

Minister Narumon Boosts Farmers' Income and Targets 1.9-2 Trillion Baht in Agricultural Exports



Professor Dr. Narumon Pinyosinwat, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, outlined the ministry's policy direction, emphasizing two key priorities that have been consistently pursued since Captain Thamanat Prompow's tenure as Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives: high-value agriculture and sustainable agriculture.

This year, the ministry is focused on expanding high-value agricultural products. Farmers are encouraged to recognize opportunities and cultivate crops suited to their land, such as coffee, soybeans, and cocoa. The ministry is committed to supporting farmers throughout the entire supply chain, from production to market access. This includes working with various agencies, such as the Ministry of Commerce and agricultural attachés stationed overseas, to promote exports.

Professor Dr. Narumon also highlighted current income levels for farmers. On average, they earn 220,000 baht per year from agriculture and an additional 200,000 baht from non-agricultural work. However, due to production costs, their net income per household is only 89,000 baht.

This demonstrates the need to increase the value of agricultural products and raise farmers' earnings to improve their quality of life.

The ministry is also taking steps to help farmers manage market fluctuations, especially during peak harvest seasons for crops like rice, rubber, and fruit. For rubber, the Rubber Authority of Thailand (RAOT) has been instructed to implement a credit program to delay sales, helping absorb excess supply and stabilize prices. For rice, the ministry is supporting policies from the Rice Policy and Management Committee (NOBOR) by offering credit programs to slow sales and assist with stockpiling, preventing oversupply in the market.

Looking at the broader picture, Thailand's agricultural exports in 2024 were valued at 1.8 trillion baht, with 1 trillion baht from fresh produce exports and 800 billion baht from processed agricultural products, reflecting a 7.5% increase. Over the past three years, agricultural exports have steadily grown, with China remaining Thailand's top export market, followed by Japan, the United States, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

The ministry is optimistic about 2025, setting a target to increase agricultural and agroindustrial exports to 1.9-2 trillion baht—a goal that, with continued effort and collaboration, is within reach.

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