

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Agricultural Situation

Market Development Reports

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Report Highlights:

TH0152 "SAWASDEE THAILAND" provides the latest information on Thailand's agricultural situation, market access for U.S. products, and upcoming events.

General Information:

HOT NEWS

Thai Officials to Inspect U.S. Animal Genetics Export Facilities

On October 15, the Thai Department of Livestock Development (DLD) implemented its requirement to audit all foreign exporting facilities of day-old breeding chicks, boar semen, and bovine semen. However, after negotiations between the DLD and USDA officials, the DLD agreed to extend a waiver on audits of U.S. export facilities until December 31, 2010. As a result, APHIS has invited the DLD to conduct audits of export facilities of breeding chicks on December 4-11, and for bovine semen on December 12-18. These efforts ensure that U.S. exporters maintain the \$11 million market open for breeding chicks and bovine semen in Thailand.

MARKET ACCESS UPDATE

Thai FDA Revising Yeast and Mold Level in Foods

On September 28-29, the Thai FDA proposed to revise the level of yeast and mold in beverages in sealed containers, coffee, tea, chocolate, weight control foods, and electrolyte drinks. The zero tolerance level will no longer be in place as the Thai FDA acknowledges that some products, even those manufactured under “Good Manufacturing Practice” guidelines, will contain certain levels of yeast and mold that don’t present a food safety risk. The amended regulations are trade enhancing and will facilitate trade of U.S. agricultural products that belong in those six product groups which were valued at \$27 million in 2009. More information can be obtained here: [“Thai FDA Revising Yeast and Mold Level in Foods” report.](#)

Thai FDA Requirement for Irradiated Foods Export to Thailand

Effective October 19, 2010, U.S. exporters intending to export irradiated foods must provide a certificate stating that the establishment has been authorized by the country’s competent authority to irradiate food products and must label the products accordingly-i.e. displaying the food irradiation symbol. Details can be found at [“New Requirements for Irradiated Food” report.](#)

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

DVC Product Presentations

FAS/Bangkok can help facilitate digital video conference with Thai importers. Please contact us for more information at [agbangkok@fas.usda.gov.](mailto:agbangkok@fas.usda.gov)

Looking for U.S. Manufacturers or Suppliers

Thai company wants to import corn gluten meal (USA origin) 500 MT, if U.S. exporters are

interested please contact Mr. Amrendra Shukla, Fairway (Thailand) Co., Ltd., Email: ricky@fairway-thailand.com.

A Thai company is interested in importing feed wheat, DDGS, stabilized rice bran (SRB). Interested exporters please contact Dr. Thanapat Thanuthansombat, Director of Chulakarn Co., Ltd., Email: shulakarn@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cotton Economic Seminar

COTTON USA and the Cotton Council Incorporated will present a Cotton Economic Seminar at the Peninsula hotel in Bangkok on November 5, 2010. The seminar will be conducted by Mr. Jon Devine who is a Fiber Economist for Cotton USA. His presentation will highlight the current U.S. and world cotton supply, demand and outlook with an emphasis on the Thai market. Visit <http://www.cottonusa.org> for more information.

2010 U.S. Wheat Crop Seminar

The US Wheat Associates (USWA) will conduct a 2010 Crop Seminar at Conrad hotel in Bangkok on November 10, 2010. The seminar will provide the outlook of global wheat supply and demand to South East Asia's flour mill and bakery industries. This year's crop seminar received a record-breaking response of 140-150 participants from the region as the global market volatility has raised concerns on the short and medium term outlook for wheat. Visit <http://www.uswheat.org> for more information.

Cochran Program Sponsoring Thai Delegates to Attend U.S. Nutrition Labeling and Health Claims Program in the US

Four delegates from the Thai FDA, Mahidol University, and the Federation of the Thai Industry will attend a Cochran Fellowship Program on Nutrition Food Labeling and Health Claims during November 11-13, 2010. The training will be conducted in Washington, DC. The delegates will learn about the regulatory aspects of nutrition labeling and health claims of food products in the United States. They will also meet with U.S. government official responsible for nutritional labeling and claims.

Private Label Manufacturers Association (PLMA) Buyers Mission in Chicago

Sri Chock Chai Supermarket, a major Thai food importer, has been selected to join PLMA Buyers Mission organized by the Food Export Association of the Midwest USA and Food Export – Northeast during November 11-16, 2010 in Chicago. The importer will meet with U.S. value-added food companies and attend PLMA's annual show. PLMA's Private Label Trade Show is the place where retailers and suppliers meet to build their private label business. More information on the show is available at www.plma.com.

FAS Joins U.S. Foreign Commercial Service (FCS) in a Business Outreach in Haad Yai and Phuket

With FCS/Bangkok's initiative, FAS/Bangkok will join an outreach program to business people in Haad Yai City and Phuket Province from November 17-19. The activity is aimed to build relationships with Thai local businessmen and keep them abreast of trade services available by these two U.S. agencies. Visit <http://www.buyusa.gov/thailand/en/> for more information.

American Hardwood Design Camp Seminar

The U.S. Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) will provide an educational seminar for the American Hardwood Design Camp (AHDC) which involves the AHEC, the Thai Furniture Industries Association (TFA), and FAS/Bangkok. The seminar will be on November 2, 2010 at Thailand Creative & Design Center (TCDC). Two guest speakers, Mr. Jarrod Lim and Mr. Bob Sabastina will discuss wooden furniture designs, the sustainability of American hardwood species and U.S. lumber grading standards. The event will conclude with Thai designers presenting their furniture designs developed at the AHDC to the furniture manufacturers who will proceed to develop the prototypes which will be exhibited at the Thailand International Furniture Show (TIFF) in March 2011. Visit <http://www.americanhardwood.org> for more information.

VIV 2011 Update

VIV 2011 will be held in Bangkok on March 9-11, 2011. The number of U.S. companies that will exhibit at USDA's sponsored "USA Pavilion" is steadily increasing. Among the companies that have confirmed their participation are Ibberson International and the National Swine Registry which will exhibit in Hall 1, which has been set aside for showcasing livestock equipment and technology. JBS United, Omega Protein, Green Vet Biotechnology, Star Labs, and U.S. Grains Council will be exhibiting in Hall 2 which is set aside for feed ingredients and additives. If interested as exhibitors, please contact Sharon Cook at USDA/FAS Trade Services Staff, Washington, D.C., Email: Sharon.cook@fas.usda.gov.