTO members which have impacts on Thailand. These notifications were for examples, the emergency measure of Australia on the import of tomato and capsicum seeds aiming at the reduction of biological risk from *tomato brown rugrose fruit virus* (ToBRFV) (G/SPS/N/AUS/469; 28 Feb 2019), the draft regulation of UAE on the general requirements for slaughtering of animal and poultry in compliance with the Islamic law (G/TBT/N/ARE/463; 17 June 2019), and the emergency measure of the European Union on the extension of time to 30 June 2021 and the expanding the area

for the prevention of an entry and spread of fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda* Smith) (G/SPS/N/EU/349; 27 Sep 2019). These information have been reported to the SPS/TBT sub-committee for the consideration to decide on actions to be taken.

On the other hand, Thailand also notified 49 SPS/TBT measures of which 33 were on SPS and 16 on TBT as shown in Table below.

These notifications were prepared by relevant agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Livestock Development, Thai FDA, the Revenue Department, and Thailand Industrial Standards Institute,

### SPS/TBT measures notified to WTO by Thailand

(Notifications submitted during 1 October 2018 – 30 September 2019)

Agencies	No. of notifications			Some of notified measures
	SPS	TBT	SPS/TBT	
Department of Agriculture	3	-	-	1) Draft requirements for importing of capsicum seeds ( <i>Capsicum annuum</i> , <i>Capsicum baccatum</i> , <i>Capsicum chinense</i> , <i>Capsicum frutescens</i> , <i>Capsicum pubescens</i> ) for planting 2) Draft requirements for importing of eggplant seeds ( <i>Solanum melongena</i> ) for planting 3) Draft requirements for importing of tomato seeds ( <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> ) for planting



Agencies	No. of notifications			Some of notified measures
	SPS	TPT	SPS/TPT	
Department of Livestock Development	6	-	-	1) Notification of emergency measure on the suspension of import or transit of poultry or poultry carcass due to the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic of Avian Influenza (HPAI) 2) Notification of emergency measure on the suspension of import or transit of hog, wild hog, or their carcasses due to the outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF)
Thai FDA	11	-	12	1) Draft notification of the Ministry of Public Health on enzymes used in food processing 2) Draft notification of the Ministry of Public Health on contaminated food standard 3) Draft notification of the Ministry of Public Health on category of foods requiring GDA labeling on nutrition, calories, sugar, fat, and sodium contents
Revenue Department	-	3	-	1) Notification of the Ministry of Finance on the permit for importing alcoholic drinks into the Kingdom B.E. 2560 2) Notification of the Ministry of Finance on the permit for importing alcoholic drinks into the Kingdom B.E. 2562 (Second notification) 3) Notification of the Revenue Department on the quality standard for alcoholic drinks importing into the Kingdom
Thai Industrial Standard Institute	-	-	1	Draft industrial product standard on pineapple in hermetically sealed container

Regarding the bilateral meeting during the SPS Committee Meeting, ACFS has met with partner countries to discuss the market access for farm products as well as to settle the SPS issues which have been obstacles to exporting of farm products from Thailand. The following paragraphs highlight tangible outcomes and the progress which have been made during these meetings.







The issue of the access of cooked duck from Thailand has been followed up by requesting Australian representatives to speed up the process. Currently, Australia has completed the draft report on the review of risks for the import of cooked ducks from Thailand.



A coordination with representatives from Taiwan has been made on the issue of market access of mangosteen. Taiwan has now permitted the import of mangosteen from Thailand since 12 July 2019.

Regarding the registration of factories processing aquatic animals, Thai representatives have discussed with Russian representatives on the reschedule of visit to Thailand to an earlier dates for the audit of the factories. Russia has now completed the audits.





## The Success of ACFS in RCEP Negotiation on SPS Chapter

ACFS as the key agency of Thailand in the negotiation in the SPS Subcommittee has prepared the negotiation text during the past 5 years from 2013 until 2018 which was when the Parties were able to reach and conclude the final text during the 24th Meeting of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership or RCEP held in October, 2018 in Auckland, New Zealand. The main objectives of the SPS text were to facilitate food and agricultural trade between the 16 Parties, to put in place a tangible mechanism for information exchange on the SPS measures

taken by each Party, to set appropriate timeframe for settling the concerns on SPS among Parties, and to promote the cooperation on SPS matters for raising the quality standards of food and agricultural products of Member countries and improve competitiveness in the global market. Once the Agreement is enforced, ASEAN is expected to become the center of agricultural trade and it will enhance the opportunity for Thailand to export agricultural products to the RCEP Member countries which will raise the income of farmers, producers, and exporters.







The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is the largest economic agreement comprising 16 Members i.e. the 10 ASEAN countries and the 6 dialogue partners i.e. China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand, with total population of more than 3,400 million or 45 percent of world population and with the combine trade value of 10.3 trillion USD or 340 trillion baht or 29 percent of global trade.

The Parties have expected that the RCEP would benefit the Parties higher than any other agreements in terms of a common economic advantages covering the market enlargement for products, services, and investment, while trade obstacles would be reduced. At present, overall agreement has been finalized with all signatures are expected within 2020 and to enter into force in 2021.





## Thai-Japan Cooperation in Food Safety

The Thai delegation composing of representatives from the Department of Livestock Development, Department of Fisheries, Rice Department, Department of Agriculture and ACFS, has attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Special Joint Committee on Food Safety Cooperation under JTEPA Framework. The Japanese delegation composed of representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), The Ministry of Public Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW), and the Japanese Embassy to Thailand. The Meeting was convened to consult on how to improve the efficiency for resolving obstacles to agricultural trade, facilitating trade, and reducing the none-tariff barriers between the two parties. The Meeting was held at Buachompoo hall, Pullman Pattaya G Hotel, Cholburi, during 22-24 July 2019.



Thai-Japan Cooperation in Food Safety



The 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting has made progress on the standing agenda of market access between the parties such as the market access for white honey pumelo from Thailand and for pork and brown rice from Japan. Thailand also requested for technical cooperation from Japan on five projects in the area of food safety. Japan will host the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting in the middle of 2020.





## The 5<sup>th</sup> round of negotiation for Thai-Turkey FTA Agreement



The 5<sup>th</sup> round of negotiation for Thai-Turkey FTA Agreement

ACFS has attended the 5<sup>th</sup> round of negotiation FTA Agreement between Thai and Turkey held during 10 – 12 April 2019 in Ankara, Turkey. ACFS as the principal agency for negotiating on SPS text has taken the approach on maintaining consistency with WTO-SPS agreement with the aim at making the agreement most beneficial to the Parties while there was no conflict with national laws and flexible enough for implementation.

In addition, Turkey has proposed to draft text for cooperation in halal accreditation. Thailand viewed that it would be beneficial because Turkey had a lot of trade with Gulf countries. Later, the two sides have exchanged information on halal accreditation system and halal certification bodies on 26 August 2019 in Bangkok. Thailand and Turkey have planned to reach the FTA agreement in 2020.





## Exchange of Electronic SPS Certification between Thailand and New Zealand (E-Cert Workshop)

ACFS, as the main coordinator under the Thai-New Zealand Joint SPS Committee, and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) of New Zealand have organized the Workshop on exchange system of SPS E-Certification (E-Cert workshop) between Thailand and New Zealand during 25-26 June 2019 at Indigo Hotel, Wireless road, Bangkok. There was also an excursion to the FDA-Border post and the Animal quarantine station, at the Bangkok Maritime Port.



Exchange of Electronic SPS Certification between Thailand and New Zealand (E-Cert Workshop)



Exchange of Electronic SPS Certification between Thailand and New Zealand (E-Cert Workshop)

The participants were from the Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock Development, Department of Agriculture, Thai FDA, Customs Department, and ACFS. The participants will be able to use the knowledge gained from the workshop to increase the efficiency of the E-Cert system in their agencies by improving the design, the completeness and the coverage of the information. The workshop has stimulated the awareness on the importance and benefit of the establishment of an E-Cert system because it is not only facilitating the coordination among agencies, but also facilitating the trade between partner countries.





# Standard Control

## Safety Control, Inspection, Surveillance on Agricultural Commodity in Compliance with the Agricultural Standard Act B.E. 2551

In 2019 ACFS has implemented following operations on Safety Control, Inspection, Surveillance on Agricultural Commodity in Compliance with the Agricultural Standard Act B.E. 2551.

1. The monitoring at the premises of licensees who are producers, exporters, and importers of products with mandatory standards. The monitoring showed that there was no case of non-compliance to the Act. The inspection of certified products displaying Q mark in 52 modern trade retail shops in Bangkok showed that 100% of the Q mark was in correct green color while the coding indicated was 84.62% accurate.

3. The survey for the residues of paraquat, glyphosate, and chlorpyrifos has been conducted in 6 modern trade retail shops and 4 wholesale markets on 84 samples of 21 kinds of agricultural products i.e. bog choy, basil, cauliflower, kale, celery, cha-om, gourd, cucumber, long bean, lime leave, Indian basil, morning glory, red chili, mint, Chinese radish, sweet basil, banana, aromatic coconut, papaya, pineapple, and rice. The test results from laboratory showed that there was no residue of paraquat and glyphosate in all 84 samples. However, there were 3 samples with over safe level of chlorpyrifos.

2. The surveillance of pesticide residues in 11 kinds of fresh fruits and vegetables has been conducted in 8 distribution centers and modern trade retail shops in Bangkok and peripheral. The test results analyzed at laboratory certified with ISO/IEC 17025 showed that for the residues of 4 groups of pesticides (Carbamate, Organophosphate, Organochlorine and Pyrethroid) 76.45% of 242 samples composing of chili, eggplant, long bean, basil, kale, bog choy, coriander, dragon fruit, orange, guava and papaya, were safe.

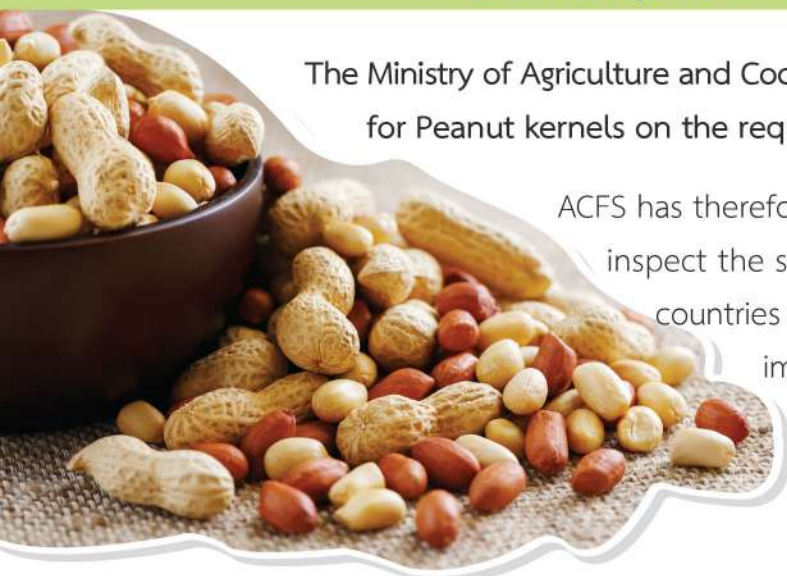
4. Surveillance network of safe farm products was formed to create groups for taking care on the safety of farm products in the community. The groups were created as a mean to collect information for strengthening production standard in the future. Farmer groups, community groups, universities, markets, cooperatives, and community enterprises, have formed 21 networks in 15 provinces.

**The outcome of the implementation on Safety Control, Inspection, Surveillance on Agricultural Commodity** has demonstrated that most business operators are able to comply with the Agricultural Standard Act B.E. 2551, and most farm products are safe.





## Control Inspection of Peanut Imported under Mandatory Standard Scheme



The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has declared a mandatory standard for Peanut kernels on the requirement for Aflatoxin Limit (TAS 4702-2557).

ACFS has therefore implemented the operation to control and inspect the safety of peanut kernels imported from many countries since 2017. In fiscal year 2019, there has been import permit for 64,185 tons of peanut kernels.

The samples taken for aflatoxin testing showed that 86% was safe and complied with the requirement of the mandatory standard at 20 micro gram per kilogram.

For those that exceeded the limit required by the mandatory standard, ACFS has seized 1,630 tons for detention. Measures have been taken either to allow for appropriate corrective action, or to destroy, or return to country of origin. The measures taken were to prevent the entry of unsafe products and protect consumers in the country.



Control Inspection of Peanut Imported under Mandatory Standard Scheme





## Database System on Agricultural Product Standard Control, Inspection and Surveillance

One of the functions of ACFS as stipulated by section 43 (3) and section 56 of the Agricultural Standard Act B.E. 2551 is to control, regulate and inspect certified agricultural products. ACFS has therefore collaborated with the Provincial Agriculture and Cooperatives Offices in the control operation for ensuring the confidence of consumers on the safety of farm products. ACFS has developed a web application for supporting the operations of officers both in the capital and in the provincial offices in monitoring and evaluating the work. There are 3 main functions

1

### Checking of Q mark



2

### Monitoring of producer, importer and exporter of products with mandatory standards

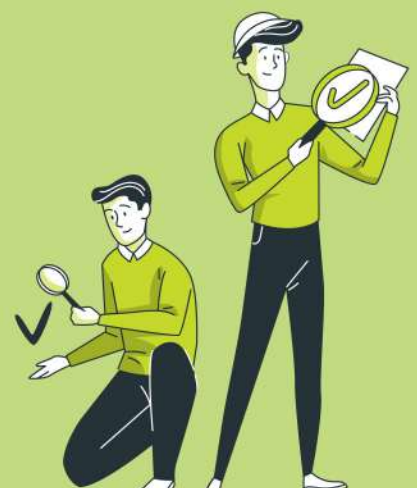


3

### Taking samples of such products. The application enables the information management to be more efficient.







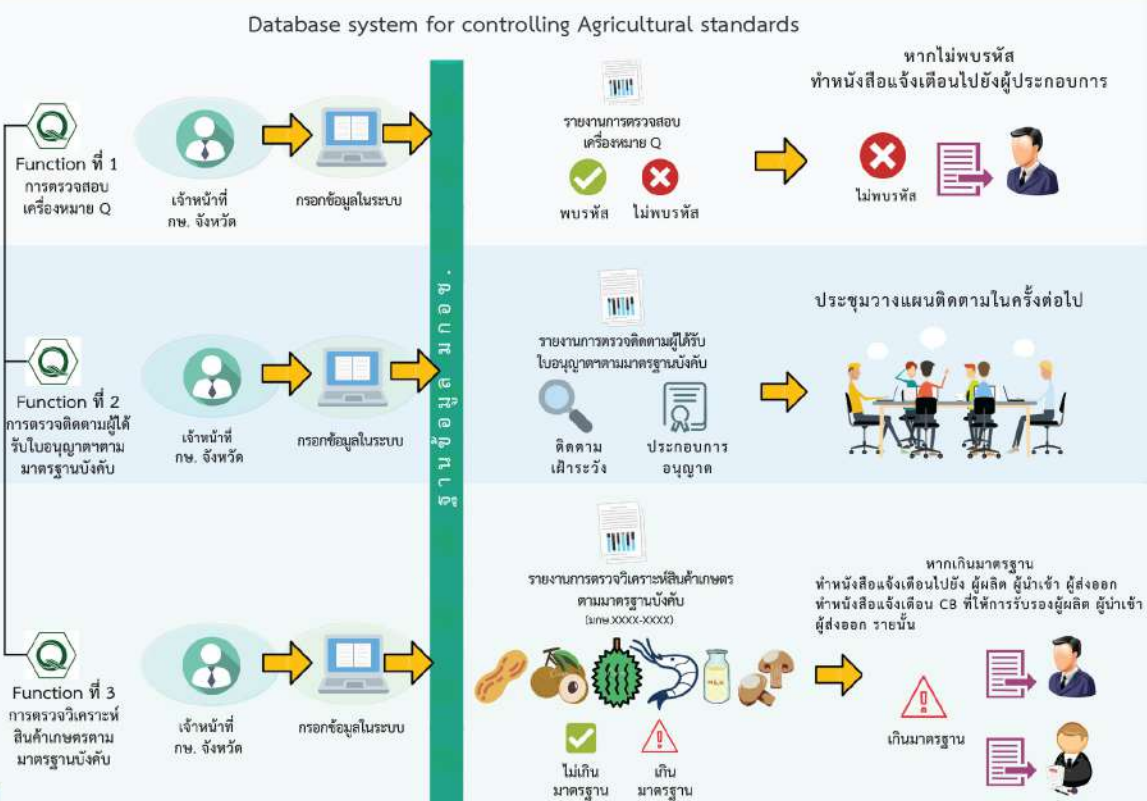


# Application of Digital Technology in Agricultural Standard

With the rapid change in society, it is undeniable that digital technology has played a greater role in how we work at present. It is necessary to have the ability for connecting people from anywhere and at all times to information so that offices are not the limit anymore for the possibility to work. Technology has become a part of work at every stages. The policy

Thailand 4.0 is another step forward to prepare for the change in 21st century and all agencies must give priority to develop technology to be in line with the 20-Year National Strategy aiming at the creation of stability, wealth, and sustainability. ACFS has therefore developed database system for the controlling of agricultural standards to facilitate the work of relevant parties.

## Database system for controlling Agricultural standards





# Thai TRACES

## MENU

- ใบรับรองมาตรฐาน ▼
- ค้นหาใบรับรองมาตรฐาน
- นำเข้าข้อมูลใบรับรองมาตรฐาน
- ประวัตินำเข้าข้อมูลใบรับรองฯ
- รายงานใบรับรองมาตรฐาน

### เข้าสู่ระบบ

กรมส่งเสริมการค้าระหว่างประเทศ  
กระทรวงพาณิชย์

Email

Password

☐ ลืมรหัสผ่าน?

สมัครสมาชิก | ติดต่อเรา



- นำเข้าข้อมูลใบรับรอง
- ส่งคำขอหีสรับรอง

ค้นหาใบรับรองมาตรฐาน

ชื่อใบรับรองมาตรฐาน:

เลขที่ใบรับรองมาตรฐาน:

วันที่ใบรับรองมาตรฐาน:

ประเภทใบรับรองมาตรฐาน:

สถานะใบรับรองมาตรฐาน:

- เกษตรกร
- ผู้ประกอบการ
- หน่วยรับรอง

ตรวจสอบรหัสรับรอง  
ที่ได้รับอนุมัติแล้ว



เจ้าหน้าที่ผู้ดูแลระบบงาน

- ตรวจสอบคำขอ
- พิจารณาอนุมัติรหัสฯ
- แจ้งผลผ่านระบบ Thai TRACES



# Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Standard

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has set the direction for the implementation using the approach of a market-led production as the driver for the development of agricultural products to improve the quality, and safety, to comply with standards and requirement for certification. The main driving mechanism for the realization of the expected outcomes is the promotion program to build capacity and improve the potential of producers,

business operators, officers, and relevant agencies in understanding and having the ability to apply the knowledge for raising the standards of agricultural products to meet the demand of domestic and international market. In 2019 ACFS has therefore implemented following capacity building programs for our officers, farmers, business operator staffs, academic institutes, and auditors to support the strengthening of Thai agricultural standards.

## 1 Capacity building program for ACFS officers

### Training program on “Digital Smart Leader”

ACFS as the agency leading the agricultural standardization has put high priority on the preparedness of digital literacy of our officers by creating the “Digital Smart Leader” training program. The training was to stimulate the idea and the alertness of the officers and to get them ready for the change and modernization of work system in the context of time constraint where technology could help accelerate the achievement of the outcomes



with efficiency. The curriculum consisted of lectures by experts in digital technology both from public and private sector. The lectures were on national strategy, Thailand 4.0 policy, economic and social development plan for a livelihood disrupted by digital technology, the significance of big data for the analysis of consumer demand, and various types of management including the integrated agriculture management.



During the training there was also an excursion to the Digital Government Development Agency (DGA) which is the specialized agency on technology and innovation. The training has educated the officers with insights in the Government Integration Network (GIN), the cloud system, the information exchange system among public agencies. There was also a tour to the Smart Classroom for a demonstration on the application of Smart Board technology at the faculty of Engineer of the King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang. The visit has provided the participants on the development of educational innovation and the direction for capacity building of new generation. The participants have also learned on the use of the e-office system which would be useful for government offices in taking actions in response to the paperless policy of the Government.



There was a group project to enhance the learning process, skill development on thinking strategy, and team working.

The group project used brain storming technic to design an application of digital work systems for ACFS that could improve speed, reduce cost, be cost effective, creative, and applicable in real life.



### The winning project

the project on a technology for reducing steps of work and cost of organizing a seminar.

### The runner ups

the ACFS Officer application and the online application for taking leave.

The training course aimed at increasing the alertness, awareness, and realisation of the officers on the importance of applying digital technology at work. The Digital Government Award of the project on 'Revocation of a duplicate copy of government document' has been the guarantee for the readiness of ACFS in the digital age and the competition with all other countries.





## 2 Capacity building for human resources in agricultural sector

### 2.1 Farmers/Public officers

- 1 **Capacity building program for farm advisors:** ACFS has organized following workshops

**Workshop on farm advisors of GAP/Organic standards;** The target groups were officers who have been advisors on GAP/Organic practices in collaborative farms from the Department of Agriculture Extension, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Livestock Development. There were 8 groups which can be separated as 2 groups on organic farm, 4 in GAP for food crops, 1 in fresh water fish farm, and 1 in Broiler farm. There were 413 participants. The objectives were to provide clear understanding on the criteria required by the standards to the participants, and to improve their skills on how to use the checklist and how to transfer knowledge to farmers correctly.



**Workshop on farm advisors for internal audit system;** The target groups were farmer group managers, and coaches of GAP/Organic rice producers. There were 3 groups of 142 participants classified into 2 groups for GAP rice and 1 for organic rice. The objectives were to provide correct understanding on the principles of group certification and internal audit systems

to the participants who were expected to be able to transfer the knowledge and provide advices to group members to practice in compliance to the provisions and criteria for group certification.

**GAP** ฟ้าเขียว





**2 Q volunteers;** The capacity building program for Q volunteers aimed at enabling them to conduct a preliminary audit in the manner of farmer providing advices to farmer which would be the mechanism for driving the development of sustainable agriculture. This program was held in collaboration with local public officers in accordance with the Ministry policy. The program also aimed at building ACFS representatives in the region to act as the agent for communication between ACFS and the farmers in the area around the country. There were 4 activities.

(1) Workshop on improving capacity of Q volunteers on organic standard was held during 28-30 November 2018 at TK Palace Hotel, Bangkok. The target group were Q volunteers from 6 provinces i.e. Kampaengphet, Pichit, Pitsanulok, Petchaboon Srakeaw, and Pattalung with 45 participants.



(2) Workshop on improving capacity of Q volunteers on GAP for food crop was held during 11-14 December 2018 at Pahin Regent Hotel, Prajinburi. The target group were the farmer leaders in collaborative farms, chair persons of knowledge learning centers for improving agricultural production efficiency, village volunteers, and young smart farmers from Chacheonsao, Nakhonnayok, and Prajinburi provinces.

(3) Workshop to wrap up on the implementation of Q volunteers was held during 9-12 July 2019 at Cavali Casa Hotel, Ayudhya province. The target group were the Q volunteers who were advisors conducting preliminary audit and officers from 9 Provincial Agriculture and Cooperatives Offices i.e. Kampaenphet, Pitsanulok, Pichit, Petchaboon, Srakeaw, Pattalung, Chacheongsao, Nakhonnayok, and Prajinburi. The objective was to summarize the activities implemented on the preliminary audit, the problems encountered, and how to improve the activities, as well as the exchanging views among the volunteers.







(4) The activity on the Pre-audit by the Q volunteer network and the agricultural extension officers was held with the objectives to prepare the readiness for farmers who have applied for GAP certification from the Department of Agriculture, so that their success rate in being certified could be increased and the certification process would be speeded up. As a result, 427 among 590 farms, or 72.37%, in 9 provinces i.e. Kampaenphet, Pitsanulok, Pichit, Petchaboon, Srakeaw, Pattalung, Chacheongsao, Nakkonnayok, and Prajinburi, have been certified.

### 3 Promotion of Knowledge management and the driving of momentum on the sustainable agriculture

ACFS has driven forward the work on organic agriculture in order to build the awareness among farmers on the importance of organic standard for the production of certified products; to promote knowledge on production, certification, processing, and marketing of GAP and organic farming along the value chain from upstream to downstream; and to increase competitiveness. The increasing interest of consumer on healthy lifestyles also is the incentive.



ACFS has therefore organized 4 workshops on the promotion of knowledge management and the driving of momentum on sustainable agriculture in 4 regions during 4 August – 17 September 2019.



**Workshop 1** was organized in central region during 5-6 August 2019 at Mida Grand Dhavaravati Hotel, Nakhon Pathom province.



**Workshop 2** was organized in northern region during 14-15 August 2019 at Duang Tawan Hotel, Chiang Mai.



**Workshop 3** was organized in north-eastern region during 22-23 August 2019 at Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel, Khon Kean.



**Workshop 4** was organized in southern region during 16-17 September 2019 at Grand Fortune Nokhon Sritamarat Hotel, Nokhon Sritamarat.



The target group were Young smart farmers, Organic farmers, people who have interest in organic farming, officers from agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, officers from other Ministries, and officers from ACFS. There were 623 participants from the 4 regions. The workshops aimed at capacity building for existing organic farmers who has not been certified, and the new comers who have interests; and improving knowledge on standards. There were also activities on the promotion of the two online marketing tools i.e. the DGTfarm.com and QR Trace, and business matching with modern trade. There were also products of successful model farmers on display at the workshops.



## 2.2 Education institutes



Agricultural livelihood project “New Generation Farmers with an Attentiveness on standards” 5<sup>th</sup> group, 2019

ACFS has implemented the 5<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Livelihood project “New Generation farmers with the attentiveness on standards” in 2019. The aim was to improve theoretical and practical knowledge on GAP standards for students in Agriculture and Technology Colleges in the scopes of food crop, rice, fisheries, livestock, and production technology. The students participating in the project were expected to be able to apply the knowledge on the production of farm products which were safe and in compliance with standards in their real life farming occupation. They were also expected to be able to disseminate the knowledge in their community. The target group for 2019 were students and lecturers

from Agriculture and Technology Colleges in southern and central provinces i.e. Songkla, Chumphon, Surat Thani, Pattalung, Satun, Krabi, Trang, Nakhon Srithamarat, Rajburi, Kanchanaburi, Petchburi, Singburi, Chainat, Lopburi, Srakeaw, Chonburi, Supanburi, and Ayudhaya, and officers from the Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Agriculture, Rice Department, Department of Livestock Development, Department of Fisheries, and ACFS.





The implementation under the project composed of 4 activities.

1. Student Camp activity on the theme of New Generation Farmers with attentiveness on standards. There were lectures and group activity and practical exercise on GAP in the scopes of food crop, rice, fisheries, livestock, and related production technology. There was also activity on forming friendship and network on agricultural standard.



2. Contest activity was organized on the formulation of a farm project with agricultural standards. There were 35 projects out of 65 proposals which were selected by referee. These projects covered the scopes of plant crops, fisheries, livestock and rice, in accordance with relevant agricultural standards.

3. A study tour to operating facilities along the whole supply chain was organized to inspire the participants starting from a visit to a GAP certified farm, a GMP certified facility, a sale point of safe farm products, an inspection and packing facility of major products, and Royal Initiative projects.



4. The activity was also organized on the promotion of the application of agricultural standards on farm and the contest of farm with agricultural standards. The selected farms were assisted by officers to provide advices, follow up actions, and the farm audit. Several farm projects have been ready for the application for certification.



5. Awards and Honours were presented to the winners of the farm contest. Lessons were reflected on the winning projects in each scope. An award was also presented to Mr Amnart JeenKaokum from Rajburi Fisheries Office as the best coach. The wrap up workshop for the implementation in 2019 was organized on 10 September 2019 at Mida de Sea Hua Hin, Petchburi.



The outcomes of the implementation and further projects by the colleges in 2019 are,

1. Rajburi Agriculture and Technology College has been registered and certified by the Department of Fisheries on GAP for fresh water aquaculture farm (TAS 7417-2559) for frog production and was also certified by the Department of Agriculture on GAP for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) for hydroponic production.

2. Supanburi Agriculture and Technology College has been certified by the Department of Agriculture on GAP for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) for basil production.

3. Pattalung Agriculture and Technology College has been certified by the Department of Agriculture on GAP for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) for the production of green oak, fillet, red oak, and red coral.





### 3 The improvement of facilities/operators/farmers

#### Strengthening and promotion of the application of GMP standard in fruits and vegetable packing houses

The project on the Strengthening and promotion of the application of GMP standard in facilities has the objective in the improvement of the operation system of fruits and vegetables packing houses in compliance with the standard on GMP for fruits and vegetables packing house (TAS 9035-2553). The project was implemented to prepare the readiness of the facilities for the application for certification, and to create the facilities as the learning centers for providing advice to other operators. In 2019 ACFS has implemented in 2 locations i.e. 1) Packing house of Tha Wang Pha Land Reform Agricultural Cooperatives, in Tha Wang Pha, Nan province and 2) Packing house of Safe Agricultural Innovation, Meung district, Nan province.



The outcomes and the finding were as described below.



1. The main produces at the packing house of Tha Wang Pha Land Reform Agricultural Cooperatives, were chili, pumpkin, squash, tangerine, and cabbage. The daily production was 4 tons, receiving from cooperatives members in the area. This packing house has already had document system ready but the facility was undergoing

renovation of facility structure i.e. floor of storage room in building 1, and therefore needed to suspend the operation. The facility was expected to be able to apply for the certification in 2020.





2. Packing house of Safe Agricultural Innovation, Meung district, Nan province was established with the objective of becoming the packing house of the province having roles as distribution center for nearby provinces and others in the country. It has document system ready. Currently the facility structure and equipment were being handover from provincial offices of the Community Development Department, the Treasury Department, and Pracharat Ruemjai company.



## Strengthening of the standard of processing facility (Packing house)

The objectives of the project on the strengthening of the standard of the processing facility (Packing house) was to prepare the compliance of the facility to the agricultural standard on organic standard vol. 1: the production,

processing, labeling, and selling of organic produces and products (TAS 9001 vol. 1-2552), and to the standard on GMP of fruits and vegetables packing house (TAS 9035-2553), and to get the facility ready for the application for certification. It was also to set the facility to become a learning center for providing advices to other operators. Further it was to ensure the confidence of domestic and international consumers on quality and safety of the products. ACFS has implemented this project in 2 locations i.e. Srithep Organic farmer group, at Pradu ngam, Srithep district, Petchaboon, and 2) Tha Daeng Agriculture Cooperatives, at Tha Daeng, Nong Pai district, Petchaboon.

The outcomes and the finding were as described below.

1) Tha Daeng Agriculture Cooperatives, Tha Daeng, Nong Pai district, Petchaboon was having the facility structure and the document system ready for the application for GMP standard.







2) For Srithep Organic farmer group, at Pradu ngam, Srithep district, Petchaboon, there were 5 members who have been certified individually on organic standard.

Currently the facility was being moved to a new location and it was being in coordination with local authority and hence needed to suspend the application for certification.





## Retail shops for certified organic products



In 2019 ACFS has implemented a project to promote retail shops for certified organic products with the objectives of increasing the availability of retail shops where consumers can trust on organic products they purchase, to make it easy for consumers to buy organic products, and to inform the public of the whereabouts of these shops.

It was also with the objectives on putting in place a way to deal with misleading labelled, promoting the sourcing and selling of genuine organic products for these shops, having traceability for organic products, which would benefit both the retailers and the consumers. There were 5 activities under this project.

- 1 For the certified retail shops selling organic products, there were 9 business operators with 285 locations of the retail shops who took part in this activity, namely,



Certified Retail Shops	Location
Central Food Retail Co. (Tops supermarket)	137
Tantrapun Supermarket (1994) Co. (Rimping supermarket)	8
Dairy Home Organic Outlet	1
Lemon Farm	15
Siam Makro PCL	97
Big C Supercenter PCL	15
The Mall Group Co.	6
Foodland Supermarket Co.	5
Jing Jai Farmer's Market, Chiang Mai	1





- 2 The audit and the renewal of certificates were conducted and all 9 business operators have been already certified.



- 3 Samples of organic products from the business operators who have applied for organic certificates or for renewal of the certificates as well as from other premises have been taken for testing in laboratories to ensure that these organic products were free from chemical contamination and were safe for consumers.
- 4 A workshop has been organized on the criteria for organic certification in a participatory guarantee systems during 29 April-1 May 2019 at Mida Grand Dhavaravati Nokhon Pathom, and a working group meeting was organized to establish guidelines for organic certification in a participatory guarantee system, on 18 June 2019 at the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.



- 5 Awards and certificates of honour were presented to the business operators who have been certified on the day of ACFS anniversary ceremony, 9 October 2019. The event was presided over by Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives Prapat Pothisuthon.





## Campaign on the consumption and utilization of Q products

There were 3 activities in the campaign for promoting the consumption and utilization of Q products.

### 1 Promotion for increasing consumption and utilization of Q products in fresh markets

**1.1 Fresh markets in Bangkok:** In 2019 the project promotion has been conducted at Ying Chareon market, Or Tor Kor market, and Samyan fresh market. In addition, 16 markets with 231 vendors have been certified.

Fresh markets	Vendors
Ying Chareon market	47
Amormphun market	6
Nakhon Thai market	6
Bangkhunsri market	9
Sirichai market (Bangbon)	13
Thungkru new market	10
Minburi 1 market	22
Minburi shopping center market	20
Wathananan market	12
Sammakorn market	2
On nut market (North side)	12
On nut market (South side)	7
Iam Sombat market	12
Wong Wien Yai market	7
Or Tor Kor market	16
Samyan market	30





**1.2 Provincial markets:** In 2019 ACFS has supported 66 Provincial Agriculture and Cooperatives Offices to conduct following activities.

1

Audit and certification of 156 Q markets with 1,317 vendors, and 138 Q outlets at farm gates.



2

Promotion activities on Q shops in 239 locations and public communication to promote Q shops on media such as website, newsletters 'Q application', to increase the familiarity of the public to Q products.



SUPERMARKET

Store

MARKET



- 2 Certification of Q shops at 743 locations of 5 modern trade chains namely Central Food Retail Co. (Tops supermarket), Siam Makro PCL, Big C PCL, Betagro PCL, and the Mall Group Co.



- 3 Certification of Q restaurants at 743 locations of 2 restaurant chains namely MK Restaurant Group PCL (MK), and MK Interfood Co. (Yayoi).



## Promotion of durian collaborative farm



ACFS has implemented a development project to promote collaborative farms growing durian in eastern provinces to adopt practices on GAP for food crop so that the farmers were knowledgeable on the practices in compliance with the standard on GAP for food crop (TAS 9001-2556), knew how to display Q mark as set by the Q Trace system and how to do business matching

on the DGT-Farm online market system. The project would enable the production of high quality durian with safety in response to the demand of market and consumer, and it would enable the marketing of durian to modern trades and manufacturers of frozen durian for export which required the compliance to the mandatory standard on the GMP for frozen durian (TAS 9046-2560). This project has 6 activities.





- 1 A survey of project area and the farmer groups growing durian in a collaborative farm (Thagum-Nernsai), Mueng district, Trat province.

- 2 A workshop on Durian production in compliance with the standard on GAP for food crop (TAS 9001-2556), with

the knowledge on the requirements of facilities producing frozen durian in compliance with GMP standard (TAS 9046-2560), the display of Q mark, the application of QR trace system, and the online marketing on DGT-Farm. There was also a session for 38 farmers to apply for certification with GAP standard for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) to be conducted by the Agricultural Research and Development Center, Region 6, of the Department of Agriculture.



- 3 Pre-audit, in collaboration of the Agricultural Research and Development center, Region 6 of the Department of Agriculture, for the 38 participants to ensure that they were able to comply with GAP standard for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) and were ready to the audit for certification by the Department of Agriculture.



- 4 A pilot for value add to the durian by identity creation and story-telling about the production in the collaborative farmer group using the application of QR Trace to communicate with the consumers on the standard of durian, the traceability of farm location, and to offer market differentiation, increase marketing channel, expand options for selling durian online through DGT-Farm.





- 5 The certification with the GAP standard for food crop (TAS 9001-2556) for the 38 participants. There were 10 producers selected as model farmers who used QR Trace system, displaying Q mark, and 2 model farmers who traded durian online through DGT-Farm.



- 6 The presentation of the 38 certificates on GAP for food crop (TAS9001-2556) to the certified farmers with the exhibition on marketing channel and expanded trade opportunity for the participants through modern trade (Siam Makro PCL), Trat Agriculture Cooperatives for Processing and Export, and on the online system. There was an activity for exchanging experiences on the preparation for standard certification.






## Preparedness for the group production and certification in compliance with agricultural standard




ACFS in collaboration of the Agricultural Land Reform Office (ALRO) has implemented a project to prepare the readiness of farmer groups for a system of group production and certification on the GAP standard for maize production to be used as animal feed. The target were 4 farmer groups in the agricultural land reform zone, two groups in Petchaboon

were Koke Sarn Kao Na Pattana Maize Collaborative Farm and Maize Sub Putsa Sustainable Development, and two groups in Lopburi province were Koh Rung Kao Na Group, and Maize Kao Ruak Pattana Kao Klai.

There were 6 outcomes from the implementation.

 Members of the four groups have learned about the standard practices in accordance with the GAP standard for maize production (TAS 4402-2553) and have been certified.



 Farmers have higher income with reducing production cost because there was a good production plan with calculation for a proper amount of inputs such as seed, fertilizer, and chemicals. In addition, there was yield increase with better quality due to the harvest at the appropriate time. The grain quality was

maintained with the reduction of moisture before selling. There was expanded market for high quality maize. They were able to compete with both domestic products from other area and with import product.



Farmers have gained knowledge on good agricultural practices and a process for the production of maize for animal feed which they can apply efficiently. They have the knowledge on proper use of chemicals and were able to reduce contamination of farm chemical preventing hazards to reach human, animal farm and environment.



Farmer groups have been strengthened and become self-reliance in a sustainable manner. For example, the Maize Kao Ruak Pattana Kao Klai group has been registered as a community enterprise and has increasing number of members with more than 1,500 rai of land collectively. They have activities to provide knowledge and assistance to their members such as the pooling of farm

machines for renting out at low rate to those who have not had the equipment with the payment after selling off their produces. The group has bargaining power for better price of their products, and has lower cost for postharvest management such as that on the renting of ground for sun drying the crop.

Farmers has been stimulated to produce maize in line with quality standard which has resulted in an increasing income, a secured livelihood, an improved standard of living, a reduced number of workforce migrating into cities.



The project has contributed to the reduction of burning of agricultural land which has been the cause of air pollution from the smoke, ashes, and dust particles. The burning was harmful to human health and environment. The reduction of burning was therefore has improved air quality, and also has maintained organic material and plant nutrients in soil.





## 4 Certification body and Inspection body



### Strengthening of CB/IB to take on the accreditation system

There has been an increasing workload on the agricultural certification. However, the constraints on human resources, budget, and instruments, have made it inefficient to achieve the goal. In addition, the government policy on the review of rules and procedures for good governance and there has been decisions of the Cabinet on 11 May 2010 on the transfer of the mission on the inspection and certification from various offices to be undertaken instead by private sector or other agencies. ACFS has foreseen the importance

of forming a network of certification bodies (CB) and inspection bodies (IB) and therefore has conducted a project to strengthen CB/IB to prepare them for taking on the inspection and certification mission in the future. In 2019 there were four universities which wish to become CB in the scope of good agricultural practices. These universities were Thammasart University, Khon Kaen University, Naresuan University, and Mahasarakham University. The project has 5 activities.





- The analysis and evaluation of potential (Gap Analysis) to set work system in accordance to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 and to draft the quality system document.
- The amendment of the draft quality system document and the preparation for implementation in accordance with the ISO/IEC 17065:2012.
- The undertaking to put the quality system document into practice in the agency.
- The internal audit in accordance with the ISO 17065/2012 of human resources of the agency.
- The management review by the management board and prepare the document to apply for the certification with the standard ISO/IEC 17025:2012.



The outcomes of the project have received a lot of interests and there were other agencies with increasing motivation in the preparation of their agencies to become a CB in line with the mission transfer policy as well. However, the establishment of a CB takes time and needs continuation of preparation work, requires

support from the top management for human resources, budget, and other inputs. The cooperation among government agencies, in terms of both technical and practical aspects will strengthen the production system and the certification system for agriculture sector.

CB IB



## Development of agricultural auditors with knowledge on national and international standards



The project on the development of auditors for the Thai Agricultural Standards (TAS) and international standards has the objectives to enrich the knowledge and understanding in the requirements of the international and Thai Agricultural Standards (TAS), and in the technics for performing an audit, of persons who work as auditors and persons whose work was related to the certification of agricultural and food

products both from public and private sectors. There were 10 courses comprising ISO 9001, ISO/IEC 17065, ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021, GMP/HACCP, ICS food crop, ICS organic. There were 339 participants of which 208 were from public agencies, and 131 were from private CBs/LBs and universities.

ACFS has built database of the participants of these courses which can be utilized by relevant parties.





## Development of agricultural auditors from Young Smart Farmer

ACFS has implemented a project to develop the Young Smart Farmer to be farm auditors. The project was conducted during 12-14 June 2019 at the Cavali Casa Resort and Ban Lum Thonglang community enterprise in Ayudhaya. The objective was to enrich the young smart farmers with the knowledge and understanding in agricultural standards and the Pre-audit in the scope of GAP for food standard, and to enable them to perform a Pre audit. The participants were 46 Young Smart Farmers from 4 provinces namely Ayudhaya, Suratthani, Chiyapum, and Nakhon Nayok. The training composed of lectures and practices in 4 subjects



- 1 The standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crop (TAS 9001-2556).
- 2 General principle for the audit in accordance with ISO 19011.
- 3 Fundamental of agricultural audit such as procedures and the audit plan.
- 4 Principles of audits and the process to apply for agricultural certification such as the requirements of the standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crop, criteria for the verification in accordance with the standard including how to use the checklist.



The participants could apply the knowledge gained from the training to work as auditors to perform a Pre-audit for their own farm and other farms in their area.

The project has strengthened farmers and improved the efficiency in the management of agricultural products throughout the food supply chain.













National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS)  
50 Phaholyothin Road, Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900  
Call +662 - 561 - 2277



[www.acfs.go.th](http://www.acfs.go.th)