Importation of Aquatic Animals into Thailand

Importation of live, remains or product of aquatic animals into Thailand must follow these regulations:

1. Fisheries Act, B.E. 2490 (1947)
5. Other related Acts

Procedures

Pre-Import

1. Importer should receive the Import Permit (prior to an importation) from Fish Inspection Office (FIO) or provincial fishery office (authorized as FIO) at the port of entry with the following documents:
   - Form No.1/1
   - Request document for importing some aquatic species
   - In case of wild aquatic animals, import permit as stated in Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 is needed. (this can be obtained in advance from Fisheries permission and Management Section, Fisheries Administration and Management Bureau)
- Copy of regular or official identification card
- Copy of residential registration book (ordinary person)
- Approved document of company registration (juristic person)
- Document of authorization, copy of identification card, official ID card of the assignor and assignee (in case of importer’s representative)
- Copy of permit for aquatic animal trading (National) in case of the importer is doing the trading business of aquatic animals
- Copy of health quarantine or and health certificate issued by authorized agency from the original country (this can be shown in advance)
- For shrimp, health certificate must be available issued by approved agency in the original country. This document must indicate the residue-free of these substances
  i. Chloramphenicol (detection limit of analysis method must not be higher than 0.3 ppb)
  ii. Nitrofurans (analyzed by LC MS MS with detection limit not higher than 0.3 ppb)
  iii. Malachite Green (detection limit of analysis method must not be higher than 2.0 ppb)
- In case of importing for exporting purpose, site of culture or stocking purpose must be stated
- Other documents as required
2. The request form must be presented at least 7 days in advance unless the animals are brought along with the importer in which the permit can be requested at site (wild aquatic animals are prohibited).

3. If the importer want to withhold the imported live or dead aquatic animals for health quarantine in other places rather than the Department of Fishery facilities. Those places must be approved according to the Department’s regulations.

4. As the request form is presented, the FIO officer will register and inspect all the required documents. Aquatic animals will be carefully inspected to ensure that they are not infected with any kind of diseases. Live aquatic animals must not be alien species.

5. Any missing document, the request form will be returned to the applicant to resubmit all the required documents.

6. Officer who accepts the documents will present the superior officer for the final consideration and will issue the following official documents within 3 working days:
- Import Permit of some aquatic animals into Thailand (Fisheries Act B.E. 2490)
- Import Permit of animals into the kingdom or Form No 6 (Animal Epidemic Act B.E. 2499)
- Requirements of import by the authorized agency

7. If the request has been denied as considered by authorized officers, the applicant will be informed as soon as possible.

8. After the request has been approved (as document in 6.), the importer must confirm the importing information i.e. date, time, airline flight, vessel number or other transportation mode by one day before the arrival of the aquatic animals.
Date of Import

1. Importer must show all the required documents to the FIO Officer or fishery officer from the provincial office at the site of import. The documents are as follows:

- Import permit of aquatic animals into the kingdom
- Approving document for importing live or dead animals into the kingdom (Form No 6)
- Request form for food import (in case of food products)
- Import permit of wild aquatic animals as required by Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 (1992) (for wild aquatic animals and issued by Fisheries permission and Management Section, Fisheries Administration and Management Bureau)
- Export Permit for wild aquatic animals as regulated by CITES (original copy is required) from the exporting country (for wild animals under lists of CITES)
- Import Certificate for yellow-fin tuna from Department of Fisheries (in case of yellow-fin tuna). The purpose is to protect the harmful to dolphins catch by using purse seine net in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
- Health certificate or approved health document for aquatic animal carcass stating the disease-free as stated in the list (original copy) issued from the authorized agency of the original country

- For shrimp import. There is a requirement for the original copy of health certificate from the approved agency in the original country stating the residue-free of the following substances:
  
i. Chloramphenicol (Analysis method with detection limit not higher than 0.3 ppb)
  
ii. Nitrofurans (Analyzed by LC MS MS with detection limit not higher than 0.3 ppb)
  
iii. Malachite Green (detection limit of analysis method must not be higher than 2.0 ppb)
- In case of food manufacturer, copy of Food Production Permit from the Ministry of Public Health is required (only for the first application)
- In case of food manufacturer, copy of import permit or order permit of food into the kingdom from the Ministry of Public Health is required (only for the first application)
- Copy of factory permit from the Ministry of Industry (if available, only for the first application)
- Transportation permit for imports (if available)
- Invoice (if available)
- Air Waybill or Bill of Lading (if available)
- Packing list (if available)
- Other documents as required

2. Officials inspect the completeness of the documents and aquatic animals and proceed as follows:

**Live aquatic animals**

(1) After the required documents have been completed and other requirements have been fulfilled by the importer, officials will sample the aquatic animals for disease inspections before the import permit is issued.

(2) If the documents are not completed and other requirements have not been fulfilled by the importer and there are some suspicions, officials will sample the aquatic animals for quarantine. Some certain laboratory analyses will be performed to ensure that the quality of the imports reach standard level before the import permit is issued. If the quality does not meet the standard level, legal action will be implied and the aquatic animals will be deported back to the exporting country or destroyed.

**Dead aquatic animals or raw products**

(1) After the required documents have been completed and other requirements have been fulfilled by the importer, officials will sample the imported aquatic animals or products for residual surveillance before issuing the import permit.
(2) If the documents are not completed and other requirements have not been fulfilled by the importer and there are some suspicions, officials will sample and withhold the aquatic animals or aquatic animal product for further inspection. Some certain laboratorial analyses will be performed to ensure that the quality of the imports reach standard level before the import permit is issued. If the quality does not meet the standard level, legal action will be implied and the aquatic animals will be deported back to the exporting country or destroyed.

3. Species, size and amount of imported animals must be the same as specified in the import permit or not over or more than as permitted.

4. Import permit or permit document for each application can be used only once

5. Process and cost of withholding for quarantine or other required inspections of imported aquatic animals or products will be the responsibility of the importer
Procedures for the Import of Aquatic Animals into Thailand

Pre-Import

Importer

Fish Inspection Office

Consideration for issuing the import permit

1. Import permit for some aquatic animals into Thailand
2. Import permit for animal into Thailand (Form No 6)

Application

1. Form No 1/1
2. Application for import permit of aquatic animals into the kingdom

Date of Import

Fish Inspection Office

Inspection of the permit and other required documents

Import Inspection Sampling for disease inspection and residue

Consideration

Seizure or Withholding for further inspection

- Legal Action will be implied
- Permitted
  - Issue the permit (Form No 7)
  - Issue MD

Issue the Permit

- Issue the permit (Form No 7)
- Issue MD

Note: Importer of wild aquatic animals must apply for the permit at License and Fisheries Management Section, Fisheries Administration and Management Bureau, Department of Fisheries before these procedures.
Export of Aquatic Animal from Thailand

Export of live aquatic animals or their carcasses from Thailand should follow these regulations

1. Fisheries Act, B.E. 2490 (1947)
4. Other related Acts.

Procedures

Pre-Export

1. Exporter of aquatic animals and their carcasses from Fish Inspection Office (FIO) or provincial fishery office (authorized as FIO) at the port of export with the following documents:
   - application form (Form No 1/1)
   - application form for permit to export live Penaeus monodon for food or Form หม. 1 (in case of Penaeus monodon export for food purpose)
   - In case of wild aquatic animals, export permit as stated in Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 is needed. (this can be obtained in advance from License and Fisheries Management Section, Fisheries Administration and Management Bureau, Department of Fisheries)
- Copy of identification card (for ordinary person)
- Copy of residential registration book (for ordinary person)
- Approved document of company registration (juristic person)
- Document of authorization, copy of identification card, official ID card of the assignor and assignee (in case of importer's representative)
- Copy of permit for aquatic animal trading (€.6)

2. Exporter should submit the application and required documents at least 3 days prior to export
3. FIO officer will register and inspect the submitted documents
4. In case of any incomplete document, the exporter will be notified to resubmit the complete one
5. Officer who accepts the documents will present the superior officer for the final consideration and will issue the following official documents within 3 working days:
   - Export License or Form No 9 (for all aquatic animals)
   - Export Permit of live Penaeus monodon for food or Document รก. 2 (in case of live Penaeus monodon export for food purpose)
6. If the application has been denied, the applicant will be notified as soon as possible
7. As the permit documents (in 5.) has been issued, the exporter should notify the official about the date, time, port of export, airplane flight, vessel number or other means of transportation for export by a day prior to the export
Date of export

1. Exporter must show all the required documents to FIO Officer or fishery officer from the provincial office authorized as FIO at the site of import. The documents are as follows:

   - Aquatic animal Export License or Form No 9
   - Export Permit of live Penaeus monodon for food (Document 
     ที่ 2)
   - Export of wild aquatic animals as required by Wildlife 
     Preservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535 (1992) (for wild aquatic animals and 
     issued by License and Fisheries Management Section, Fisheries Administration 
     and Management Bureau, Department of Fisheries)
   - Health quarantine document (Animal Health Certificate) or 
     health certificate of carcass (original copy if available)
   - Export transportation document (Customs Form) (if 
     available)
   - Invoice (if available)
   - Air Waybill or Bill of Lading (if available)
   - Packing list (if available)

2. Documents and the aquatic animals will be inspected by fishery 
   officer before permit is issued

3. Species, size, quantity of the exported aquatic animals must be the 
   same as stated in the export permit or not exceeding the permit

4. Export permit can be used only once

5. During the withholding process of export aquatic animals, the ex-
   porter will be responsible for all the process (including maintenance and costs)
Export of Aquatic Animals from Thailand

Pre-Export

Exporter

Submit the application

1. All aquatic animals (Form No 1/1)
2. Live Penaeus monodon at edible size (request for export document of live Penaeus monodon)

Fish Inspection Office

All aquatic animals
Live Penaeus monodon

Export License (Form No 9)

Date of Export

Fish Inspection Office

- Export Permit inspection
- Inspection of other documents
- Inspection of the exports

Approved for Export

Fish Trade Inspection Section office
Lat Yao, Chatuchak, Bangkok, 10900 Thailand
Tel.: +662-561-4690
Fax: +662-579-9528
E-mail: fishtrade_2007@hotmail.com

Note: For export of wild animals, the exporter must obtain the permit from License and Fisheries Management Section, Fisheries Administration and Management Bureau, Department of Fisheries prior to the mentioned export procedures.