ANNUAL REPORT 2020

National Bureau of Agicultural Commodity and Food Standards





Annual report 2020

National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards







Secretary General's Message

"ACFS has integrated the work with alliance agencies in a close cooperation to drive the strengthening of agricultural standards in line with the Market-oriented Production Policy."

In 2021, ACFS has placed the emphasis on the drive for the strengthening of agricultural standards in harmony with the Market-led Production Policy. The undertaking will be implemented in an integrated manner with relevant alliance agencies both within the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC) and those from other Ministries. The agencies in MOAC are Rice Department, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Extension, Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Livestock Development. Other agencies are Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Interior, Provinces, and Local Government Organizations. Also participated are agencies from private sector such as Federation of Thai Industry, Thai Chamber of Commerce, Associations of Producer, and Modern Trade, as well as Farmer Associations, National Farmer Council, and Farmer volunteers of MOAC. The objective is to improve the efficiency and enhance the application and certification of the standards in the production of plant, fisheries, and animal products, focusing on the importance of the standard for good agriculture practices, Thai organic standard, and the product standards. The key activities are the promotion of standard application in farms and putting in place the system for remote farm audit which can be acceptable to relevant parties along the supply chain, provides inclusiveness, reduces technical obstacles in trade between them, benefits domestic and international trade, and enhances living standard of farmers, producers, business operators, and consumers.

Nevertheless, ACFS also continues intensely in the missions on standard setting, certification system accreditation, standard control, and trade negotiation to resolve technical obstacles taking into consideration the benefit of stakeholders, with the aims of strengthening the quality and safety of Thai products in line with international standards, adding values, and enhancing competitiveness of Thai products in global market.

Mr. Pisan Pongsapitch

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ACFS Secretary General

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The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS) is the core agency in charge of the mission related to the standardization of farm and food products. ACFS has functions on standard setting, certification system accreditation, standard control, standard promotion from farm to consumer, and negotiation to resolve technical obstacles. The objectives are the improvement and strengthening of agricultural and food standards to ensure the consistency of quality and safety with international standards and the competitiveness in global market. In addition, ACFS also incorporates into our mission the important projects of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives as guided by Government policy. These projects are the promotion of Collaborative farming system and the promotion of the production and marketing of organic products.

In 2020, as guided by Government policy, the projects on the production of plants, fisheries, and animal products with acceptable safety and quality standards have been covered by ACFS under the promotion of collaborative farming system. These projects were such as the strengthening of the standard of cricket farming, the establishment of network for silkworm cocoon producer, the collaborative farming of GAP durian production, the Q-volunteer, the improvement for GMP standard compliance of small packing houses of fruits and vegetables in Rajburi and Nakornpanom Provinces, and the project on the improvement for GMP standard compliance of rice mill in Petchburi Province. For the promotion of the production and marketing of organic products, ACFS has integrated the work under organic farming policy by disseminating knowledge to guide farmers into organic production and marketing expansion. These projects were such as the development of a model GMP rice mill for organic rice production in Prajinburi Province, the guidance for farmer groups with participatory guarantee system (PGS) to advance them further into organic certification system, and the project on the promotion of consumption and utilization of Q products.





For the mission of ACFS, in 2020 the accomplishment has been successfully completed in the implementation to promote the awareness on agricultural standards and in all other functions of the agency. The implementation to promote the awareness of agricultural standards were on the capacity building to enable officers in government and private sectors as well as in general public in applying agricultural standards efficiently. Capacity building programs have been implemented at different levels. At farmer level, there were programs to prepare farmers to comply with the mandatory standard of mushroom culture and spawn, and the preparation of dairy farms to get ready for GAP production and certification system. At junior level, there were programs for the 6th season on farming for livelihood "New generation farmers, care for standards", and programe on Q canteen. At the producer level, there were programs on the improvement of potential for frozen durian, the programe to connect the Q production with Q-market, the program to certify outlets of Q-products, and the program for an online marketing "DGT Farm.com".

In the **Standard Setting**, ACFS has participated in the international organizations such as Codex, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food, (AWGHF), and the International Halal Accreditation Forum (IHAF). Also, for the national standard, in 2020 ACFS has adopted the standard on Elephant Camp as a mandatory standard. In the **Negotiation for Resolving Technical Obstacles to Trade and for a New Market Access**, ACFS has been successfully in negotiating for market access of cricket to Mexico and in transportation of fresh fruits to China. In **Accreditation** ACFS has received recognition by APAC and USFDA. In **Standard Control**, ACFS has been able to offer an online service for an application of a license to operate as a producer, importer, or exporter of products with mandatory standards, and an online service for an application of import or export permit of such products (TAS-License). Further, ACFS has also regulated the activities to control, inspection, and surveillance on safety of farm products under the Agriculture Standard Act B.E. 2551. In **Supporting Technology for Agricultural Standardization**, ACFS has developed Thailand Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ThRASFF).

During the situation under Coronavirus 2019 Pandemic, ACFS has operated using electronic system in a variety of services such as an online public hearing, and a campaign on an online marketing of farm products (www.dgtfarm.com). Useful information and communication have been also provided on digital platforms such as YouTube (Interesting Agricultural Standards), and FaceBook (Official page). There were other in house services such as TAS-License system, Listing Service for Food Testing Laboratory, Licensing for Inspector Body, Remote Audit for Certification Body with an application through an electronic mail, Authorization of Certified ID Code Number, Information Service on Agricultural Standards, Advice Support System, and Request System for agency news and Publication by E-mail: acfspr@gamil.com and Line Official (@acfs). All these services have been put in place to enable the stakeholders to connect with us for our information and continue driving together the mission on food safety efficiently. As a final point, ACFS has been complimented with the 9th NACC Integrity Awards for 2019 which was the honour for integrity, ethics, and honesty.





Achievements



Achievements

In the fiscal year 2020



In 2020, ACFS has carried out missions which are guided by Government policy as well as those which are the specific obligation of ACFS. In the implementation of these missions, agricultural standards have been applied with relevant stakeholders. Those standards were such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Organic Standard (Organic Thailand), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). These missions have been separated into two main groups.

1. Missions which are guided by the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Under these group, there were 2 themes which were the Promotion of Collaborative Farming System, and the Promotion of Production and Marketing of Organic Products.

2. Missions which are specific obligation of ACFS including of standard setting, accreditation, standard control, and standard promotion, as well as the negotiation on SPS issues.





The entire missions have been set to strengthen the agricultural standards which were acceptable to relevant parties along the supply chain, and support the enhancement of living standard of farmers, producers, business operators, and consumers. The achievements in 2020 are described hereunder.

1. Missions which are guided by the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives in 2020.



Promotion

of Collaborative Farming System



ACFS has played the role in the promotion of collaborative farming system covering plant, fisheries, and animal products. The work has been launched in 2017 with the aim to take on board participated farmers into adopting agricultural safety standards in their production and of their products with quality acceptable by consumers. Examples of projects under this theme were such as the development of a comprehensive model for a production of Q rice in Srisaket Province, and several other projects covering products such as crickets, silkworm cocoon, durian, as well as projects on capacity building of human resources in related group.

Capacity Building for Farmers and Strengthening of Standard for Cricket Farming

In the capacity of the core agency to elaborate agricultural and food standards, ACFS has set the Agriculture Standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Cricket Farming (TAS 8202-2560) for the promotion of cricket farming and to strengthen the cricket farming standard. Also, ACFS has previously provided training on the requirements set in the standard under the promotion of collaborative farming program.



In 2020, ACFS has continued to disseminate technical information to other groups of cricket farmers by running a second phase of the training on Good Agricultural Practices for Cricket Farming to farmer groups which have registered their farms with the Department of Agricultural Extension in 2019 - 2020. The training was to prepare them for the application for certification of their cricket farms with the Department of Livestock Development. ACFS has conducted the training to eight groups of totally 297 farmers in Lopburi, Sukothai, Pitsanulok, Khonkaen, and Buriram Provinces.









The training has provided the participants with good understanding of the requirements, procedures for the application for certification, how to establish farm logbook, and how to record information in the logbook.

ACFS will have a follow up action in collaboration with the Chief of Agricultural Extension Office in the districts to select farmers in target groups and monitor their progress in applying the standard in their farming practices, and to observe whether they are ready for the application for the certification.



The Establishment of Network

for Industrial Silkworm Cocoon Producer

ACFS has promoted an insight on the standard for silkworm cocoon to enable the production of silkworm cocoon with consistent quality to the standard, meeting the requirement of buyers who are silk yarn producers. Also, it was to get the cocoon producers ready for the certification application. The activities implemented are described hereunder.

Two training sessions have been organized to provide producers in Mae Jarim district, Nan Province, with an understanding of the standard on silkworm cocoon production. The trainings took place on 30 January and 16 July 2020 at a Learning Center for Improving the Efficiency in Farm Production, located in Nong Daeng Sub-district, Mae Jarim District, Nan Province, with 150 participants. The content covered the knowledge on soil and water conservation, requirements and provisions for the assessment of compliance to Agricultural Standard on Good Agricultural Practices for the Production of Mulberry Leaves (TAS3500-2553), and the Good Manufacturing Practices for Silkworm Cocoon Production.





Four advisory sessions have been organized for 10 pilot producers to provide them with set up procedures for silkworm cocoon production in compliance to the standard. The activities took place at the premise of the producer group in Mae Jarim District, Nan Province, in coordination with officers from Queen Sirikit Center of Sericulture, Nan Province. Observation has been made on farmer practices from the distribution of silkworm eggs to members, mulberry cultivation, rearing of larvae and caterpillars, to the harvest of the cocoon, as well as on the consistency of the procedures with the Standard on Cocoon Production (TAS 8201-2555), and the preparation for certification.



Testing of the cocoon quality has been made by collecting 75 samples of cocoon, variety Yellow Saraburi, from 15 farmers comprising 10 pilot producers in 5 groups, and another 5 producers with traditional practices. Samples were tested in two analyses. First, they were tested for primary properties using for setting the price. These properties were i.e. the percentage of defective cocoon, and the percentage of shell. Second, they were tested for reelability such as the percentage of reelable fiber, size of cocoon filament, and length of reelable fiber per cocoon.





A handbook for cocoon production in line with the Standard has been developed based on the Guidance on the Application of Agricultural Standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Silk Cocoon production, together with information collected from field work at an area of the Sericulture group in Mae Jarim District, Nan Province. The handbook has been verified by the Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture.





Q Volunteer



ACFS has initiated Q Volunteer program to build up the awareness on agricultural standards and to create the network of farmers and producers who apply safety standards in their production. Q Volunteers have been developed to become consultants on agricultural standards capable to perform a preliminary assessment and provide advices to farmers on the adaptation of farm practices which is consistent with provisions required by the standards. Q Volunteers have been accepted to have the status of Agricultural Volunteer as notified by The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives on "Category, Qualification, Criteria, Method, and Conditions for Enlisting as Agricultural Volunteer and Honorable Agricultural Volunteer", on 28 May 2018. There have been two activities under Q Volunteer program.

Activity 1

A training has been organized to build the Awareness on Agricultural Standards. The participants, 940 in total, included the Chairperson and network members of the Learning Center for Improving Efficiency of Farm Production, and the farmer leaders from nine locations under the Promotion of a Collaborative Farming System program.



Activity 2

A training has been organized on the topic of Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops. There were 78 participants who possessed appropriate qualification and were interested in becoming Q Volunteers. These participants included the Chairperson and network members of the Learning Center for Improving Efficiency of Farm Production, and the farmer leaders from locations under the Promotion of a Collaborative Farming System program in Lampoon, Chiangmai, Lampang, Nakhon Srithamarat, and Surathani Provinces.





Development of Durian Production Process in Compliance with GAP Standard in a Collaborative Farming System

ACFS has conducted a promotion work under the program on the Improvement of Potential for Durian Producers in Collaborative Farming System in Eastern Provinces, B.E. 2020. The activity was to support the farmers and producers to be certified with the Standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crops (TAS 9001-2556). Durian growers have been informed on how to improve their understanding on the principle for growing durian in compliances with GAP standard, criteria as set in the mandatory standard for purchasing durian by the producers of frozen durian for export, and on how to display of Q mark correctly.



The implementation in 2020 was the second year of this activity. This year, 120 durian growers have joined the program and applied for certification with The Agricultural Research and Development Center, Region 6, Department of Agriculture. In addition, ACFS has conducted a Pre-audit based on GAP standard for Food Crops (TAS 9001-2556) for durian growers in a Collaborative Farming System in Trat Province to get them ready for certification. The Pre-audit was conducted for three groups. The Pre-audit for the first group

took place during 16-20 March 2020 at the premise of the grower group in Chamrak and Tha Gum Sub-districts, Muang District, Trat Province. For the second group it took place during 23-27 March 2020 at the premise of the group in Klong Yai Sub-district, Laem Ngob District, Trat Province. For the third group, it was during 30 March - 2 April 2020 at their premise in Wang Krajae Sub-district, Maung District, Trat Province. The Pre-audit for all 120 growers have been completed and they are in the process of certification.



Strengthening and Improving of Production with GMP Standard for Agricultural Products

ACFS has ensured consumers on the quality and safety of products from a postharvest processing by implementing a project on the Strengthening and Improving of Production with GMP Standard for Agricultural Products.

1. Three small packing and collecting houses of fruits and vegetables have been developed in compliances with GMP standard (TAS 9047-2560). The first one was developed at the Community Enterprise of Housewife Group in Pong Krating, Ban Kha District, Rajburi Province. The second one was at the Community Enterprise of Mango Producers for Export in Bang Pae District, Rajaburi Province, and the third one was





at Nong Bua Community Enterprise, Muang District, Nakhon Panom Province. The implementation was in collaboration of Provincial Agricultural Extension Offices. The objectives were to improve the knowledge of farmers, and to prepare the community enterprises for the GMP certification so that they could become suppliers of modern trade stores such as Makro, Big C, and Lotus, and would be able to export their products to other countries.



2. The improvement and strengthening of a rice mill in compliance of Good Manufacturing Practices for Rice Mill (TAS 4403-2553). The objectives were to prepare a target rice mill for the GMP certification, and to become a node for extension to other operators. The farmer group "Rice Mill of Happiness" in Sub-district Ban Rai Makham, Ban Lard District, Petchburi Province was selected as the target rice mill. The implementation was in collaboration of the Community Enterprise Ban Rai Makham. The implementation was to tackle the problem of weakening price by the adoption of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy as the guide for the development. The implementation has made the group become strong, secure, and sustainable. The group has operated a business to produce packaged rice under the trade name "Farmers' smile". There were 120 members in the group which cover the area of 1,060 Rai. All farms have been certified with GAP. The rice mill has been in the process of GMP certification by the Rice Department. The output is shown in the table below.



Standard

Beneficiary

Output

1. Good
Manufacturing
Practices for
Packing Houses
of Fresh Fruits
and Vegetables
(TAS 9047-2560)

1) Community Enterprise of Housewife group at Pongkrating, Bankha District, Rajburi Province • Certified by Department of Agriculture (DOA) on GMP for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Packing Houses (TAS 9047-2560) in the scopes of pineapple, banana (Cavendish and nam wa), and jack fruit since 14 February 2020. Listed by DOA as establishment for export.

Standard Beneficiary Output

- 2) Community Enterprise of Mango Producers for Export, Bang Pae District, Rajburi Province
- Certified by Department of Agriculture (DOA) on GMP for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Packing Houses (TAS 9047-2560) in the scope of mango since 9 July 2020. Listed by DOA as establishment for export.
- 3) Community Enterprise Nong Bua, Muang District, Nakhon Phanom Province
- Certified by Department of Agriculture (DOA) on GMP for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Packing Houses (TAS 9047-2560) in the scopes of pineapple.

- 2. Good

 Manufacturing

 Practices for

 Rice Mill

 (TAS 4403-2553)
- 1) Rice Mill of Happiness Farmer Group, Ban Rai Makham Sub-district, BanLardDistrict, Petchburi Province
- Certified on GAP for all 1,060 Rai. Rice mill is in the process of renovation of packing room and after completion will apply for certification by Rice Department.





Promotion of Production

and Marketing of Organic Products



ACFS has taken part in conducting the integrated mission as guided by the Policy on Organic Agriculture. The aims were to build up knowledge on organic agriculture and become a mechanism to drive sustainable farming. The aims were also to promote the organic production of farmers, and create a link with manufacture facilities who adopt organic system in their production to increase competitiveness and to enhance marketing of organic products.

Upgrading Organic Production in Participatory Guarantee System to Certification



ACFS has undertaken a project to assist organic farmers in a Participatory Guarantee System moving forward into a certification system. The undertakes were in Khonkaen, Mahasarakham, Kampangphet, and Nakhonsawan Provinces. The objectives were to improve those farmers to adopt a participatory guarantee system and then move forward into a certification system. The summary outline of the project is described hereunder.



A survey has been conducted in Khonkaen, Mahasarakham, Kampangphet and Nakhonsawan Provinces during 25 – 28 November 2019 and 13 December 2019 to select farmer groups capable of participating in a Participatory Guarantee System.



Registration was done for 275 participating farmers and a preliminary verification on the work system of the group was performed by experts from Thai Organic Agriculture Foundation, i.e. Mrs Jintana Intaramongkol, Mr Somchai Wisartpong, Assistant Prof. Dr. Dusit Atinuwat and Ms Duangkamol Dankubton.

The activity was carried out during 20 – 24 January 2020 and 28 – 31 January 2020 in Khonkaen, Mahasarakham, Kampangphet, and Nakhonsawan Provinces.



A follow up action was conducted according to the Participatory Guarantee System approach of the group. The activities included the observation of the production and marketing processes of organic fruits and vegetables, and the basic testing of chemical residues in the produces.

The activities were conducted during 10 – 11 June 2020 and 18 – 19 June 2020 at the Organic Farm Community Enterprise of Ban Kud Chiangmee, Khon Kaen Province, the Rice Grower Community Enterprise of Ban Nong Hoy Chiangsong, Mahasarakham Province, the Farmer Market, Kampangphet Province, and the Nakhonsawan Organic Farming Group, Nakhonsawan Province.



For a preparedness of farmers, seminars were organized in Khonkaen, Mahasarakham, Kampangphet, and Nakhonsawan Provinces during 3 – 8 and 17 – 21 August 2020 for 200 farmers. The aim was to build up their awareness on the conversion into the certification system and to enable their application to be certified by the organic agriculture standard of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.





Follow up actions were also taken place in Lampang and Chiangrai Provinces during 10 – 11 September 2020. The implementation of farmer groups participating in this project were examined by experts namely Mrs Jintana Intaramongkol and Mr Somchai Wisartpong. There were 90 farmers (40 from Lampang and 50 from Chiangrai)

took part in this activity. There were 62 farmers who were interested in applying for the certification of the organic standard of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (29 from Lampang and 33 from Chiangrai). The audit was performed by the Department of Agriculture.

Promotion of GMP Standard for improving a Benchmark of Rice Mill Production System

ACFS has promoted the production of organic rice by conducting a project to strengthen and promote the application of GMP standard in a production facility. The project was conducted at the premise of Organic Agriculture Group for a Sustainable Livelihood, Ban Bangtan, Borsang District, Prajinburi Province. The objective was to improve the compliance of the rice mill to the Good Manufacturing Practices for Rice Mill (TAS 4403), Organic Agriculture, Volume 1: Production, Processing, Labeling, and Marketing of Organic Produces and Products (TAS 9000, Volume 1), and Organic Agriculture Volume 4: Organic Rice (TAS 9000 Volume 4). The rice mill was a small facility receiving rice paddy from certified organic farmers (Organic Thailand), who were certified also in a Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). The group has 29 members in total and 19 of them have been certified by Organic Thailand. The total certified area was 197 Rai. The undertaking included following activities.

1. A survey to take a look at what was needed and how ready the farmer group was.







to do a Gap analysis of the rice mill, and to develop quality system document as a blueprint for a standard rice mill. There was a session for informing the group on the draft document and a group work session on finalization of the document. There was a mock up session for farmers





and staffs of the rice mill to learn on how to apply the document into real practice, and to perform an internal audit and the Pre-audit for complying to TAS 4403, TAS 9000 volume 1, and TAS 9000 volume 4.



ACFS has implemented this project with the aim of ensuring that the consumer confidence on the quality and safety would be sustainable. It was also to ensure that the farmer group was ready for improving their rice mill in compliance of the organic standard so that the production of organic rice would be in a complete cycle, and the rice mill was ready for the certification. Furthermore, it was to enable the rice mill in becoming the learning center able of providing advices to other producer groups.

New and Revised Certification Assessment for Organic Vendors



In 2020, ACFS has performed the certification, or revision, for vendors of organic products under the project on the Promotion of Certified Organic Product Vendors. There were 11 vendors with 340 locations in total under this project. The aim was to increase the availability of reliable vendors of organic products for general consumers. It was also to increase market channels for the organic producers where they can be ensured on the authentic of the supply they bought so that they could ensure their customers that products they sold were authentic and traceable organic. List of vendors are presented below.



The Mall Group with 6 locations

Big C Supercenter with 17 locations





Foodland Supermarket with 10 locations

Lemon Farm with 16 locations





Central Food Retail (Tops) 153 locations

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Tantrapan Supermarket \\ (Rimping Supermarket) with 8 locations \\ \end{tabular}$





Siam Makro with 124 locations

Dairy Home Organic Outlet with $oldsymbol{1}$ location





Jing Jai Farmer Market with $oldsymbol{1}$ location



Or Tor Gor (Organic Products Zone) with ${f 1}$ location





Yasothorn Green Market with 3 locations

Under this project, 185 samples of organic produces from the vendors have been tested for chemical residues. There were 167 samples found to be free of the residues and 18 samples or 9.73 % were contaminated. The finding showed that there was a decrease of contamination from 13.38% in 2019 when 127 samples were tested.



In addition, ACFS has conducted a public seminar on 21 August 2020 at Mida Grand Tawaravadi Hotel in Nakhon Patom Province to collect views on the draft document on the Guidelines for Participatory Guarantee System. The objective was to set agreeable criteria to be used in the promotion of the Participatory Guarantee System which was acceptable by all parties. A workshop was also conducted on 14 September 2020

at Centara and Convention Hotel, Udorn Thani Province, on the topic "Thai organic products, a trust ensured by standards, certified vendors, with IT back-up". The workshop was to promote the correct way for displaying organic label, the management in an integrated manner among vendors, and the application of QR Trace, DGT Farm, as well as ORG-TAS2Cert which were software applications for farmers, farmer groups, and officers to perform a Pre-audit of organic farm.

Promotion of Consumption and Utilization of Q products

(Q market)



markets vendors in Bangkok

There were 16 fresh markets with 231 vendors in Bangkok where the audits were performed by ACFS.



markets vendors in provinces

There were 182 fresh markets with 1,129 vendors, plus 175 farm gate vendors in 65 provinces where the audits were performed by the Provincial Offices of Agriculture and Cooperatives with financial support by ACFS.





In addition, 338 of these certified Q shops were promoted en masse in media such as websites, brochures, newsletters, to increase public awareness on Q products



ACFS and the Provincial Offices of Agriculture and Cooperatives have supported this activity under the project on Q Market Certification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and was guided by the Master Plan of Provincial Community under the project of the Rural Center for Sufficiency Economy.

2. ACFS Missions





Promotion of Agricultural Standards

to Stakeholders



Strengthening of Farm Production and Agricultural Standard Certification

Good Manufacturing Practices of Mushroom Cultures and Spawn (TAS 2507-2559)

ACFS has prepared for the application of the standard on Good Manufacturing Practices of Mushroom Culture and Spawn (TAS 2507-2559) by conducting a workshop to train officers from private and public sectors as well as ACFS staffs to become auditors and farm consultants. A field work was also conducted to provide consultation to 11 farmers and producers in 6 provinces i.e. Khonkaen, Sakon Nakhon, Nakhon Ratsima, Surin, Chacheongsao, and Rayong Provinces.





There were additional applications for certification in 4 provinces i.e. Khonkaen, Surin, Rayong, and Rajburi Provinces. The standard has required that commercial producers needed to get a production license and to be certified with the standard as mandated by the Agriculture Standard Act. At present, there have been 109 producers with the license and 56 of them have been certified.

Agriculture for a Livelihood "New Generation Farmers, Care for Standards"



In 2020, ACFS has conducted a project on Agriculture for a Livelihood. There were participation of 24 Agriculture and Technology Colleges and Fisheries Colleges from the North, Northeast, Central, and Southern regions. There were 28 work projects which have been selected by referees. After training on the application of standards, there were additional application for certification from 3 institutes. Proposal was also made for an extension work in the communities nearby the institutes in the next season. The Agriculture Livelihood project aimed at the building of capacity on agriculture standards (TAS)

in the scopes of food crops, fisheries, and livestock to students and lecturers at the Agriculture and Technology Colleges and Fisheries Colleges around the country. The aim was also to improve the understanding in the production and consumption of safe food. The undertaking was among the collaboration of the Office of the Vocational Education Commission under the Ministry of Education, the Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Agriculture, Rice Department, Department of Livestock Development, and ACFS.



This project has already been on for 6 six seasons with 801 trained students. There have been 447 students with 238 projects approved as project creators on the topic of farms with agriculture standards. ACFS has the expectation that the participants would be able to apply correctly and appropriately the knowledge and understanding on the production of safe farm products in compliance with the Good Agriculture Practices Standard (GAP), and able to disseminate further in the communities.















Promotion and Building the Awareness

on Standards under 🔘 Canteen Project



ACFS has conducted the O canteen project by selecting three private schools in Bangkok and the peripheral which have shown their interest to participate in a pilot project. These schools were Prasart Wittaya School Nontaburi, The Thai Ladies Association School, and Pongsuwan Wittaya School. Later there were the additional of 14 schools

showing interest in the participation, making it to 17 in total. ACFS has promoted these school to get the supply of vegetables, rice, eggs, chicken, fishes, and meat which were Q or GAP certified products or products with traceability, for the cooking in school canteen. ACFS has provided the schools with the list of producers or operators of Q or GAP and organic products as well as learning material on food education and food safety. ACFS has also taken part in related events in those schools. The implementation of Q canteen project has been expected to create awareness in the significance of food consumption on the wellbeing of the citizens. Students and school teachers have been considered to be starting point to pass on the information to parents who would create market demand for GAP products with safety standard and organic products of the producers.



The detail of 17 participating schools with more than 7,000 students in total is given below.



• There were 11 schools in Nonthaburi Province namely Prasart Wittaya Nonthaburi, Lek Komet Anusorn, Kumutmas, Jatuporn Kindergarten, Duangjai Kindergarten, Lertvinit Kindergarten, Thep Pratarnporn, Thamislam, Darunwit Suksa Foundation, Thep Pitak, and Maneeya Kindergarten.



• There were 4 schools in Pratumthani Province namely Pongsuwan Wittaya, Prasarnmitre, Beacon House Yamsa-ard Rangsit, and Sri Wali.



 There were 2 schools in Bangkok namely Thai Ladies Association, and Pramote Wittaya Ramintra.



In the next phase ACFS has been with the cordial support of the Office of the Private Education Commission in the agreement to form a collaboration throughout the country to initiate the culture of food safety and set up Q canteen in all private schools in the country.



Preparedness of Dairy Farm for Agriculture Standard Certification

with Good Agricultural Practices for Dairy Farm

ACFS has revised the standard on Good Agriculture Practices for Dairy Farm (TAS 6402-2552) by updating the requirements to agree with changes in technology so that the standard would be more practical to farmers and farm certification could be increasingly promoted. In 2020, ACFS has organized a training to prepare



the members of three dairy cooperatives for the production in compliance of the standard on Good Agriculture Practices for Dairy Farm. The cooperatives in the project were the Thai-Denmark Dairy Cooperatives (Mitraparb), Mueklek District, Saraburi Province with 235 members, Thaluang Dairy Cooperatives Thaluang District, Lopburi Province with 117 members, and Thai-Denmark Dairy Cooperatives (Sonmuang), Banmee District, Lopburi Province with 55 members, made it 407 participants in total. The training was on the practices which were related to requirements in the standard on Good Agriculture Practices for Dairy farms (TAS 6402-2562), the management of animal feed, and maintenance of farm equipment. Progress has also been followed up to observe whether there was readiness of the cooperatives members for the farm certification and to observe how much they could apply the knowledge to prepare themselves for the certification.











The finding from farmer interviews suggested that they have benefitted from the training knowledge and were able to apply the knowledge to their practices. Some of them have increased their earning from the selling of milk with higher quality.



Bridging of Production to Marketing of Q Products

ACFS has continuously established the link between the production and marketing of products with GAP and organic standards.





(1)

Certification of places where products with standards were sold.



Q restaurant in 77 provinces with 2,900 restaurants/locations



Q market in 65 provinces with more than 1,129 vendors and in Bangkok with 231 vendors



Q modern trade with 5 chains in 757 locations









Bridging marketing between producers/operators and consumers

of quality products with 3,101
Members



1,719Buyers



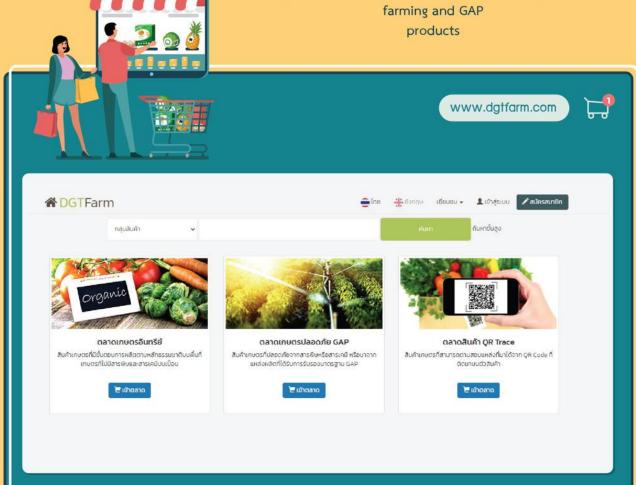
470 Products Namely 140
Products

228
Products

102
Products

Organic and green market

Market of Collaborative farming and GAP products Market of QR Trace products



Capacity Building for Auditors of Agriculture Standard

On Good Manufacturing Practices for Frozen Durian (TAS 9046-2560)

ACFS has prepared to increase the number of auditors by organizing a capacity building program for auditors of agriculture standards. The training was organized for 3 groups of 95 persons comprising officers from the Provincial Office of Agriculture and Cooperatives, officers from public and private certification bodies, and staffs of ACFS. The objective



was to build up human resources who could provide consultation and perform farm audit to assume the audit activity to be transferred from the Department of Agriculture. The aim was also to ensure that the new auditors could apply the knowledge in their work efficiently and to ensure that the certification bodies would be accepted and trusted by related agencies. As frozen durian has been a product under a mandatory standard and it has been a product with high potential and with high export volume, therefore an increased number of auditor has been expected. The major export markets have been China and USA where interception of durian has been often notified. ACFS, therefore has set a standard on the Good Manufacturing Practices for frozen durian which has been adopted as a mandatory standard since 30 July 2017.



Standard setting



ACFS has been assigned with a mission for taking part in standard setting of International organizations. One of the functions was to collate data on national production for the amendment and development of international standards which were practical to our farmers/producers. It has been regarded as beneficial in constructing fair practices in international trade for Thai exporters. Another function was to exchange information on standards and to disseminate and update the latest information to the public on the international guidelines and criteria which have been adopted, so that the adaptation could be made in time with changes of international norms. In 2020, ACFS has participated in following activities.

Codex: International body on food standards



ACFS together with the representatives from the Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock Development, Department of Agriculture, Federation of Thai Industries, Emeritus Prof. Kraisid Tantisirin, the Expert, and Mrs Oratai Silapanapaporn, ACFS Advisor, has participated in the virtual meeting of $43^{\rm rd}$ Codex Alimentarius Commission during 24 - 26 September, 12 and 19 October and 5 - 6 November 2020 at ACFS.



This meeting has considered draft standards of products such as fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, nutrition and food for special dietary uses. Code of practice relating to food hygiene and antimicrobial resistance was also considered and the list of pesticides residues for evaluation by expert group (JMPR) was adopted. The procedures for continuity of codex work in light of Covid 19 pandemic was also considered as it was important for the inspection of agricultural products in the international trade.







The Meeting has adopted 18 standards. The significant standards adopted were such as kiwi, garlic, potato, and yam. Thailand has made reservation on the potato and yam standards on the proposed values for quality tolerances for extra class. Other revised standards adopted were such as gochujang, chili sauce, mango chutney, dried fruits, and canned mixed fruits. The latter two were proposed and drafted by Thailand. In addition, there was the adoption of codex texts which were essential for food production i.e. Code of Practice on Food Allergen Management for Food Business Operators and the revision of the annex in the General Principles of Food Hygiene and its HACCP (CXC 1-1969). The annex concerned on the Good Manufacturing Practices and the Hazard Analysis of the Critical Control Points to be implemented by operators.

The Meeting also decided for the adoption at step 5 for the revised text of the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CXC 61-2005). However, Thailand has reserved our position on principle 5 due to disagreeing on the use of the drug as growth promoter. Thailand also agreed with the codex text on the Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula, section B, scope, definitions, and labelling.





For the new work, the Meeting approved the proposal on 3 regional standards for Asia i.e. 1) soybean products fermented with Bacillus species, 2) quick frozen dumpling and 3) cooked rice wrapped in plant leaves. Several products of Thailand have been covered in these standards. The Meeting also agreed upon the list of pesticides for JMPR to perform risk assessment in 2021. Thailand proposed tricyclazole in rice as an item in the list for the assessment. Thailand also agreed to reactivated the codex committee on fish and fishery products to work by correspondence to evaluate if Sardinella lemuru (Bali Sardinella) could be included into the list of Sardinella species, and to prepare a proposal for a new work to amend the codex standard of canned sardines.

Thailand Success in Codex on Standard Setting for Fruits and Vegetable Products

ACFS has attended the 29TH Meeting of Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables: CCPFV, which was working by correspondence during January – July 2020. The Meeting has considered 5 standards i.e. Dried Fruits, Canned Mixed Fruits, Chili Sauce, Gochujang, and Mango Chutney. All of these 5 standards have been adopted as international standards by 43rd Meeting of Codex Alimentarius Commission.



At this CCPFV Meeting, Thailand as the leader for drafting the standards on Dried Fruits and on Canned Mixed Fruits has been greatly successful because the Dried Fruits standard has established general requirements of dried fruits and the specific requirements of apricot, dates, raisin, dried longan, and dried persimmon

in the canned mixed fruits including canned tropical fruit salad. These products have been the important processed products which Thailand has potential in production. The participation in the setting of these codex standards will ensure that the standards are practical for Thai producers.

World Organization for Animal Health: OIE



Roles of ACFS on Standard Setting in OIE

Even though the Coronavirus-19 pandemic has caused the 88th Meeting of the General Session of the World Assembly to postpone until 2021, there has been a continuation of coordination for the efficiency in standard setting of Terrestrial Code and Aquatic Code by the Terrestrial Animal Health Commission and the Aquatic Animal Health Commission, and OIE Members.



On behalf of Thailand, ACFS together with the Department of Livestock Development and the Department of Fisheries have followed up and contributed views for setting important standards such as those for the amendment of requirements for terrestrial animal health in relation to avian influenza. There were three important issues i.e. (1) report of infection of high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI), (2) report of infection of high pathogenicity avian influenza type A in non-poultry including wild birds, and (3) report of infection of low pathogenicity avian influenza, LPAI, confirmed as transmittable

to human, highly impact to human and domestic birds and captive wild birds. OIE has notified that the report in (2) and (3) would not affect the infection status of HPAI of Member countries and requested Members not to apply the report to adopt trade measures. The amendment in those issues has been beneficial to Thailand in reducing trade obstacles. It has also encouraged Member countries to report more on the situation of avian flu which would improve the efficiency for the planning of policy and control measures at the global level.

For the amendment of aquatic animal health, Thailand has followed up on the amending of the notification of disease free zone and compartment. The follow up was highlighted especially on the minimum period for Members to implement biosafety measures and surveillance activities to support the disease free status. OIE has developed the guidelines for determining the suitable period for Members to take before notifying





the status. Thailand will continue following up on the amendment of the requirements and will provide our views on the amendment to ensure that the requirements meet the objective of disease prevention and control, is appropriate to the aquatic animal business at present which has short cycle for the culture of some economic species, and not create any obstacle to the trade of fish and fishery products.

ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food: AWGHF





Thailand as a Member of the ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food has attended the 16th Meeting convened electronically on 7 July 2020 at the Department of Livestock Development. The objective of the Meeting was to enable Member States to drive the momentum of work on halal food in the region. The important agendas included Report on the progress of the ASEAN General Guidelines on Halal Food that was adopted by 41st Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting (SOM-41st AMAF). ACFS has represented Thailand in drafting a proposal to get financial support for the organization of a workshop to develop the ASEAN halal certification scheme.

The draft has now been under the consideration and to be circulated by ASEAN Secretariat. The scheme will be incorporated as a part of ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Halal Food which will be implemented in the next step. ACFS also participated in the development of Halal Strategic Plan of Actions 2021 - 2025 (POA), and in the development of ASEAN Halal website as a part of www.afsn.net. The website provides information to relevant parties and general public on activities related to halal food in ASEAN.





The Meeting of AWGHF is important because it is a collaboration in setting common position among ASEAN Member States on halal standards and in providing recommendations on the harmonization of halal standards of Member States to strengthen cooperation and protect ASEAN interests in the international trade of halal food.





National Standard Setting

National standards have been established as the tool for consumer protection from hazard arising from food by applying them in food control and in the promotion of safety and quality standards of agricultural products. In addition, they can be used as references in trade to prevent damages which may occur to farmers and agricultural trade, or national economy. They have been established also to meet the international commitment.

At present ACFS has already notified 356 standards in 2 types i.e. voluntary with 350 standards and mandatory with 6 standards.

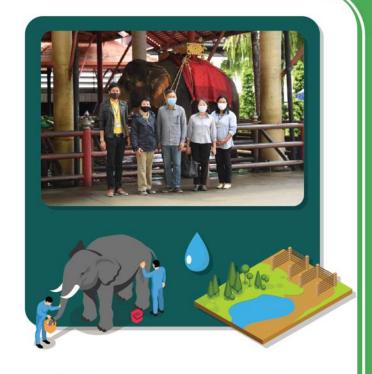


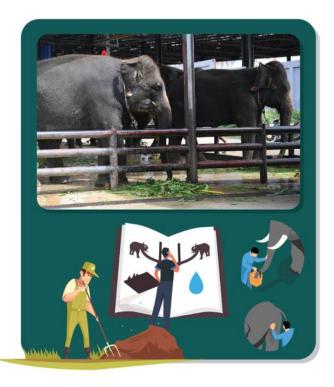
Elephant Camp

Nowadays they play a role in tourism, contributing to the economy, national image and identity. However, some elephant camps still lack knowledge and understanding on good practices for husbandry which become the challenge on health and welfare of elephants.



ACFS has established the agricultural standard on Good Practices for Elephant Camp for promoting good practices in elephant camps in line with principle on animal welfare. It has been also to raise the standard of elephant camp in Thailand. Elephant camps have been defined as a place where domesticated elephants have been taken care of and kept for tourism, entertainment,





or other businesses for profit, whether or not the money is charged directly or indirectly for the services. However, it does not include the elephants kept in the household and those kept for labour work. The requirements cover the composition of elephant camp, the management, human resources, elephant health, welfare, environment, safety management, and record keeping. The standard has been adopted and notified as a mandatory standard on 28 September 2020.





Negotiation to support the export of agricultural products

ACFS has a role on the negotiation for solving the trade obstacles to the export of agricultural products to partner countries, to enable the export and to tackle the event of over production and weakening price. It is also to facilitate trade, and reduce damages of agricultural products during transportation. In addition to the solving of trade obstacles, ACFS also play the role on the negotiation for new market access. Significant activities in 2020 are highlighted hereunder.

Access to Mexico for Crickets and Preparation for Export



Crickets are novel protein sources and food for the future and there has been an increasing trend of the demand globally. ACFS has driven the policy of Market-led Production by strengthening the production standard and negotiating for market access into Mexico which is a new market with high potential for crickets from Thailand because of it's advanced insect industry at global level. Mexican has many preferences for insect consumption and therefore there is the demand for importing crickets for consumption and for processing into varieties of products.

ACFS has started requesting for market access and negotiation with the Mexican Authority on Sanitary, Safety, and Quality of Agriculture and Food (SENASICA) since March 2020. ACFS together with the Department of Livestock Development have drafted the scientific dossier for SENASICA to perform risk assessment on powdered and frozen crickets of "Sading variety" or "Acheta domesticus".

The submitted information has now already approved by SENASICA. Next step is for the two sides to discussed together on the template of the Health Certificate before SENASICA permitting the official import of Thai crickets. It has been expected that the negotiation process will be completed and Thailand will be able to export cricket products to Mexico by early 2021.



Further, ACFS has made preparation and strengthened the capacity of farmers and producers for the export by organizing a workshop during 19-20 August 2020 in Sukothai Province on "Knowing export procedures, Strengthening Thai crickets" to disseminate information on the production of crickets with safety quality for export which is acceptable by trading partners. The information provided to the participants were from farm to processing facilities including the procedures for certification to entitle for trade benefit and to comply with regulations of importing countries. There were 78 participants from collaborative farming groups, community enterprise groups, small farmers, producers and processors, from 18 provinces.



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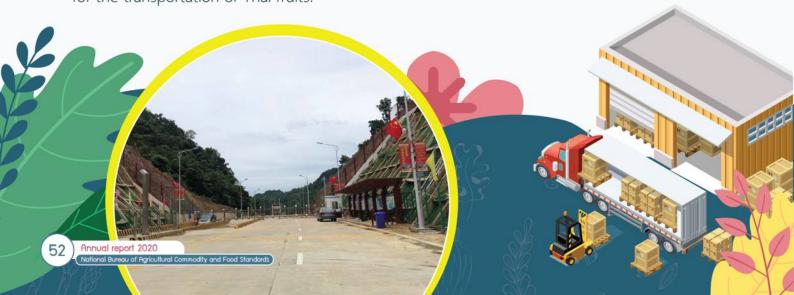
Transportation of Thai Fruits to China



Thailand and China has signed the Protocol on the transportation of Thai fruit to China through a third country since 2009. The agreement has designated the ports for Thai fruits to enter by road only at the port of Mohan in Yunnan Province and the port of Youyi Guan, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. This Protocol had been the starting point for 22 varieties of fresh fruits from

Thailand to obtain the permission for entering China by road, enabling their transportation to be shorter than the sea route, and consequently improving their quality and shelf life, and making the rapid distribution to other regions.

On 10 June 2019. Ms Juadee Pongmaneerat, Secretary General, together with officials from the Department of Agriculture, and the Consul (Agriculture) affiliating at the Consular office in Guangzhou had visited Dongxing port in the town of Fang Cheng Gang, China on the border with Mong Cai of Veitnam. The visit was for a consultation on the directives for permitting Thai fruits to be transported by road from Thailand to enter China at Dongxing Port as an additional entry point to enhance the distribution in China. The Chinese counterpart has very well cooperated and expressed the pleasure for the consultation with the Thai officials on the drafting of the Protocol to open up the entry point and the additional route for the transportation of Thai fruits.



After the visit of ACFS Secretary General, ACFS had resubmitted a whole new version of the Protocol to China, requesting China to increase the entry point for importing fruits from Thailand and allow Thailand to propose for the consideration of China on the use of any route in transporting fruits. China had responded to the proposed Protocol and informing that there was also a rail port at Pingxiang where Thailand could also use for transporting fruits in addition to the Dongxing port. Thailand then supplemented Pingxiang rail port into the list of ports which Thailand wished China to additionally open up for Thailand. Later, during the China visit of the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mr Chalermchai Sri-on, occurring in November 2019, both parties had agreed upon the principle of the Protocol on the on land transportation of fruits from Thailand to China. The consultation in detail of the Protocol had been during the preparation for signatures. It had been formerly expected that the signing would take place in early 2020. However, China and Thailand have encountered the Covid-19 pandemic before the signing happened and needed a rescheduling.

Moreover, China had to limit the number of ports on the China-Vietnam border to control the Covid-19 pandemic, making it necessary for Thailand and Vietnam to use the same ports for transportation. The transportation of Vietnamese fruits has been with higher priority, lengthening the queue time for Thai fruits at the ports and affecting fruit quality. ACFS and the Department of Agriculture had therefore urgently requested for the consultation with the General Administration of Customs to open the entry ports and the routes specified in the new Protocol. China had kindly informed that Thailand would be permitted to transport goods via Dongxing port and Pingxiang rail port immediately in April while the Protocol had been still unsigned. ACFS has now had the urgent consultation with Chinese counterpart and has already reached the agreement on the entire text and its detail of the Protocol. On 22 April 2020, ACFS has enclosed the Protocol in an official letter to GACC and requested the Chinese Authority to reciprocate the official notification to Thailand so ACFS will be able to process for the approval of the Cabinet and prepare for the signing ceremony by the Ministers of both parties once the pandemic is over.





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Sanitary and Phytosanitary



16th Meeting on SPS of Expert Group between Thailand and Australia under Thai Australia Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA)

On 3 September 2020, ACFS has been the Head Delegate of Thailand to meet with the Australian counterpart on a Video Conference: VC, and on an Out-of Session: OOS by an exchange of documents ahead of the Meeting. At this Meeting Thailand and Australia have jointly announced the success on the approval of the market access for irradiated mangoes from Thailand to Australia. The official announcement of the market access has reflected on the efficient mechanism of the consultation and the technical cooperation between the two parties which would be able to guide the market access for other fresh fruits with irradiation treatment as the alternative measure for pest control. Other issues on the agenda were on the market access for cooked ducks from Thailand to Australia, avocado from Australia to Thailand, progress on the regulations and standards related to SPS implementation, progress on technical cooperation, and the preparation of the Work Program for 2020-2022.

Strengthening of Organic Products under the ASEAN Economic Cooperation with EU-Assistance on Trade

(ARISE Plus - Thailand)



There was 1 project of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives namely the Strengthening of Organic Products. ACFS has been the main coordinating agency of the project. The project will promote the understanding on trade and the policy framework on organic agriculture of Thailand and the ASEAN Countries joining the project and to harmonize with the international and EU standards for enhancing the trade growth.

The Cabinet has approved the draft Financing Agreement to be funded by EU for assisting trade under the ASEAN Economic Cooperation project (ARISE Plus-Thailand). The fund was with the amount of 3 million Euro for the period of 3 years. The Director General of the Department of Trade Negotiations on behalf of the Ministry of Commerce has signed the Financing Agreement with the European Union on 31 August 2020 to take effect from 1 November 2020 under ARISE Plus – Thailand Project.





Mission of WTO-SPS Contact point

ACFS as the coordinating agency under the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures has been in charge for

- The mission of the National Notification Authority: NNA to notify national measures and taking notifications from WTO Members
- The mission of the National Enquiry Point: NEP. The mission has been implemented in compliance with transparency principle cited in Article 7 of Annex B in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

Performance

During the fiscal year 2020 (1 October 2019 – 30 September 2020), ACFS has kept public and private agencies informed on the regulations and measures notified by WTO Members which are trade partners to enable them to adapt for the enforcement and sustain their export to those countries. ACFS has also circulated 3,148 Notifications/Measures on sanitary and phytosanitary, and on the technical barrier to trade (Agriculture and food), divided into 2,108 Notifications on SPS and 1,040 Notifications on TBT. Among all, there were 75 national Notifications which 56 were emergency measures notifying on the provisional termination of poultry and swine products to prevent the disease transmission into the Kingdom.



The significant notifications were notified by Australia on the impose of an interim import conditions for uncooked prawns for human consumption, Vietnam on the draft of technical regulation for phytosanitary condition to import regulated articles, Philippines on the enforcement of regulation for import and export of plants and plant products, Taiwan on the proposed draft to modify the procedures for the recognition of disease free area, Philippines on the proposed draft regulation on food safety for importing rice, India on the proposed draft requirement for a Non-GM certificate of food importing into India.





ACFS also convened a consultative meeting with relevant agencies to set the national positions for the 76 – 78th Session of the SPS/WTO Committee on the two issues of Specific Trade Concerns. The first issue was for Thailand to provide clarification to trade partners, and the other issue was the statement for Thailand to declare our concerns on the EU regulation on the identification of pesticides as endocrine active substanc-

China on the registration of overseas food manufacturers, Thailand on the ban of pesticides (paraquat, chlopyrifos and derivatives) and on the SPS measures for controlling Sweet Orange Scab of oranges importing from Japan to Thailand.

ACFS Roles on Halal in the World





After having been appointed as a member to the Board of Director (BOD) by the confidence vote of the Members of International Halal Accreditation Forum: IHAF, ACFS attended the 7th Meeting of the IHAF BOD during 17 - 18 February 2020. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Mohammed AL Shehhi from United Arab Emirates, and there were Representatives from Accreditation Bodies of the Gulf States and 7 Member States attending the Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Dubai, Dubai, UAE.

During the Meeting Thailand has participated on the consideration to approve the 5 years Strategic Plan and to set the Policy, the work direction for becoming the world leader on international halal. The Meeting also considered the appointment of IHAF Chairman and approval of new IHAF Members. There was also a consideration on the collaboration with relevant bodies such as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation: OIC, on the harmonization of halal standards and the recognition of certificates to reduce the burden of halal producers in Thailand on the need for complying with many standards.





The harmonization also reduced the repetition of inspection and certification at destination, and facilitated the international halal import and export. In the past, Thailand has been unable to export halal food especially chicken and chicken products to UAE because the The Central Islamic Council of Thailand: CICOT, has not been accredited on those scopes in according to the new requirement of UAE. However, during the negotiation at the end of September 2019 an agreement was reached and UAE has accepted the Thai proposal to accelerate dispatching a team to audit CICOT which is the halal certification body of Thailand under the Administration of Islamic Organisations. Act, B.E. 2540. The Emirate Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) has then notified that CICOT has been certified in all scopes requested



i.e. C (perishable animal products), D (perishable vegetable products), E (products with long shelf life at room temperature), and L (Chemical and biochemical products). The Certificate is valid for one year (2 March 2020 – 1 March 2021). The Certificate is currently during the renewal.





ACFS accredits work system of Certification Body and Inspection Body to certify that they are able to conduct a certification with the competency in the scopes such as the Product Certification, and the Quality Management System Certification and these Bodies are able to ensure the compliance to standards of farms, factories, operators, in various scopes such as GMP, HACCP, GAP, and Organic agriculture. In 2020 ACFS has accredited the following.

Inspection and Certification with international standards for Certification Bodies/Inspection Bodies

There were Certification for CB in 38 unit-scopes.

GMP/HACCP	15	unit-scopes
Food Safety Management System (FSMS)	4	unit-scopes
Good Agriculture Practices (GAP)	11	unit-scopes
Organic Farming	5	unit-scopes
Agricultural Produce or Product	2	unit-scopes
Preventive Control for Human Food (PCHF)	1	unit-scopes

1 GMP/HACCP 15 unit-scopes

- SGS (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- Global Certification Services Co., Ltd.
- SOCOTEC Certification (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- TISTR: Office Of Certification Body, [OCB]
- Bureau Veritas Certification (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- Management System Certification Institute (Thailand)
- TÜV NORD (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Intertek Industry and Certification Services (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- International Certification (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- UIC Certification Services Co., Ltd
- Bureau Veritas Certification (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- BSI Group (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- M S Certification (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Lioyd's Register International (Thailand) Co., Ltd

2 Food Safety Management System (FSMS) 4 unit-scopes

- BSI Group (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- SGS (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- TISTR: Office Of Certification Body, [OCB]
- TÜV NORD (Thailand) Co., Ltd

Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) 11 unit-scopes

- Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Fisheries Commodity Standard System and Traceability Division, Department of Fisheries
- Division of Rice and Rice Products Inspection and Certification,
 Rice Department
- Agricultural Land Reform Office (ALRO)
- Wolfgang Plath (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Asia Medical and Agricultural Laboratory and Research Center
- A-One Future Co., Ltd.
- SGS (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- TÜV NORD (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University
- TISTR: Office Of Certification Body, [OCB]

4 Drganic Farming 5 unit-scopes

- Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University
- THAI GAP 09 COMPANY LIMITED
- Asia Medical and Agricultural Laboratory and Research Center
- Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- TISTR: Office Of Certification Body, [OCB]
- 5 Agricultural Produce or Product 2 unit-scopes
 - Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd
 - Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University
- 6 Preventive Control for Human Food (PCHF) 1 unit-scopes
 - TÜV NORD (Thailand) Co., Ltd

Inspection and Certification with international standards for Inspection Bodies



There were Certification for IB in 8 unit-scopes.

Good Agriculture Practices (GAP)	6	unit-scopes
Organic Farming	1	unit-scopes
Agricultural Produce or Product	1	unit-scopes

- **1** Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) 6 unit-scopes
 - SGS (Thailand) Co., Ltd
 - Central Laboratory (Thailand) Co., Ltd
 - A-One Future Co., Ltd.
 - Asia Medical and Agricultural Laboratory and Research Center
 - Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University
 - Wolfgang Plath (Thailand) Co., Ltd
- 2 Organic Farming 1 unit-scopes
 - Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University
- 3 Agricultural Produce or Product 1 unit-scopes
 - Institute of Certified Agricultural Production System (ICAPS), Maejo University

Registration of Laboratory for Testing Agriculture and Food Products

The registration of ISO/IEC 17025 certified laboratories has the objective of enabling operators in taking the test result from their own laboratory to apply for a Health Certificate from competent authorities i.e. the Department of Agriculture, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Livestock Development, and the Health Certificate can be used for export without a repeated inspection. The test result data can be used to benefit both domestic and international trade and can be used for verifying the quality and safety of agriculture and food products acceptable at international level. ACFS has registered 106 laboratories.

ratories.				
1	External service laboratory	31	laboratories	
2	Factory internal laboratory	68	laboratories	
3	External service and internal laboratory	7	laboratories	
4	Laboratories registered with the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare	20	laboratories	
5	Laboratories registered with the Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety	12	laboratories	
6	New and renewed registration 6.1 Four new laboratories have been registered - Wang Nam Yen Dairy Cooperatives Ltd., - Asian Best Chicken Co. Ltd.,	4	laboratories	
	- CPF (Thailand) (Public) Co., Ltd. (Nakhon Ratcha	sima)		
- Bureau Veritas A.Q. Lab (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (Pathumthani).				
	6.2 Renewed certificates	23	laboratories	
	6.3 Renewed scopes	35	laboratories	
	6.4 Expanded scopes	23	laboratories	
	 6.5 Others, updating names, addresses, scope reduction Four name changes were Tyson Poultry (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (Nakhon Nayok 	14	laboratories	

- Tyson Poultry (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (Nakhon Nayok),
- Bureau Veritas A.Q. Lab (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (Bangkok),
- Food Quality Assurance Service Center, Institute of Food Research and Product Development, Kasetsart University,
- Food Industry Laboratory Service Center, National Food Institute



ACFS as the National Accreditation Body has functioned the activity on conformity assessment of work system with international standard ISO/IEC 17011: 2004. On behalf of the National Standardization Council (NSC), ACFS has been recognized by the International Body and has signed the Multilateral Mutual Recognition Agreement: MLA, with the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation: PAC. The Agreement recognized the consistency of Product Certification in compliance of the standard ISO/IEC 17065 and the Food Safety Management System: FSMA, ISO/TS 22003. At present the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation, PAC, has merged with the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, APLAC, into the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation: APAC. The merging was to integrate the conformity assessment system and the recognition of competency on the accreditation of CBs, IBs and laboratories of Member States in the Asia Pacific Region.



Regarding the ISO notification in 2017 on the replacement of ISO/IEC 17011:2004 with ISO/IEC 17011: 2017 which has taken effect since 1 January 2019, ACFS has therefore revised, amended, and notified the public of the Quality Management Document consistent with the standard ISO/IEC 17011: 2017. APAC has already performed verification assessment on ACFS system document and decided to maintain the status of ACFS on the competency of the accreditation system, and has

renewed the Recognition Certificate for ACFS, on behalf of the NSC. The recognition is in the existing scopes and are consistent with the amended ISO/IEC 17011: 2017. The recognition enables the Certificates of CBs certified by ACFS to be recognized by trading partners and all APAC Members which are more than 68 countries around the world. At present the results of the inspection and the certifications have been referenced more frequently in trade practices.

ACFS Recognition by U.S. FDA Four Additional Scopes

ACFS as the National Accreditation Body on agriculture and food products has been recognized by US.FDA under the Food Safety Modernization Act: FSMA, since 30 May 2018. The recognition has enabled ACFS to accredit Certification Bodies according to the





Accredited Third Party Certification Program (TPP) in the scopes of Preventive Control for Human Food: PCHF and Preventive Control for Animal Food: PCAF. On 30 August 2020, US. FDA has recognized four more scopes.

- 1) Low-Acid Canned Foods (LACF) (21 CFR 113)
- 2) Acidified Foods (AF) (21 CFR 114)
- 3) Seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Controls Point (Seafood HACCP) (21 CFR 123)
- 4) Juice Hazard Analysis and Critical Controls Point (Juice HACCP) (21 CFR 120)

The recognition is valid from 30 August 2020 to 30 May 2023 and it enables ACFS to accredit CBs in those scopes. Once the business operators of Low-Acid Canned Foods, Acidified Foods, Seafood, and Juice are certified by these CBs the operators will benefit on the trade facilitation for export to the US. It will be the opportunity for adding value and the potential of the products of Thai operators and it will enhance the export value and volume of agriculture and food products from Thailand to the US.



Accreditation

by Remote Audit





Under the Pandemic of Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), ACFS has adopted the approach to work by Remote assessment via ACFS internet www.acfs.go.th. The assessment of a virtual site employs technology to assist the operation such as the use of software application. video record, and voice record.

The approach for the assessment is referenced to IAF ID3: 2011 (IAF Information Document for Management of Extraordinary Event or Circumstances Affecting ABs, CABs and Certified Organizations) and IAF MD4: 2018 (IAF Mandatory Document for the Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Auditing/Assessment Purposes). The document has been notified by the International Accreditation Forum Inc.: IAF, which has accreditation bodies and relevant agencies from around the world as their members. ACFS has established and prepared the work procedure document for the Remote assessment (CFS-CSSA-W-SD-08). The document has been notified on ACFS website www.acfs.go.th. The document can also be applied in other situations of disaster or other extraordinary situations.





Application on TAS-License system for operating licenses and import – export permits • under mandatory standards (TAS-License)



ACFS has notified the Ministerial Regulations, as guided by the Agriculture Standard Act B.E. 2551 and the amendments, to set 6 agricultural standards as mandatory standards.



Code of Practice for Sulphur Dioxide Fumigation of Fresh Fruits



Peanut kernels: Requirements for Aflatoxin Limit



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



Good Manufacturing
Practices for Frozen Durian



Good Manufacturing Practices for Milk Collection Center



Code of Practice for Mushroom Culture

* Good Agricultural Practices for Layer Farm has been also notified to take effect on 21 February 2021 (Detail shown at https://www.acfs.go.th/#/standard-commodity/mandatory)

Producers, importers, and exporters of agricultural products with mandatory standards are required to apply for an operating license and to inform ACFS every time when there is an export or import of those products for a risk assessment in line with the food safety surveillance measure.





ACFS has developed TAS-License system which is an electronic system to facilitate and to reduce cost and time of the application of the license and the permit. In 2020 ACFS has issued 1,099 licenses comprising 591 for producers, 409 for exporters, and 60 for importers. ACFS also issued 18,666 of export permits with the volume of 425,246 tons, and 1,036 imports permits with the volume of 57,146 tons. Among 1,099 licenses, there were

1)	Sulphur dioxide fumigators	374
2)	Peanut kernel	85
3)	Vannamei shrimp	97
4)	Frozen durian	239
5)	Milk collection center	196
6)	Mushroom culture	108

The TAS-License is the Important tool and mechanism for the promotion of agricultural trade and the control on the standards of the export and import in compliance of the national law, and in line with ASEAN, and international standards.

Safety control, inspection and surveillance on agricultural products under Agriculture Standard Act B.E. 2551



ACFS has implemented following actions on the safety control, inspection, and surveillance of agricultural products under Agriculture Standard Act B.E. 2551.

- Surveillance on the safety of agricultural products with mandatory standards. Seventy samples of longan, peanut kernel, and frozen durian have been collected for testing in a ISO/IEC 17025 certified laboratory. Sixty-seven samples or 95.71% were found to be compliance with the standards.
- The control and monitor of licensed operators with products under mandatory standards has been conducted by inspection officers.
- The control of Q mark (voluntary standard) has been conducted on the display of Q marks on products on the shelf in modern trade shops (70 samples), and in Q market (150 samples) nationwide with 220 samples in total. There were 108 samples with the correct display of the Q mark (green) or 49% and 151 or 69% with the correct display of standard codes.

Performance

ACFS has extended the campaign to promote the correct display of the Q mark and to raise the awareness of the Q mark among the public.

4

Surveillance on pesticides in 24 varieties of fresh fruits and vegetables has been conducted. Samples of fresh fruits and vegetables have been taken for testing. The vegetables sampled were in 16 varieties namely Chinese cabbage, holy basil, cabbage, Chinese kale, celery, carrot, cucumber, long bean, basil, coriander, melientha (phak waan paa), chili, tomato, eggplant, lime, and potato. The fruits sampled were in 8 varieties namely banana, dragon fruit, guava, ripe papaya, orange, pineapple, grapes, and apple. In total there were 100 samples of either certified or non-certified products and imported products. The samples were tested in a ISO/IEC 17025 certified laboratory for 50 pesticides in 4 groups (Carbamate, Organophosphate, Organochlorine and Pyrethroid). Herbicides (Glyphosate and paraquat) were also tested. The samples were taken from distribution centers of seven modern trade chains in Bangkok and peripheral, supermarkets, whole sale markets in Bangkok and in other regional centers.

The test results

are shown in the table below.

					ľ				
Fresh fruits and	Number of	Not det	ected ¹	Detec within	ted limit ²	safe	e ⁽¹⁺²⁾	uns	afe
vegetables	samples	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%
Certified products	70	42	60.00	17	24.29	59	84.29	11	15.71
Non-certified products	16	9	56.25	3	18.75	12	75.00	4	25.00
Imported products	14	7	50.00	7	50.00	14	100.00	-	00.00
Total	100	58	58.00	27	27.00	85	85.00	15	15.00

Glyphosate and Paraquat were not detected in all samples.

5

A nationwide survey for safety of agricultural products was conducted to monitor current situation of the use of pesticides in 4 groups and their residues on fruits and vegetables selling at Q-market. There were 47 varieties of which 31 were vegetables and 16 were fruits with 150 samples in total. They were all certified with the standard on GAP for Food Crop (TAS 9001-2556), comprising okra, holy basil, Chinese cabbage, corn, Chinese kale, celery, spring onion, sunflower sprout, lemon grass, cucumber, tang ran cucumber, bean sprout, long bean, luffa, cabbage, leaf lettuce, coriander, phak chiengda, morning glory, lettuce salad, melientha (phak waan), melinjo (pak liang), chili, betel, eggplant, tomato, lime, mint, bamboo shoot, horse radish, and mushroom. The fruits were banana, cantaloupe, rose apple, water melon, guava, coconut, mango, melon, longan, orange, pomelo, snake fruit, pineapple, passion fruit, mulberry, and avocado below.

The test results

are presented in the table below.

Category	Number of	Not detected ¹		Detected within limit ²		safe (1+2)		unsafe	
	samples	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%	Number of samples	%
Vegetables	101	79	78.22	9	8.91	88	87.13	13	12.87
Fruits	49	36	73.47	6	12.24	42	85.71	7	14.29
Total	150	115	76.67	15	10.00	120	86.67	20	13.33



6

A surveillance network on safety of agricultural products in the community has been established to encourage farmers to adopt agriculture safety system and be certified with the standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crop (TAS 9001-2556) in order to ensure the quality and safety of the products from their community or their group. A channel for selling was also created to enable a greater accessibility of their products to the market. Six networks have been established for farmer group.



- 1. Wangjan Network Ruemrak Plukpak Baengpun Rayong Province
- 2. Community Enterprise Kaset Muengner
 Bangplama Suphanburi Province
- 3. Network Rurmjai Kaset Insee Nonthaburi Province
- 4. Network Collaborative Farming Banmai
 District Nonthaburi Province
- 5. PGS Network Chonburi Province
- Network Lablae Hospital Uttaradit Province

The standard on Good Agricultural Practices for Food Crop (TAS 9001-2556) and the use of test kit for checking pesticide residues has been taught. All six networks have been able to use the test kit correctly and 111 out of 112 samples tested have been found to be safe. Fifteen members of Wangjan Network Ruemrak Plukpak Baengpun Rayong

Province has been certified with the standard.

The display of Q mark on packaging has been encouraged to ensure consumer confidence.



Technology for

Agriculture Standards

Thailand Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed:



Nowadays consumer protection has been an important issue in the world. The focus is on the safety and the production standard. Importing countries have set rules and regulations as well as various guidelines to ensure the confidence of consumers in their countries. There are regulations, standards and safety of imported food. Each country has developed a tool to assist the safety control. For Thailand, the Thailand Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (THRASFF) has been established as a tool for a communication among Competent Authorities on the detection of unsafe agriculture and

food products such as those containing contaminated substances, microbial, and residues. THRASFF system covers the information on import check and pre-export check, as well as products already available in the market and those notified from the countries of destination. There are 7 agencies as members of the network including the Department of Agriculture, Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock Development, Rice Department, the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Medical Science, and ACFS. There have been 951 pieces of data in the system in 4 categories.

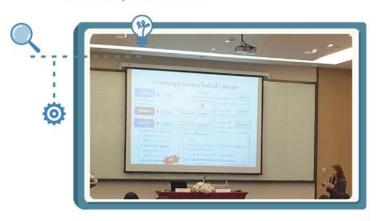
- Incidents of import check appeared on 60 entries
- 2. Incidents of pre-export check appeared on 18 entries
- 3.Incidents of market control appeared on 429 entries

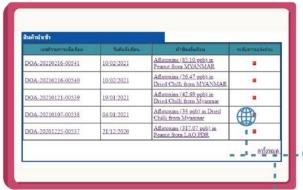




ACFS has published the information on the incidents of import products on www.thrasff.net. The public, interest parties, and stakeholders can view for the update on the situation of import products which are unsafe at http://www.thrasff.net/import_notify.php.

ACFS has also organized a seminar on Food and Feed Safety in Thailand during 27-28 August 2020 at the Best Westin Plus to strengthen the officers who are responsible for the work on food safety to enable the efficiency of their work in import and export control and to keep them updated with the current situation of food safety. There were 50 participants from the Department of Fisheries, Department of Agriculture, Department of Livestock Development. Food and Drug Administration, and ACFS.







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DOA-20191020-00519	15:05/2019	Escherichia coli 280 cfu'g in spring onion from analysis before export	a	
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Operation

under the Coronavirus-19 Pandemic (Covid-19)

Due to the Coronavirus-19 Pandemic, or Covid-19, ACFS has adjusted the way for implementing the mission to suit the situation while our functions and those guided by the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives can be

driven further. ACFS has introduced a number of services to facilitate the access of information on agricultural standards to farmers, operators, and general public to reduce the risk of Covid-19 outbreak.



Standard setting activities such as

the electronic meetings of international bodies, and the forum for public hearing on draft standards on ACFS website

www.acfs.go.th



Accreditation activities such as

the Remote assessment, the registration of laboratory, and the licensing for Certification Bodies on ACFS internet

www.acfs.go.th



3Standard control activities such as

TAS-License on

http://tas.acfs.go.th/nsw

for the Licensing for operators and the Import-Export Permit under mandatory standards and

E-mail: Labacfs@gmail.com

to take the application for an inspection service for certifying Certification Bodies, Issue of certification code at

www.acfs.go.th or tascode.acfs.go.th



Negotiation in international meetings

by Video Conference: VC, and the Out of Session meetings.



Training and seminar online

such as Rules on FSVP, and VQIP under FSMA, online dissemination of knowledge on legal basis under Covid-19 of Rules on Preventive Controls for Human Food (PCHF).



Request for advices/information from

ACFS and request for information paper at

E-mail: acfspr@gmail.com

or Line Official Account with

ID Line: @acfs



Campaign for online shopping of

agriculture products at

www.dgtfarm.com

and other online platforms

such as

Youtube : มาตรฐานเกษตรน่ารู้

Facebook Fanpage : มกอช. และมาตรฐานเกษตรน่ารู้

These services have been provided for the benefit of farmers, operators, and general public to continue driving the mission on food safety effectively under the pandemic situation.









ACFS has been awarded with the 9th NACC Integrity Awards for the year 2019 under the implementation of 4 categories.

Category 1

Agency with accountability

Category 2

Agency with rule of law

Category 3

Agency with the focus on international human right and ethics

Category 4

Agency with transparent procurement system, anticorruption, and anti-bribery.







ACFS has committed to integrity and transparency in the implementation of our missions and has been assessed against 9 indicators



- 1. Transparency
- 2. Accountability
- 3. Free from corruption
- 4. Internal ethical culture
- 5. Work ethic
- 6. Preventive measure for conflict of interest
- 7. Discretion
- 8. Complaint management
- 9. Internal communication

The commitment has been adopted as the policy for ensuring transparency and verifiability in the office administration to the general public and stakeholders. ACFS also ensure that our implementation base on rule of law and equality, and that human right is observed. Our implementation is directed with an international approach to support the strengthening of Thai agricultural products with quality to ensure consumer confidence.



