

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **Thailand**

**Post:** Bangkok

### **Preventing the Disruption of U.S. Tree Nut Exports to Thailand**

**Report Categories:**

Export Accomplishments - Events  
Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and  
Standards - Certification  
Export Accomplishments - Other  
Tree Nuts  
Agriculture in the News  
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety  
Trade Policy Incident Report

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**Report Highlights:**

Post's collaboration with Thai Department of Agriculture (DOA) interlocutors prevents the disruption of U.S. tree nut exports valued at more than \$11 million per annum.

## Executive Summary

After receiving reports from Thai importers that USDA was not issuing phytosanitary certificates for shipments of almond and pistachios, Post collaborated with Thai Department of Agriculture (DOA) officials to sort out the confusion associated with Thailand's import regulations.

Despite bureaucratic challenges, Post worked with DOA interlocutors to clarify Thailand's import regulations and successfully generated an official statement indicating that U.S. almonds and pistachios were not subject to import permits. As a result of FAS/Bangkok's intervention, exports of U.S. almonds and pistachios to Thailand, valued at \$11 million annually, continued without any disruption. Below is a table depicting Thailand's almond and pistachios imports by all origins.

Thailand Import Statistics							
Commodity: Dried or Shelled Almond and Pistachios							
Calendar Year: 2009 - 2011							
Partner Country	United States Dollars			% Share			% Change
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2011/2010
World	9,612,869	14,385,572	14,276,059	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 0.76
United States	7,880,157	11,738,831	11,685,100	81.98	81.60	81.85	- 0.46
Australia	1,003,055	1,785,642	1,750,835	10.43	12.41	12.26	- 1.95
Iran	496,457	269,713	472,689	5.16	1.87	3.31	75.26
China	230,001	342,484	248,573	2.39	2.38	1.74	- 27.42
Malaysia	0	73,652	105,131	0.00	0.51	0.74	42.74
Germany	0	3,611	6,933	0.00	0.03	0.05	92.01
Turkey	0	12,645	5,296	0.00	0.09	0.04	- 58.12
Turks & Caicos Islands	0	0	1,454	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
United Arab Emirates	0	0	44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Israel	0	4	4	0.00	0.00	0.00	- 1.51
United Kingdom	3,165	1,683	0	0.03	0.01	0.00	- 100.00
India	0	106,460	0	0.00	0.74	0.00	- 100.00
Belgium	0	9,131	0	0.00	0.06	0.00	- 100.00
Myanmar	0	1,972	0	0.00	0.01	0.00	- 100.00
Spain	0	39,320	0	0.00	0.27	0.00	- 100.00
Switzerland	0	14	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	- 100.00

Source of Data: Thai Customs Department