

INDUSTRY NEWS

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Thailand pushes for exports of raw pork to Japan

Representatives from Thailand's Department of Livestock Development (DLD) and Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries explored various topics, including the swine disease-farm compartment. The DLD said that if successful, Thailand's raw pork exports to Japan could earn over USD 308 million annually.

Also discussed was the zoning for notifiable avian influenza (NAI). The zoning system would allow Thailand to export poultry products to Japan, even if AI outbreaks impact certain areas.

In 2024, Thailand's exports of livestock products to Japan reached USD 2.62 billion. This figure included USD 2.16 billion in chicken meat and related products, USD 431 million in pet food, and USD 31 million in processed pork, eggs, and dairy products. (Source: Asian Agribiz, 18th June 2025)

Thailand poultry industry set to grow on Brazil bird flu, lower feed costs



Thailand's poultry sector is expected to expand in 2025, driven by market opportunities from a bird flu outbreak in top exporter Brazil and improved profit margins from lower feed costs.

Prasit Boondoungprasert, chief executive officer of Charoen Pokphand Foods, Thailand's largest agribusiness, said the current market situation is favorable for the Thai poultry industry. "Prices are reasonably good, costs are low," he said.

Global prices of key feed ingredients such as corn and soymeal have declined around 30 % in recent years. And while lower costs benefit the industry globally, Thai firms such as CPF, GFPT and Betagro are well positioned due to control of fully integrated supply chains, from feed mills to farms and processing plants.

Major importers China and the European Union have in May suspended Brazilian poultry imports, while Japan halted meat imports from the southern Brazilian city of





Uptrend in Thai egg prices on poor weather

Thailand will export its first shipment of 2,300 beef cattle to Vietnam this August, according to Chai Watcharong, Thailand's Trade Representative.

In a meeting with Nguyen Doan Vite Hung from Dong Thanh Joint Stock Company, one of Vietnam's leading beef cattle importers, Mr Chai emphasized the Thai government's commitment to advancing the beef cattle industry. Thailand has developed a unique breed known for its high-quality, marbled meat.

Vietnam imports live beef cattle that typically weigh between 350 and 450 kg. These are then fattened for approximately 3 to 4 months until they reach a weight of 600 to 700 kg, which is ideal for tapping into the premium meat market in Vietnam. (Source: Asian Agribiz, 30th June 2025)

Montenegro due to an avian flu outbreak, opening a window for Thai exporters to capture market share. (Source: The Straits Times, 3rd June 2025)

Thai Feed Mills Halt Corn Purchases Amid GMO Import Controversy

Thailand's animal feed industry faces mounting criticism after mills across the country announced an immediate halt to corn purchases, in what farmer representatives denounce as a calculated attempt to depress prices and facilitate cheaper genetically modified corn imports from the United States

The coordinated purchasing freeze, announced by the Feed Mill Association on 9th June, has sparked fierce opposition from agricultural groups who fear it will pave the way for tariff-free GMO corn imports that could devastate domestic producers.

The National Farmers Council has voiced vehement opposition to GMO corn imports, citing concerns over increased herbicide use, pesticide resistance in insects, and potential virus transmission affecting local crops and insect populations.

Despite the controversy, a field crop trader indicated that Thai animal feed producers anticipate demand of 9.201 million tonnes for 2025, representing a 2% increase that aligns with Department of Livestock Development forecasts.

A Ministry of Commerce source, citing the Thai Feed Mill Association, maintained that GMO corn from the US and other countries has undergone rigorous environmental and food biosafety assessments under CODEX principles and national regulations.

Thailand's nearly 20 years of experience with GMO soybean imports, without reported environmental leakage, suggests effective management protocols could be applied to GMO corn, the source added. Imported GMO corn varieties are cold-region hybrids, making survival in Thailand's hot, humid climate highly improbable. (Source: The Nation, 9th June 2025)