Impact of Covid-19 on Agriculture in the Asia-Pacific and Role of Mechanization:

Thailand perspective

Dares Kittiyopas
Inspector-General, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and President, Thai Society of Agricultural Engineering, Thailand

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How has the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the Agricultural sector in Thailand?
Country Lockdown Measures – Panic stage

- Border restrictions
- Transportation restrictions
- Inordinate constraints in export of agricultural products
- Stockpiling of food and consumables products
700,000 Foreign workers went back from Thailand to their home land, also impacted agriculture.
Financial Status

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Thailand ranks as the best country to have recovered from COVID-19 in Asia, and ranks second as recovering successfully from COVID-19 worldwide.

New Infections Discovered

- Under treatment
- Home Returnee
- Inbound

Bangkok
Other provinces
State Quarantine

24 consecutive days without a domestic case

1st relaxation measures
2nd relaxation measures
3rd relaxation measures
4th relaxation measures

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Increase in Export growth rate for Agricultural and Agricultural Industries’ Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Mar2020/Jan-Mar2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>+17.5/+9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed Fruits and Vegetables</td>
<td>+10.9/-7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeze and Processed Chicken</td>
<td>+7.5/+7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet Food</td>
<td>+11.5/+10.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Online shopping and Delivery service courier has seen growth. It’s become our New Normal behavior.
Through the crisis: Way forward for agriculture in Thailand...
Uses in Thailand

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National Economic and Social Recovery Policy in Agriculture Sector

Future Sustainable Growth:
- Smart Agriculture;
- Precision Farming,
- Collaborative Farm,
- High Value Agriculture Products
- Food Industry
- Bio-economy
Agriculture Industry Direction

- Enhancing by Agri-tech
- Drive by Young Farmer
- Operation by Precision Machinery
- Quality control by Standardization
- Services by Market need
- Transport by Q-Logistics

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Thank you!

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PROFILE
Dares Kitiyopas has a background of Agricultural Engineer with evaluation skill and experiences. She specializes in on-farm machineries management and industry, with digital applications. Dares has experiences in researching and analyzing in farm machinery status and related field. She previously be ICT division director, Deputy Director-General and CIO of Department of Agricultural Extension. She is currently Inspector-General of Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand. She involved in Smart Agriculture development of MOAC. She also holds the positions of President of Agricultural Engineering Society and Luminary of Agricultural Logistics of Thailand Research Fund.