



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

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## Thailand continuously enhances durian quality Utilizing dry weight standard for better tasting experience



**D**urian immaturity is one of the most significant challenges that durian-producing nations face. As one of the world's leading producers of this fruit, Thailand has long been committed to tackling the issue through a close collaboration between relevant government agencies and stakeholders. Recently, the Department of Agriculture Extension (DOAE) announced its new program to improve the quality of Monthong durian grown in Thailand's major durian-producing region, the Eastern region, by increasing the dry weight standard from 32 percent to 35 percent. This will result in a more refined flavor and

quality while addressing the durian immaturity issue. Before harvesting, DOAE also encourages durian farmers to have their youngest durians checked for dry weight.

DOAE and the Office of Agricultural Research and Development Region 6 are working together to implement a new program to increase the dry weight standard to 35 percent. This program will be piloted in the Eastern region of Thailand, which includes the provinces of Rayong, Chanthaburi, and Trat, and will be carried out entirely voluntarily by individual farmers, farmer groups, and other involving businesses. The Office of Agricultural



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Research and Development will engage with farmers and buyers alongside three Provincial Agriculture Offices in Rayong, Trat, and Chanthaburi. To be highlighted, they will collaborate in order to raise awareness of the newly launched initiative, establish a new network for create a new network for bettering the quality of Thai durian, and solve the issues related to the product's low quality.

DOAE also encourages farmers to bring their youngest durian of the harvesting crop to their local District Agricultural Office or authorized agency for dry weight measurement prior to the harvesting dates announced. The harvesting dates for the three provinces stated for this year are March 10 for Kratum and Puangmanee varieties, March 20 for Chanee variety, and April 15 for Monthong variety. The certificate of ripeness will be

granted to the farmers once their youngest durians have been inspected and have met the threshold for dry weight.



Durian is one of the principal fruits that significantly contribute to Thailand's economy. Currently, 65.29 percent of durian trees have bloomed, and it is anticipated that the fruit would be available on the market from mid-February until August. This year, the total durian planting areas in Rayong, Chanthaburi, and Trat have expanded in comparison to last year due to rising demand on both domestic and international markets, as well as favorable price and investment return conditions. Thailand is expected to produce 756,456 tons of durians this year, a 3.30 percent increase over last year's production of 732,330 tons, according to DOAE.

Source:

[www.doe.go.th](http://www.doe.go.th)

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