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GAIN Report

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POLICY

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Thailand

Post: Bangkok

Thai FDA Amends Import Requirement on Cry 9C DNA Presence in Food

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

TH2083. The Thai Food and Drug Administration has revoked its Starlink-free certificate requirement for the import of U.S. corn and corn products. The elimination of this requirement significantly lowers cost for the export of U.S. corn or corn products to Thailand that were valued over \$6 million in 2011.

General Information:

Thai FDA Amends Import Requirement on Cry 9C DNA Presence in Food

Effective on August 11, the Thai FDA no longer requires a Starlink-free certificate for the import of corn and corn products. This notification was promulgated in response to a request from Post. Background information is available in [Gain Report - Thai FDA Amends Import Requirement on Cry 9C DNA Presence in Food](#).

Under this notification, foods derived from genetic modification or genetic engineering that contain Cry9C DNA Sequence continue to be prohibited in Thailand. Even though the startlink-free certificate is no longer required, the Thai FDA will continue surveillance measures such as random testing to monitor for the presence of Cry9c DNA in food.

Eliminating this certificate will significantly lower exporter cost and make U.S. corn and corn products more competitive in the Thai market. In 2011, the export of U.S. corn and corn products to Thailand were valued at over \$6 million.

The Notification of Ministry of Public Health regarding the revoke of a Starlink-free certificate is provided below:

(Unofficial)

Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 345) B.E. 2555 (2012)

Re: Prescribed Prohibited Foods to be Produced, Imported, or Sold

It deems appropriate to improve the regulatory measures of genetic modified or genetic engineered corn containing Cry9C DNA Sequence.

By the virtue of the provisions of Section 5 and 6 (8) of the Food Act B.E. 2522 (1979), in which contain provisions in relation to the restriction of Rights and Liberties of the Persons, in respect of which Section 29 and in conjunction with Section 33, Section 41, Section 43, and Section 45 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand so permit by the virtue of provision of law; the Minister of Public Health, with the suggestion by the Food Committee, hereby notifies that:

Clause 1. The following notifications shall be repealed:

- (1) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 215) B.E. 2544 (2001) Re: Prescribed prohibited foods to be produced, imported or sold, dated January 18, 2001.
- (2) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 217) B.E. 2544 (2001) Re: Amendment of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 215) B.E. 2544 (2001)
- (3) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 246) B.E. 2544 (2001) Re: Amendment of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No. 217) B.E. 2544 (2001)

Clause 2. Foods derived from genetic modification or genetic engineering to have Cry9C DNA Sequence and foods contain those mentioned foods as ingredients are prohibited foods to be produced, imported, or sold.

Clause 3. This notification shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Notified on 12th July 2012

Wittaya Buranasiri

Minister of Public Health

(Published in the Government Gazette Vol. 129 Special Part 124 Ngor, dated 10th August 2012)

End of the Report.