

F28/24: Thailand product registration /GMP requirements for food

Food and Plant Products

28 August 2024

1 Thai FDA requirements for product registration

- (1) This FYI replaces F22/22.
- (2) Registering your product with the Food Drug Administration (FDA) is a critical step in entering the Thailand market. Exporters are encouraged to work with their importer to better understand Thailand's product registration requirements.
- (3) FDA requires imported food products, including horticulture products, to be produced according to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP). MPI understands that this includes all imported food for sale (in any category), including fresh fruits and vegetables.
- (4) Importers are required to present a product registration certificate, often referred to by Thai importers as a 'GMP' or a 'free sale' certificate.
- (5) To support food imports from New Zealand, MPI has developed two product registration certificates that have been approved by the FDA as meeting Thailand's GMP requirements.
- (6) This FYI relates to the TH820 food product registration certificate for non-animal derived food products. Information regarding the TH811 for animal derived food products is captured in the <u>Thailand OMAR</u> and can be applied for via AP E-cert.
- (7) MPI understands that some exporters are using Global G.A.P or BRCGS certificates for product registration purposes. MPI has however been informed that these certificates are not always being accepted at the border. The use of these certificates is a commercial decision. Any requests for these certificates to be stamped or notarised by the New Zealand Embassy in Bangkok or by MPI will be denied because these certificates are not issued by the New Zealand Government.
- (8) Free Sale Advice Statements, Free Sale Certificates and Food Control Plan/National Programme registration certificates are not accepted by FDA for registration purposes as they do not include both the product and the premises registration details required.

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2 Applying for the certificate

- (1) The TH820 certificate can be obtained by completing the application form '<u>CERT9 Registration</u> <u>Certificate for Food Products to Thailand</u>' and emailing this to MPI at <u>FreeSalesApplications@mpi.govt.nz</u>. Alternatively, those with access to AP E-cert can submit the TH820 certificate 'New Zealand Food Product Registration'.
- (2) Each manufacturing premises/packhouse needs its own certificate. Multiple food products can be included on a single certificate.

3 Certificate validity

- (1) The TH820 certificate is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issuance. Multiple certificates can be provided upon request. The certificate is required at multiple stages of the import process, including for product registration and for clearance of consignments at the Thai border. MPI understands photocopies are not accepted.
- (2) Once issued, the original certificate is to be send to the Thai importer. FDA will allow the use of the same original certificate for multiple shipments of an identical product by the same importer.
- (3) To register a certificate, MPI understands that Thai importers submit a request to the FDA electronic system. FDA inspectors will then be able to retrieve the registered certificate to facilitate future shipments within the validity period of the original certificate. This process will help streamline import clearance at the port of entry.

4 Product descriptions

(1) The applicant should confirm with their Thai importer and/or agent which product descriptions should be used on the product registration certificate.

Contact for further information

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