



Notification of Department of Agriculture
Re: Conditions for Import of Potatoes for Processing from the Netherlands
B.E. 2552 (2009)

The Department of Agriculture has completed pest risk analysis for commercial importation of potatoes for processing from the Netherlands into Thailand. By virtue of the provisions of Section 8 and Section 10 of the Plant Quarantine Act B.E. 2507 (1964) amended by the Plant Quarantine Act (No. 3) B.E. 2551 (2008) with particular provisions that may restrict the right and freedom of any person in which Section 29 together with Section 32, Section 33, Section 41 and Section 43 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand permits by virtue of the law. The Director-General of Department of Agriculture through the recommendation of the Plant Quarantine Committee, hereby announces the conditions that have to be met in order to import potatoes for processing purpose from the Netherlands into Thailand as follows:

1. Plant species

Tuber of potato, *Solanum tuberosum*

2. Quarantine pests of concern

A list of quarantine pests of current concern to Thailand for potatoes for processing and associated soil from the Netherlands is given in Appendix.

3. Responsible organizations

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| 3.1 | Thailand: | Department of Agriculture
(hereinafter referred to as DOA) |
| 3.2 | The Netherlands: | Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality,
Plant Protection Service
(hereinafter referred to as MANFQ-PPS) |

4. Import permit

- 4.1 Import permit issued by DOA is required.

- 4.2 Applicants eligible to apply for permit to import potatoes for processing shall operate potato processing plant.
- 4.3 The import permit will be issued if the importing establishment has facilities for safe disposal of soil, culls, and wash water indicated in Section 6.

5. Means of conveyance

Potatoes shall be imported from a port in the Netherlands to a designated port in Thailand by ship-cargo or air cargo. In case of ship cargo, potatoes can be exported from ports in Belgium and Germany.

6. Registration of processing facilities

- 6.1 Potatoes imported for processing must be processed in facilities registered and approved by the DOA. The processing facilities must be inspected by quarantine officials for compliance with specified conditions. The approval of processing facilities will be based on the capability of the importing company to comply with the following conditions:
 - 6.1.1 The importing plant must possess equipment suitable for cleaning and decontamination.
 - 6.1.2 All water from potato washers and peelers must be discharged into approved sewage treatment system or other approved discharge system.
 - 6.1.3 Soil and sweeping must be disposed of in an approved manner.
 - 6.1.4 An importing company is required to maintain an accurate record of potatoes received and processed. No diversion to any other plant is permitted without the approval of the DOA.
- 6.2 The processing facilities must be audited annually for compliance with specified conditions. The costs of such audits must be borne by the importing company.
- 6.3 The processing facilities must adhere to compliance conditions specified by DOA. Where conditions cannot be met, the import permit of potatoes for processing must be revoked.

7. Production areas

- 7.1 Some areas in the Netherlands have been found to be infested with potato cyst nematode (pale cyst nematode, *Globodera pallida* and golden nematode, *Globodera rostochiensis*).

- 7.2 Potatoes produced in all production areas in the Netherlands are permitted to import into Thailand except potatoes produced in the following areas are prohibited to import into Thailand.

7.2.1 Potatoes produced in potato cyst nematode regulated areas.

7.2.2 Potatoes produced in land which as a result of soil test has been found to be contaminated with potato cyst nematode.

8. Phytosanitary import requirements

- 8.1 Potatoes imported for processing shall be free of quarantine pests specified in this Notification.

8.2 It is mandatory that land on which the potatoes were grown must be subjected to an official soil test pre-planting or pre-harvest for the presence of potato cyst nematode. Only potatoes grown in fields free of potato cyst nematode are permitted to import into Thailand. The certification for the presence of potato cyst nematode in potato field shall be carried out according to the agreed upon protocol. In addition, the samples of soil shall be analyzed by NAK's laboratory.

8.3 The soil testing protocol for potato cyst nematodes shall be based on Council Directive 2007/33/EC of 11 June 2007 on the control of potato cyst nematodes and repealing Directive 69/465/EEC.

8.4 To mitigate the risk associated with nematodes and the presence of infected tubers, potatoes imported for processing must be subjected to one of the following phytosanitary measures.

8.4.1 Potatoes must be washed so as to be practically free of visible soil.
or

8.4.2 In case of unwashed potatoes, the tubers must be thoroughly brushed so as to be practically free of soil. The weight of loose soil shall not exceed 100 g per 50 kg potatoes (equivalent to 0.2 % soil by weight). For caked soil, potatoes which have more than 20 % of the surface of the tuber with caked soil should not exceed 30 tubers in a 600 unit sample (equivalent to 5 %). In addition, the potatoes must be treated with a sprout inhibitor.

9. Phytosanitary Certification

9.1 A Phytosanitary Certificate must accompany with each consignment of potatoes from the Netherlands.

9.2 A Phytosanitary Certificate shall bear the following additional declaration.

“The potatoes in this consignment were produced in the Netherlands in accordance with the conditions governing entry of potatoes for processing to Thailand and inspected and found to be free of quarantine pests”.

and

“The potatoes in this consignment have been washed.”

or

“The potatoes in this consignment were treated with a sprout inhibitor.”

- 9.3 Container number (for sea freight only) must be recorded on the Phytosanitary Certificate.

10. Audit of export procedures

- 10.1 The export of potatoes for processing from the Netherlands to Thailand shall only be initiated after the DOA has already audited export certification procedures. The costs of such audits must be borne by the Netherlands.
- 10.2 In the event of a suspension of import, DOA may audit export certification procedures in the Netherlands prior to a decision being taken on resumption of import. Where DOA has determined that such audits are necessary, the costs of these audits must be borne by the Netherlands.

Effective on this date henceforth.

Issued on 13 November B.E. 2552 (2009)

Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul

Director-General
Department of Agriculture

Appendix

List of quarantine pests of potatoes for processing and associated soil
from the Netherlands
attached to the Notification of Department of Agriculture
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Scientific name	Common name
Plant Pathogens	
Nematodes	
<i>Ditylenchus destructor</i>	potato rot nematode
<i>Ditylenchus dipsaci</i> (potato race)	stem and bulb nematode
<i>Globodera pallida</i>	pale cyst nematode
<i>Globodera rostochiensis</i>	golden nematode
<i>Meloidogyne chitwoodi</i>	Columbia root knot nematode
<i>Meloidogyne fallax</i>	false Columbia root-knot nematode

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- UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION
 - This is an English translation. In case of any difference in meaning between the Thai text and the English translation, the Thai text shall be applied.