Thailand Food Safety System

by National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS)

Contact Point

- Codex
- IPPC
- OIE
- SPS
- ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed

ACFS

Thailand
Accreditation

PAC
Pacific
Accreditation
Cooperation

IAF
INTERNATIONAL
ACCREDITATION FORUM

ilac

About ACFS

The National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS) is the national competent authority mandated to enforce the Agricultural Standards Act B.E. 2551(2008). The objective of the Act is to improve food safety and quality to meet the expectations of importers and consumers worldwide for safe and high-quality food products. The Act authorizes ACFS to set and control standards for agricultural commodity and food products; and to provide accreditation to certification bodies for food products, farming practice and other related activities.

As a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Thailand by ACFS has followed the WTO guidelines in setting up standards/ measures. Our procedures in establishing standards and food safety control are based on Codex, OIE and IPPC standards and principles.

ACFS is the core agency in driving forward the agricultural sector under Food Safety strategy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The agency takes the lead in advancing agricultural and food standardization for the recognition of international community. This has been done by working in partnerships with the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Livestock Development, the Department of Fisheries, Rice Department, the Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture and the Department of Agricultural Extension.

ACFS also encourages the application of quality management standards, Good Agricultural Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices, among farmers and food business operators to ensure safety and quality of food. We provide training activities, seminars and workshops to farmers and producers as well as the general public.

As an accreditation body, ACFS provides accreditation services to certification body and inspection body in the area of product certification and quality management system certification. In addition, in 2010, ACFS successfully passed Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) peer evaluation on product certification and to be the full member of PAC. Afterwards, we signed for signatory Accreditation Body of PAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (PAC/MLA) in the scope of product certification and food safety management system. Furthermore, ACFS is a member of International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and is recognized by IAF in the area of product certification. These helps facilitate international trade and enhance competitiveness to enhance consumer confidence on the safety of agricultural commodities and food products of Thailand.

Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards Setting

Procedure for setting up standard is consistent with the international guidelines, based on scientific information, risk assessment principle and transparency. Opinions of all stakeholders are taken into account for practicality of the standards which comply with the agreements under WTO framework.

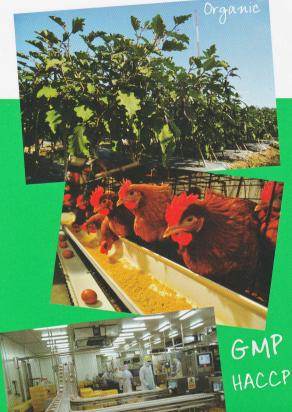# Certification system for agricultural and food products

To ensure that Thai food is safe for consumers, food needs to be supervised and monitored throughout the supply chain, from the control of cultivation process to final product. To comply with the international standards and to ensure the acceptance of trading countries, the Certification Body (CB) or Inspection Body (IB) plays an important role in certifying producers and manufacturers. ACFS is responsible for granting accreditation to CBs/ IBs in the area of agricultural commodity and food. Currently, the agency operates in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011:2004 (General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies)

Accreditation for production system involves evaluation of the system and products to meet the requirements of Standards on Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and /or Organic Agriculture (ORGANIC) certification.
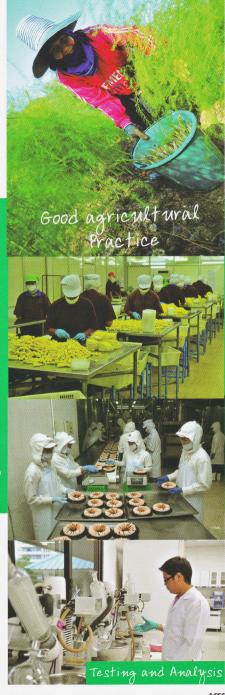
There are two types of Certification marks for certified system and products, voluntary and mandatory "Q Marks".

Certification mark for voluntary standard   Certification mark for mandatory standard

Standard and Safety for All

Organic

Good agricultural Practice

GMP
HACCP

Certification

Traceability

Testing and Analysis

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