

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **Thailand**

**Post:** Bangkok

### **Bangkok Newsletter - November 2012**

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

Market Development Reports

**Approved By:**

**Prepared By:**

FAS Bangkok Staff

**Report Highlights:**

TH2132 "SAWASDEE THAILAND" provides the latest information on Thai agricultural situation, market access for U.S. products, and upcoming events.

## **General Information:**

### **HOT NEWS**

#### Post Collaboration with Thai Department of Agriculture (DOA) Regarding Phytosanitary Certificates for Almond and Pistachios

Despite bureaucratic challenges, Post successfully worked with DOA interlocutors to declare that U.S. almonds and pistachios were not subject to import permits. Post's efforts resulted in the issuance of a DOA declaration indicating that USDA did not have to issue phytosanitary certificates for U.S. tree nut exports to Thailand. FAS/Bangkok's intervention prevented the disruption of U.S. almond and pistachio exports to Thailand estimated at more than \$11 million annually.

### **MARKET ACCESS UPDATE**

#### Thailand BSE Rule Modification

The Thai Department of Livestock Development (DLD) published a notification in the Royal Gazette amending existing Thai Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) regulations to bring Thailand in line with Organization of International Epizootics (OIE) guidelines. The notification stipulates conditions pertaining to BSE and the imports of live bovine and bovine carcasses into Thailand. The amended rule may enable the United States to resume discussions with the Thai Government regarding market access for U.S. export of live cattle and bone-in beef products to Thailand. Thailand banned the import of these products in 2003 due to the detection of BSE in the United States.

#### U.S. Processed Boneless Beef and Lamb are Eligible to Export to Thailand

Friendly reminder: U.S. exporters are permitted to export processed boneless beef and lamb to Thailand. For more information, please visit the following link:

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/Thailand\\_Requirements/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/Thailand_Requirements/index.asp).

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### Promoting U.S. Beef/Turkey/Seafood/Wine Products in Thailand

FAS/Bangkok worked with Thai importers to promote U.S. agricultural products at 3-4 star hotels in Bangkok and Pattaya. The promotion, which began in September and ended in October/November, involved specially-designed menus that highlighted the quality of U.S. beef/turkey/seafood/wine products. Results of the promotions are expected in early December. Please contact [agbangkok@fas.usda.gov](mailto:agbangkok@fas.usda.gov) for more information.

#### Food Ingredients Outbound Mission to Thailand

The Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association and more than a dozen State Departments of Agriculture from 13 western states organized a "Food Ingredients Outbound Trade Mission" to Bangkok, Thailand from October 6-9, 2012. The trip comprised of market briefing sessions by FAS/Bangkok and one-on-one meetings with potential importers and food manufacturers. The event was a follow up activity to the 2012 Food Ingredients Asia Show in Indonesia. A group of six U.S. companies joined the mission including Aloha Medicinals, Flavors Consultants, Scheidegger Bake & Freeze Stable Fruit Filling, APS Biogroup, Gold Coast Ingredients, and Growers Best. More information is available at [www.wusata.org](http://www.wusata.org).

#### 2012 Thailand Retail Training by Washington Apple Commission

The Washington State Department of Agriculture and Washington State Apple Commission (WAC) commissioned John Baker of Produce Marketing, Australia to deliver a series of retail training programs for Thai retailers from October 8 to 10, 2012. The training program covered a variety of topics including product and merchandising for Washington apples, USA pears, Northwest cherries, table grapes, berries, summer fruits, Washington potatoes, cold chain and food safety requirements, and retail concepts. For more information, please contact Ms. Apiradee Phanuroote, WAC Thailand Representative, at [tulip@successmarketing.co.th](mailto:tulip@successmarketing.co.th).

#### USGC Seminar on DDGS

The U.S. Grain Council (USGC) conducted a seminar on the use of U.S. distiller's dried grains with solubles and corn gluten meals (DDGS & CGM) on October 9, 2012 in Bangkok. The seminar presented up-to-date information on swine nutrition, the impact of DDGS, and the latest research done on these grains, particularly for optimal handling and storage at feed mills and warehouses in tropical conditions. The presentations also covered the supply and demand situation for DDGS and CGM.

#### VIV Asia 2013

The official USDA-endorsed show - VIV Asia 2013 will be held in the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Center (BITEC) on March 13-15, 2013. To date, 22 U.S. companies have confirmed their participation in the USDA Pavilion and 31 additional companies will be outside the U.S. Pavilion. The following companies are expected to be in the USDA Pavilion: Formazor International, Star Labs, Delst Inc, Kuhl Corporation, Giffin Industries, Ibberson International, Simmons Engineering, Chief Industries, ACG Products, CLARCOR, Air Filtration Products, America's Best Genetics (National Swine Registry), Midwest Ag Enterprises, Sioux Steel, ProByn International, JBS United Wilbur Ellis, Brookside Agra, Amlan International, Ag World, Mirasco, American Biosystems, and the Delong Company. For more information about the show and participating fees, please contact Elliott Thomas, U.S. Representative for Imex Management, Inc. at [elliott@imexmanagement.com](mailto:elliott@imexmanagement.com).