



สำนักงานที่ปรึกษาการเกษตรต่างประเทศ ประจำกรุงวอชิงตัน ดี.ซี.

Office of Agricultural Affairs - Royal Thai Embassy - Washington DC

Rice Department Collaborates with Private Sector to Improve Thai Rice



Mr. Natthakit Khongthip, Director General of the Rice Department, revealed the MOU signing between the Rice Department and Charoen Pokphand Produce Co., Ltd. and Chia Tai Co., Ltd. Thailand is one of the world's top rice exporters. Nevertheless, most Thai farmers remain poor and heavily indebted. Collaboration with private sector will enable rice farmers to access technology and innovation, reduce production costs, increase productivity and plant new rice varieties obtained from research.

This technical cooperation between the public and private sector is aimed at exchanging academic knowledge in research and development of rice varieties, production technology, rice variety testing, disease and insect resistance testing and quality determination. There will be capacity building for research personnel of all 3 organizations. Rice Department will support the establishment of collaborative research network between the public and private sector and the development of R&D strategies. Equipment, personnel and research facilities will

be provided to ensure downstream dissemination and application of the technology and research outcomes.



This is a new dimension in the cooperation between the public and private sector. There will be an exchange of knowledge in innovative and modernized rice production including plant protection, biochemical products, drone flying techniques, highly efficient agriculture and smart rice production prototype plots. Information on basic rice cultivation and research results jointly conducted will be shared and widely applied, enabling farmers to produce quality rice the meets market demands.

Both the Rice Department and the 2 companies share the same goal in upgrading the Thai agricultural industry. This collaboration aims to increase the potential of rice cultivation in Thailand through innovative research and development in rice production. The private sector is willing to share the technology and innovation to achieve precision agriculture in rice fields through the use of high-performance agricultural drones, automatic water management and tractor and harvester control automation. The farm management platform to be used is able to perform rice health analyses, help increase the productivity and quality of rice, achieve better and more cost-effective utilization of resources and reduce the use of water, fertilizers and labor.

Source: <https://www.thairath.co.th/news/local/2714198>

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