



RAIN in July: Monthly Digest

Get updated with #thaiRAIN's recent outreach to farmers, agrifood businesses, and organizations. In July, we continued to progress in scaling up climate-smart innovations for Thailand's key economic crops and growing our network.

Let's get into the details...



Ratchasima Green Starch Confirmed Distribution of CRFs to Cassava Growers

Ratchasima Green Starch Co., a major tapioca starch producer, has confirmed with #thaiRAIN that it will distribute Controlled-Release Fertilizers (CRFs) to 100 cassava farmers in Nakhon Ratchasima Province starting in September. #thaiRAIN tested CRFs with cassava growers in June and found that the plants were healthy, showing satisfactory results. This move is aimed at developing a market for CRFs, which will help farmers save costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from excessive fertilizer use.

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#thaiRAIN Reassured of “Soil Mate” CRFs Manufacturing Capacity

#thaiRAIN was reassured by their visit to the production facilities for the "Soil Mate" CRFs brand by Productivity Plus Co., a Mitr Phol Group company in Saraburi Province. The factory has the capacity to produce as much as 1,000 tons of the CRFs per month and is equipped with stringent quality control and lab test facilities, centralized control system, and robotics. This visit provided valuable insights into Soil Mate and its potential to address farmer challenges.



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#thaiRAIN Ensures that “Soil Digest” Can Be a Cure for Farmer Burning

Farmer burning is a source of P.M. 2.5 harmful pollution and soil degradation, which drives farmers to rely heavily on chemical fertilizers. They do this because they do not have a better way to prepare their farms for the next crop. Microbial powder that breaks down rice stubbles could prove a solution. #thaiRAIN has tested the "Soil Digest" brand of Siam Agri Supply Co. and discovered a remarkable outcome, plus it restore the lives of tiny animals to the fields. #thaiRAIN's visit to their manufacturing capacity provided insights into the potential for scaling up.

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Thai Rice Foundation Embraces Partnership with #thaiRAIN

#thaiRAIN has discussed potential areas of partnership with Thai Rice Foundation under Royal Patronage. The foundation’s mission is to support R&D and initiatives to strengthen Thai farmers while promoting public interest in rice heritage. Possibilities include RiceBot, a chatbot for diagnosing rice diseases, Soil Digest, a nature-friendly alternative to burning rice stubbles and the foundation's "New Generation Thai Farmers" initiative, encouraging tech adoption in rice farming.

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Precise Data and Forecast: A Tool for Smart Farmers

To improve farming productivity, it's important to have accurate data and forecasts for effective resource management and crop planning. This can help attract a new generation of farmers. #thaiRAIN is collaborating with the Digital Economy Promotion Agency (depa) and #FAHFON to promote the use of FAHFON applications among farmers. The initial focus is on durian growers who need precise data and weather forecasts, such as rain and humidity. FAHFON measures 17 parameters including weather, light, dust, and carbon footprint for a specific plot of land, making it a valuable tool for efficient resource management and planning.

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#thaiRAIN Joined Discussion on Technology at Mekong Forum 2024

#thaiRAIN joins our key partner, Mekong Institute, in holding a discussion session for its annual "Mekong Forum" which aims at sharing knowledge and practices for sustainable development in the Greater Mekong Subregion. With the theme "Digital Horizons: Scaling up Digitalization, Innovation, and Technology in the GMS," participants discussed the role of digital technology in development. #thaiRAIN has set up a booth to showcase agrifood's climate-smart innovations under collaboration with our partners.



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#thaiRAIN Brainstormed Year-3 Work Plan

We've completed our Year 3 work plan for #thaiRAIN, setting milestones to boost climate-smart innovations for Thai farmers through 2025. Our goals are to increase yields, cut costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for key economic crops like rice, cassava, and fruits, while raising awareness in nearby countries. We'll collaborate with public and private sectors and academic institutions to promote sustainable, climate-adaptive farming practices.



[See more](#)

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