

Thai Agricultural Heritage Protected as Ratchaburi Limes and Mangoes Secure GI Status

The Department of Intellectual Property registers Damnoen Saduak Limes and Ratchaburi Nam Dok Mai Mangoes, driving over \$240m in regional revenue.



Thailand's Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) has officially granted Geographical Indication (GI) status to two flagship agricultural products from Ratchaburi province: "Damnoen Saduak lime" and "Ratchaburi Nam Dok Mai mango".

The certification establishes legal intellectual property protection for local growers, safeguarding traditional farming methods while enhancing the market value of regional produce both domestically and overseas.

The additions bring Ratchaburi's portfolio of protected GI products to eight. The premium limes and mangoes join an elite regional list that includes Ratchaburi Dragon Jars, Bang Chang Chillies, Photharam Sweet Radish, Bang Phae Giant Freshwater Prawns, Ban Kha Pineapples, and Ratchaburi Aromatic Coconuts.

Premium Heritage Crops

According to DIP Director-General Auramon Supthaweethum, Ratchaburi's unique geography and agricultural tradition make it a vital hub for high-value produce.

Damnoen Saduak Lime (Damnoen Lime), renowned for its thin skin, juicy yield, and intense fragrance without bitterness, benefits directly from the nutrient-rich, well-drained loamy soil of the Mae Klong River Basin.

Cultivated using generational knowledge, the crop generates over \$20.5 million (716 million baht) annually in economic value.

Similarly, Ratchaburi Nam Dok Mai Mango — encompassing both the Golden and No. 4 varieties — is celebrated for its smooth, fibreless flesh, distinct sweetness, and thin seed.

Supported by ideal climatic conditions, local orchards maintain a consistent year-round yield with strong export demand across China, Japan, South Korea, the Middle East, and the European Union. The mango sector generates more than \$4.7 million (166 million baht) annually.

Together, Ratchaburi's total array of GI products contributed over \$244 million (8.539 billion baht) to the provincial economy in 2025.



Driving Long-Term Economic Growth

The GI registration marks a broader strategy by Thai authorities to move local agriculture up the value chain through brand recognition, quality assurance, and origin protection.

"Granting GI status is a crucial milestone in elevating Ratchaburi's identity products," Auramon stated. "It safeguards local heritage, adds value through indigenous knowledge, and unlocks long-term commercial opportunities for community-led economic development."

Following the official registration, the DIP plans to collaborate with provincial authorities and local enterprise groups to support the entire value chain.

Strategy roadmap initiatives include:

- Enforcing strict production standards and origin authenticity.
- Developing local branding and expanding distribution channels in domestic and export markets.
- Promoting GI-certified ingredients within gastronomy, agri-tourism, and creative industries.

The initiative aims to build sustainable, long-term revenue streams for rural farming communities while reinforcing global confidence in premium Thai produce.

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