



Q-GAP Thailand

National 2004

Good Agriculture Practices

Global/Transnational/International 2003

Chaiyaphum, Thailand Plantation

The project's primary subject: Pummelo

Additional focus points of the project: Any other agricultural crops

Main governance mechanisms that the project uses: price premium, new market access, maintenance of existing market access, best practices

Target market of the resource or product: The local market with interest in food safety (domestic, non-poison) and export market with interest in quality (beautified fruit skins)

Introduction

The scheme regulates pummelo farmers' use of pesticides, insecticides and fungicides in their pummelo plantations.

Actors involved in creating the project: government resource agency national level, other national government, international agency (state membership), transnational certifying organisation

Actors regulated by the project: small-scale producers

Main goals of the project: improve livelihoods, protect/improve working conditions, food safety/quality, traceability, minimizing negative effects on the environment

Scope of the project:

History of the project:

History of the scheme:

Is the project currently active?

Yes

Regulation and compliance

Parties that were involved in creating the project:

ASEAN, Thai government (Ministries of Agriculture and Cooperatives)

Who are being regulated by the project:

Pummelo farmers

Means of monitoring compliance:

third-party certification/monitoring by an independent auditor

Monitoring organisation:

Department of Agriculture, the National Bureau of Agriculture Commodity and Food Standards

Consequences of failing compliance:

expulsion from the scheme/decertification

Assessment of the project*

Producers seem not to have an understanding of the certification, nor the pricing differences, therefore creating a difference between promised and actual benefits. Also, certified producers cannot export their products because only 'beautiful' fruits get sold (food quality), whereas domestic, and to obtain that they need to use pesticides etc; domestic buyers prefer ugly/safer foods without pesticides etc. Certification does not guarantee access to market, nor price premiums, and competition with private sectors is strong.

Additional researcher comments:

Sources:

Yuichiro Amekawa (2013): Can a public GAP approach ensure safety and fairness? A comparative study of Q-GAP in Thailand, *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 40:1, 189-217

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*All assessments of the project are made by the researcher or the authors of the main sources.

