



October 2018

Thailand Food and Drug Administration requirements for packhouses

Scope

Fresh fruit and vegetable packhouses must comply with the 'good practices' outlined in Thailand Ministry of Public Health Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [Notification No. 386 BE 2560 \(2017\) Re: The requirements for production processes, production equipment, storage and labelling of some fruits and vegetables.](#)

The requirements came into effect on 25 August 2018 for any new importers registering with the Thailand FDA for the first time. Importers already registered with the Thailand FDA will have a 12 month transition period. All imports of these fresh fruit and vegetables must comply with these requirements after 25 August 2019.

Requirements

Packhouses must hold current certification to any one of the following food safety accredited schemes:

- [BRC Global Standards for Food Safety](#)
- [Freshcare Food Safety and Quality Code of Practice – Edition 4](#)
- [SQF Food Safety Code for Primary Production – Edition 8](#)
- [GLOBALG.A.P.](#)

Exporters must only source product from packhouses with current certification.

Certification bodies must be accredited by the [Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand](#) (JAS-ANZ). Certification bodies that provide food safety auditing services for fresh produce businesses in Australia include:

- [AsureQuality](#)
- [AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd](#)
- [BSI](#)
- [Merieux NutriSciences](#)
- [SAI Global](#)
- [Sci Qual International](#)
- [SGS](#)

Thai importers may request Australian exporters to provide a copy of certification to these food safety accredited schemes for the relevant packhouses.

Australian exporters are advised to communicate with their Thai importers and suppliers to ensure the Thailand FDA requirements are met.

These packhouse requirements are in addition to any phytosanitary export requirements or import requirements of the Thailand Department of Agriculture.

Background

The Thailand Ministry of Public Health, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) notified all trading partners of *Requirements for Production Processes, production Equipment, Storage and Labelling of some fruit and vegetables No. 386 BE 2560 (2017)*. Annex 1 of the notification provided a list of fruit and vegetables. Annex 2 of the notification stipulated the 'good practice' requirements for packhouses. The Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources provided a submission to the Thailand FDA describing Australia's food control system demonstrating the following industry food safety accredited schemes comply with Thailand's 'good practices' requirements for packhouses:

- [BRC Global Standards for Food Safety](#)
- [Freshcare Food Safety and Quality Code of Practice – Edition 4](#)
- [SQF Food Safety Code for Primary Production – Edition 8](#)
- [GLOBALG.A.P.](#)

The department has not yet received a response from the Thailand FDA regarding the submission, so this advice may be subject to change.

The department does not issue certification to the schemes listed above. Contact the food safety scheme providers for information on how to obtain certification to these accredited schemes.

Exporter responsibilities

The changes to Thailand FDA food safety requirements do not impact phytosanitary requirements for fresh fruit and vegetables to Thailand. Australian exporters should continue to check the phytosanitary requirements published in the [Manual of Importing Country Requirements \(MCoR\)](#).

Australian exporters should also communicate with their Thai importers and suppliers to ensure that all Thailand FDA food safety and phytosanitary requirements are met.