

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Thailand

**Post:** Bangkok

### Eliminating StarLink-Free Certificates Requirements for U.S. Corn

**Report Categories:**

Export Accomplishments - Other

**Approved By:**

Rey S. Santella, Agricultural Attaché

**Prepared By:**

Sukanya Sirikeratikul, Marketing Specialist

**Report Highlights:**

TH2019 The Thai FDA no longer requires StarLink-free certificates for any U.S. corn and corn co-product exports to Thailand as a result of collaborative work between FAS/Bangkok and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration. The elimination of the certificate requirements significantly lowers the cost of exporting all varieties of U.S. corn products to Thailand, which totaled more than \$6 million in 2011.

**General Information:**

**Eliminating StarLink-Free Certificates Requirements for U.S. Corn and Corn Co-Product Exports to Thailand**

On August 11, 2012 the Thai Food and Drug Administration (FDA) agreed to no longer require StarLink-free certificates to import U.S. corn and corn co-products (i.e., popcorn, corn chips/snacks, corn flake, corn flour, taco shell) into Thailand. FAS/Bangkok and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) have worked collaboratively since 2010 to advocate the removal of StarLink-free certificate requirements for the import of U.S. corn and corn co-products.

Despite the new agreement, Thailand will continue to monitor and prohibit food products derived from genetic modification or genetic engineering that contain the Cry9C (StarLink) DNA Sequence. Nonetheless, the elimination of the certificate requirements is a major breakthrough, which will significantly lower exporting costs and make U.S. corn and corn co-products more competitive in the Thai market. In 2011, U.S. corn exports to Thailand were valued at over \$6 million.

End of the report.