

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **Thailand**

**Post:** Bangkok

### **Clarification on Thai Customs' Shipping Mark**

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

This report aims to clarify the "Shipping Mark" requirement under the new Thai Customs Act B.E. 2560 (2017)

## **General Information:**

### **Clarification on Thai Customs' Shipping Mark**

The new Customs Act B.E 2560 (2017) was published in the Royal Gazette on May 17, 2017, and came into effect on November 13, 2017.

According to the new Customs Act, all import shipments to Thailand must include a shipping mark on outer layer of the package. The same shipping mark must be notated on all shipping documents such as commercial invoices, packing lists, and bills of lading. **On these forms, entries of “N/M”, no shipping mark, or a blank space will no longer be accepted.** Import shipments without a shipping mark or a shipping mark that does not match the documents are subject to a penalty not exceeding Baht 50,000 (\$1,560) by Thai Customs Department.

To avoid fines/penalty incurred, the shipping mark has to be notated on:

- House Air Way Bill, House Sea Way Bill, and House Bills of Lading
- Commercial Invoice and Packing List
- The outer layer of packages in the shipment

For airfreight, the house airway bill number is permitted to be used as the shipping mark. For Less than Container Loads (LCL) under sea freight, different shipping marks are required for different importers and have to appear on the outer layer of the package or pallet. For single container loads, only a single shipping mark is required at the entrance of the container when opened.

The shipping mark requirements in new Customs Act B.E 2560 (2017) match those of the old Thailand Customs Act B.E. 2469 (1926), Section 118 which states: “All packages containing goods shall bear marks and numbers, and such marks and numbers shall be shown on all documents relating to such goods.” However, sources report that previously this requirement was not strictly enforced. This is no longer the case and enforcement is active now and for the foreseeable future.

Due to questions from importers and exporters, the Thai Customs Office is the process of preparing more detailed guidance on the shipping mark requirements that will be released in the near future.

End of Report