



Voluntary Report - public distribution

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GAIN Report #TH0040

Thailand

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Thailand Plant Quarantine Act Revisions

2000

Approved by:

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U.S. Embassy

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Report Highlights:

The Thai government in a bold move has revised their plant protection and food import act to allow import of genetically modified products.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1], TH

The government of Thailand recently revised the plant quarantine act for prohibited plant and commodities to allow for the import of a number of agricultural products, most notably soybeans, corn and rice. This following a recent revision of regulations for the import of agricultural commodities for food processing and feed last year. The ruling of September 1999, allowed for the import of certain commodities that are genetically modified. The September 1999 ruling was in direct conflict with the Plant Quarantine act amendment of 1994. The recent ruling, effective March 29, 1999 removes all ambiguity about which commodities would be allowed to be imported in Thailand (see translated list below).

Post believes this is a significant step in affirming the Thai governments position on the issue of GMO's. This however, does not necessarily mean that Thailand is fully open to GMO.s, because the list does not include imports of planting seed or plants for domestic production. The environmental issues related to introducing genetically enhanced plant species have attracted a great deal more attention over the last six months. So future movement on allowing cultivation of GMO's is still a long ways off. Post believes that Thai manufacturers have been extremely effective in convincing GOT officials about economic impact if genetically enhanced foods were not allowed in the country.

This announce is encouraging in the face of recent concerns about GMO's in Thai tuna. The GOT believes that the concerns have been fully addressed by Thai industry representatives. The industry feels they are fully capable of delivering products that meet a variety of standards. A team of Thai government officials and businessmen will be traveling to the middle east to assure their importing partners that there is little to be concerned about GMO's in Thai products.

Statement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative
on
Determination of Plants from Forbidden Origins
Exceptions and Conditions pursuant to
the Plant Quarantine Act-BE. 2507

By virtue of Article 6 of the Plant Quarantine Act-B.E. 2507 as amended by the Plant Quarantine Act (Volume 2) - B.E 2542, containing some provisions relevant to limitation of personal rights and liberty as well as Articles 35 , 48 and 50 of the Constitution of the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative, as recommended by the Board of Plant Quarantine , does hereby issue the present Statement as details hereunder.

Article 1 . The Statement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative on Determination of Plants, Garden Field Pests or Vectors from Forbidden Origins , Exceptions and conditions pursuant to the Plant Quarantine Act- B.E. 2507 and the Plant Quarantine Act (Volume 2) -B.E. 2537 ,dated 10th May 1994 .

Article 2. In this Statement, “Processed Food ” refers to any food obtained from a part of plant which maintains its vegetable characteristic and has been processed so as to destroy all germs and pests .

Article 3. The following plants shall be deemed forbidden

No.	Plant	Prescribed Origin	Exception
1	Rice (Oryza Sativa L .) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed food
2	Maize (Zea Mays L .) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	1. Processed Food 2. Maize Used as Raw Materials for Animal or Human Food Manufacturing or Intended for Industrial Use.

3	Plant in the Gossypium Species from Genetic Engineering	Resulting	Everywhere	Processed Food
4	Plant in the Linum Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
5	Soy Bean (Glycine Max (L). Merr.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	1. Processed Food 2. Soy Bean Used as Raw Materials for Animal or Human Food Manufacturing or Intended for Industrial Use.
6	Plant in the Helianthus Species from Genetic Engineering	Resulting	Everywhere	Processed Food
7	Chinese Lettuce (Brassica Napus L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
8	Potato (Salanum Tuberosum L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
9	Asparagus (Asparagus Officinalis L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
10	Black Currant (Ribes Nigrum L.)		Everywhere	Processed Food
11	Plant in the Brassica Species from Genetic Engineering	Resulting	Everywhere	Processed Food
12	Carrot (Daucus Carota L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
13	Cauliflower (Brassica Oleracea Var Botrylis L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
14	Chinese Celery (Apium Graveolens Var. Dulce (Mill .) Pers) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
15	Cucumber (Cucumis Sativus L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
16	Egg Plant (Solanum Melongena L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
17	Plant in the Vitis Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food
18	Kiwi (Actinidia Chinensis Planchon) Resulting from Genetic Engineering		Everywhere	Processed Food

19	Lettuce (Lactuca Sativa L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
20	Cantaloupe (Cucumis Melo L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
21	Garden Pea (Pisum Sativaum L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
22	Plant in the Rubus Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
23	Plant in the Fragaria Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
24	Plant in the Cucurbita Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
25	Sugar Beet (Beta Vulgaris L. Subsp. Vulgaris) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
26	Tobacco (Nicotaina Tobucum L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
27	Tomato (Lycopersicom Esculentum Mill .) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
28	Carnation (Dianthus Caryophyllus L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	--
29	Plant in the Chrysanthemum Species	Everywhere	Processed Food
30	Plant in the Ipomoea Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
31	Plant in the Petunia Species	Everywhere	Processed Food
32	Horse-radish (Armoracia Rusticana D. Gaertner, Meyer & Scherb.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
33	Alfalfa (Medicago Sativa L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
34	Plant in the Amelanchier Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
35	Plant in Stylosanthes Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
36	Apple (Malus Punila P. Mill .) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
37	Papaya (Carica Papaya L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
38	Plant in the Populus Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	--

39	Pear (<i>Pyrus Communis</i> L.) Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food
40	Plant in the <i>Juglans</i> Species Resulting from Genetic Engineering	Everywhere	Processed Food

Article 4. In case of authorization to introduce the forbidden products into the Kingdom for the experiment or research purpose, the authorized party shall comply the principles, methods and conditions prescribed by the Director-General of the Department of Agricultural Techniques .

The present Statement shall come into effect from the date following the date of its publication in the Royal Gazette .

Given on this 17th day of March 2000

- Signed -

(Mr. Pongphon ADIREKSAN)
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperative

- Signed -

(Mr. Anan DALODOM)

Director-General of Agricultural Techniques

20th December 2000

- Signed -

(Mr. Chamlong CHETTANACHIT)

Director of Plant and Agricultural Materials Division

Uaichai / Drafter Hathaitip/ Typist - Signed - / Reviser / Verifier
(Illegible)