

Thailand - New Zealand join forces to cooperate on technology and innovation in the agricultural sector

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Thailand's Secretary-General of the Office of Agricultural Economics (Agricultural Economics Office), Chanthanon Wannakhajorn, spokesperson of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, revealed that from the changing situation and global context in terms of economy, society, and environment,

Extreme climate change is predicted to affect the production sector and the competitiveness of each country. The challenge is to keep up with the rapid growth of technology and innovation. Captain Thammanat Phromphao, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives said that Thailand is pushing for change to modern agriculture with modern technology and innovation and management that is a comprehensive industry and market ecosystem. Therefore, we have pushed forward cooperation on agricultural innovation.

Thailand has assigned an executive team in the Ministry of Agriculture to coordinate with the Ministry of Primary Industries of New Zealand and related agencies, both public and private sectors and to further create cooperation and academic networks. The partners aim to take advantage of technology, aircraft, and aviation innovations for agricultural benefits as well as to expand trade opportunities between each other.

New Zealand Minister emphasized on the closer relations and cooperation between Thailand and New Zealand with regards to trade, investment, and labor through the Free Trade Area Agreement or the Economic Partnership Agreement. Thai-New Zealand has been in effect trade partnerships since 2005. New Zealand Ministers shared the key strategies to increasing farmers' income and also focused on driving factors such as sufficient water and energy.

In cooperation with the Thai company SCG, New Zealand has jointly developed safflower seeds in Thailand to produce protein and fat. In addition, the AgriZero organization, is a cooperation project between the public and private sectors. The idea is to raise the productivity level of New Zealand's agricultural sector. Through the use of innovation to achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050 and discuss joining forces with EnviroStrat.