

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** August 13, 2024

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**Report Name:** Thailand's Significant Move on Genome Editing Technology  
Legislation

**Country:** Thailand

**Post:** Bangkok

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies

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**Report Highlights:**

Thailand has finally established legislation on the certification of organisms developed using genome editing technology for agricultural use. The country aims to better align with international standards and practices and enhance its competitiveness of agricultural products in the global economy. This law will take effect 30 days after its publication in the Royal Gazette on July 16, 2024.

Following the country's policy to advance agricultural innovation, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives published in the Royal Gazette a Ministerial Regulation on July 16, 2024 Re: Certification Of Organisms Developed Using Genome Editing Technology For Agricultural Use, effective 30 days later. This regulation recognizes the rapid advancements in New Breeding Techniques (NBTs), particularly Genome Editing (GEd) technology. Organisms developed following the Technical Biosafety Committee (TBC) Guidelines can be safely released into the environment and commercially distributed. Additionally, the legislation requires relevant regulatory agencies to establish certification procedures detailing the criteria, methods, and conditions for genome-edited plants, animals, and microorganisms in agriculture under their authority.

**-Unofficial Translation-**

**Ministerial Regulation**

**Thailand's Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives B.E. 2567 (2024)**

**Re: Certification of Organisms Developed from GEd Technology for Agricultural Use**

This regulation acknowledges the rapid advancements in New Breeding Techniques (NBTs), particularly GEd (GEd) technology, which holds potential for improving organisms for agricultural use. These organisms can be safely released into the environment and commercially distributed, enhancing the competitiveness of the agricultural sector to address food security and climate change challenges. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recognize and support this technology. Many countries are accelerating research and development of technology, along with the Technical Biosafety Committee of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation, which has already established guidelines for the consideration of organisms developed from GEd technology. This is to enhance the potential and strengthen the agricultural sector of the country, promoting research and development of organisms derived from GEd technology for efficient use.

By virtue of Section 20 of the Administrative Procedure of Kingdom of Thailand Act B.E. 2534 (1991), amended by the Administrative Procedure of Kingdom of Thailand Act (No. 5) B.E. 2545 (2002), the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives issues this regulation as follows:

Clause 1: This regulation is called “Ministerial Regulation on Certification of Organisms Developed from GEd Technology for Agricultural Use, B.E. 2567 (2024)”

Clause 2: This regulation will take effect 30 days after its publication in the Royal Gazette.

Clause 3: Definitions

“Certification”: The process of confirming that an organism is developed using GEd technology.

“Organism”: Biological units of plants, animals, and microorganisms that can transfer or replicate genetic material by themselves.

“Genome Editing Technology”: Techniques for specific and precise alteration of the genetic code of organisms to achieve desired traits, such as correcting defective genes that may cause serious hereditary diseases.

“Organisms Developed from GEd Technology”: Organisms that have been genetically improved in a manner similar to mutation or hybridization, where the final product contains genetic material from donor organisms that can naturally crossbreed with the recipient organisms.

#### Clause 4. Certification Procedures

- 1) For plants, the certification must comply with the criteria, methods, and conditions set by the Department of Agriculture (DOA).
- 2) For aquatic animals, the certification must comply with the criteria, methods, and conditions set by the Department of Agriculture the Department of Fisheries (DOF).
- 3) For livestock, the certification must comply with the criteria, methods, and conditions set by the Department of Livestock Development (DLD).
- 4) For microorganisms, the certification must comply with the criteria, methods, and conditions set by the DOA, DOF and DLD.

Announced on July 11, 2024

Major Thamanat Prompow

Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.