

## Australia's avocado industry strengthens trade cooperation with Thailand

30 May 2023 | News

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The Australian avocado industry will soon have access to Thai markets as Western Australian producers of Hass avocados will soon be able to export their produce there. Thailand was Australia's 12th largest agriculture, fisheries, and forestry export market by value in 2021, worth \$1.5 billion, including horticulture at \$105 million.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry, Murray Watt said this was a significant market access win for avocados, with an estimated market value of approximately \$10 million.

"The Australian avocado industry has recently experienced substantially lower prices on the domestic market due to high supply. Opening new market access and trade opportunities will help the avocado industry maintain a steady supply and prices. It supports the horticultural sector in meeting its target of a \$20 billion sector by 2030 and the broader agricultural industry to grow toward a \$100 billion sector" explains Minister Watt.

Australia aims to continue to expand market access and expand trade opportunities for Australian fresh produce. To enable a trade to commence for Australian avocados, Thailand needs to undertake verification activities, which is expected during the upcoming Western Australian 2023-24 avocado season.