



ฝ่ายเกษตร ประจำสถานกงสุลใหญ่ ณ นครลอสแอนเจลิส Thailand Office Of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles

 www.thaiagrila.com  [OfficeofAgriculturalAffairsLA](https://www.facebook.com/OfficeofAgriculturalAffairsLA)

Thailand Department of Livestock Development aims for Zero ASF

The Director-General of the Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Dr. Somchuan Ratanamungklanon, has reiterated his commitment to the goal of African Swine Fever (ASF) control and maximum suppression (Zero ASF) by enforcing preventive measures against the lingering scourge of such disease. DLD's efforts to curb the smuggling in disease-spreading pigs and meats have paid off, and the situation is improving. Those who smuggle in animals or meat parts are in violation of the Animal Epidemic Act B.E. 2558 (2015), which states unequivocally that importing animals, parts, or carcasses requires a license, a Health Certificate from the country of origin, and the absence of an ASF outbreak in the country of origin.

“We have witnessed from experience that the number of affected animals in a country dropped precipitously when an outbreak occurred in other nations. It took some time for farmers to get back to where they were before the outbreak and start making money again.”

The key to getting farmers to start raising herds again, according to Dr. Ratanamungklanon, is providing them with thorough and long-term care to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak. If there are still infected pigs or animal parts, achieving the goal of Zero ASF is improbable. In addition, pig farmers are still traumatized and in a recovery stage, smuggling pig parts and meats onto the market without authorization will aggravate their condition. While developing a new herd of pigs needs a substantial investment, there are also risks and discouragement, such as a market share that can be lost due to smuggled, inexpensive pig parts, which will eventually drive farmers to abandon their professions. In addition to implementing suppression and preventative measures, DLD is collaborating with the Swine Raisers Association of Thailand and other pig producer groups to expeditiously return farmers to their profession. There is optimism that farmers will resume investing soon.

“When farmers are in a vulnerable position, it is essential for the Department of Livestock Development to safeguard them from being exploited. This must be administered in accordance with the law and policies outlined by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives.”

Thailand Office of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles

November 2022