



Notification of Department of Agriculture  
Re: Conditions for Import of Silkworm Cocoon for Processing  
from People's Republic of China B.E. 2553 (2010)

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The Department of Agriculture has completed pest risk analysis for commercial importation of silkworm cocoons for processing from People's Republic of China.

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 silkworm cocoons for processing purpose from People's Republic of China into Kingdom of Thailand as follows:

**1. Approved importing commodity**

Silkworm white cocoon, *Bombyx mori*

**2. Quarantine pests of concern**

A quarantine pest of current concern to Kingdom of Thailand for silkworm cocoons for processing from People's Republic of China is pebrine, *Nosema bombycis*.

**3. Responsible organizations**

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| 3.1 | Kingdom of Thailand:        | Department of Agriculture<br>(hereinafter referred to as DOA)  |
| 3.2 | People's Republic of China: | General Administration of Quality<br>Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of<br>People's Republic of China<br>(hereinafter referred to as AQSIQ) |

#### **4. Import permit**

- 4.1 Import permit issued by DOA is required.
- 4.2 Applicants eligible to apply for permit to import silkworm cocoons for processing shall operate silk weaving factory.

#### **5. Means of conveyance**

Silkworm cocoons shall be imported from a port in People's Republic of China to a designated port in Kingdom of Thailand by ship cargo or air cargo.

#### **6. Requirements for weaving factory**

- 6.1 Cocoons imported for processing must be processed in a silk weaving factory approved by the DOA. The silk weaving factory shall comply with the following conditions:
  - 6.1.1 A silk weaving factory shall be equipped with suitable storage room.
  - 6.1.2 Suitable heat treatment chamber shall be installed to dry silkworm cocoons.
  - 6.1.3 An importing company is required to maintain an accurate record of silkworm cocoons received and processed for auditing.
  - 6.1.4 No diversion to any other weaving factory is permitted without the approval of the DOA.
- 6.2 A silk weaving factory must be audited annually or as necessary for compliance with specified conditions. The costs of such audits must be borne by the importing company.
- 6.3 A silk weaving factory must adhere to compliance conditions specified by DOA. Where conditions cannot be met, the import permit of silkworm cocoons for processing must be revoked.

#### **7. Import requirements**

- 7.1 Silkworm cocoons imported for processing shall be free of pebrin.
- 7.2 It is mandatory that silkworm cocoons must expose to heat treatment in chamber at temperature 90 ° C (194 ° F) or higher for 8 consecutive hours or longer or subject to any other methods which ensure completely dry of silkworm cocoons.
- 7.3 Moisture content of silkworm cocoons must not exceed 10 %.

## **8. Requirements for packing and labeling**

- 8.1 Silkworm cocoons shall be packaged in containers that are new and tightly closed after packing.
- 8.2 Containers containing silkworm cocoons must be free from soil, sand and contaminating plant materials e.g. leaves, stem, plant debris or other potential carriers of quarantine pests.

## **9. Certification**

- 9.1 A Certificate issued by AQSIQ is required. The original copy must accompany every consignment to Kingdom of Thailand.
- 9.2 A Certificate must bear the following additional declaration:  
  

*“The silkworm cocoon of this consignment was produced in China and inspected and found to be free from pebrin”*
- 9.3 Information on heat treatment or any other treatment methods must be indicated in the appropriate sections of the Certificate.
- 9.4 The scientific name of silkworm and container and seal numbers (for sea freight only) must be recorded on the Certificate.

## **11. Import inspection**

- 11.1 When the consignments arrive at the point of entry in Kingdom of Thailand, the import inspection must be conducted after confirming the respective documents accompanying the consignments concerned.
- 11.2 A representative sample of the consignments will be randomly selected, at the inspector’s discretion, and examined to determine whether pebrin is present.
- 11.3 If pebrine or any other non-compliance is found, the following measures must be taken;
  - 11.3.1 If moisture contain of silkworm cocoons is over 10 %, the consignment must be subjected to heat treatment to lower moisture contain up to below 10 %. The cost of such treatment shall be borne by importer.
  - 11.3.2 If live spores of pebrin are detected, the consignment shall be destroyed at the importer’s expenses.
- 11.4 If any live organism of potential quarantine concern to Kingdom of Thailand other than pebrine is found, the consignment shall be re-exported,

destroyed or treated with an appropriated treatment (if available) at the importer's expenses. The DOA reserved the right to temporary suspension of import for the identified pathway until a risk assessment of intercepted organisms is determined.

Effective on this date henceforth.

Issued on 9 April B.E. 2553 (2010)

Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul

Director-General  
Department of Agriculture

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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.