

# Chapter 6

## Animal Movement Management

---

DLD is focused on protecting the Nation's animal health and facilitating safe animal trade. This chapter highlights DLD programs and activities aimed at animal movement management to ensure safe imports and exports. In addition, the chapter provides updates on the National Livestock Identification and Registration System (NID) and information technology and data systems for animal movement control (so-called e-Movement).

DLD animal health mission includes ensuring the safe import of animals and animal products, as well as certifying animals and animal products for export. Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services by the Animal Movement Control and Quarantine Sub-division is directly responsible for animal movement management including international and domestic movement controls, veterinary inspection, and quarantine. The supervision, monitoring and coordination activities are conducted through Animal Quarantine Stations (AQSs) and Animal Checkpoints that are located throughout the country. The animal quarantine procedures are standard practices in compliance with the Animal Epidemics Act B.E. 2499 (1956) and its revision B.E. 2542 (1999), their Ministerial Regulations, MOAC Proclamations, DLD Orders, Proclamations, and Commands.

As stipulated by the Animal Epidemic law, no animal nor animal products shall be allowed for importation into, or exportation from, or transit in Thailand without a permission from the Director-General (DG), Department of Livestock Development or an authorized person designated by Director-General. The domestic movement of livestock is also subjected to a permission of the DG or his appointees. Under the permission, appropriate protocol and health conditions are designated in compliance with regulations and risk assessment.

### Animal Quarantine Station in Thailand

There are totally 53 Animal Quarantine Stations (AQS) throughout the country (Figure 6-1). The AQS responsible boundary is stipulated in accordance with the respective Customs Office territory or all districts of that particular province and the adjacent. However, these 53 AQSs covered the whole country or areas of 77 provinces. Additionally, there are 20 animal checkpoints between poultry zones for strengthening animal movement control in Thailand (Figure 6-2 and Figure 6-3).

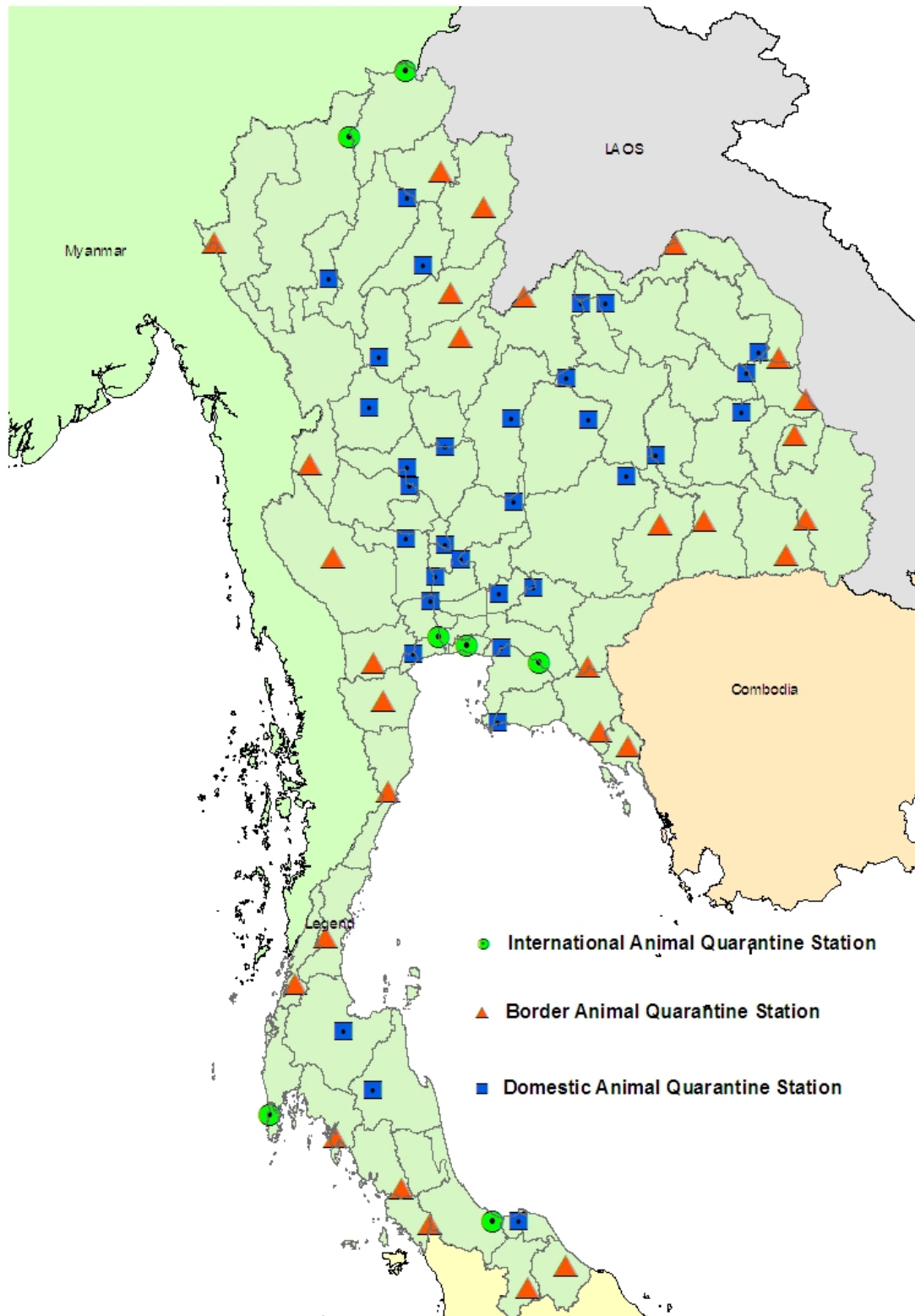


Figure 6-1. Locations of animal quarantine stations (AQs) throughout Thailand

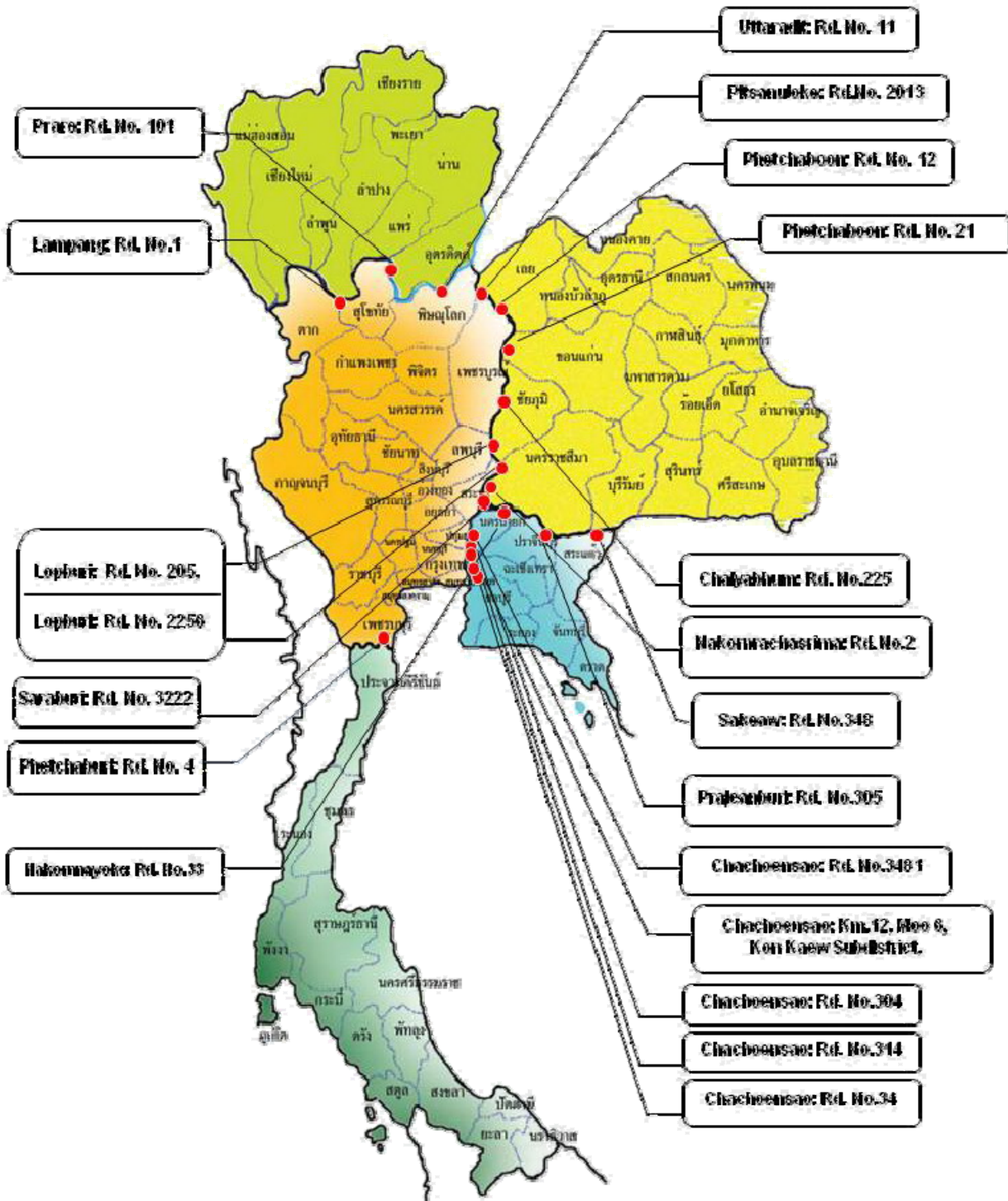


Figure 6-2. Additional 20 animal checkpoints between poultry zones were established to strengthen animal movement controls in Thailand



Figure 6-3. Animal quarantine stations

## Import and Export Controls

The control of importation and exportation of live animals and animal products are preceded under the Animal Epidemic law. The Animal Quarantine Station designated as the port of entry or the port of exit is a responsible agency for such controls. In general, DLD has a policy not to allow any importation of animals or animal products from a country that is not free from listed notifiable diseases. In addition, risk analysis is usually conducted for importation. In brief, the animal disease status of the country of origin will be examined by the DLD officials as well as evaluation of the veterinary services as part of risk assessment. Then an import permit will be issued with certain animal health requirement for appropriate zoo-sanitary conditions certification. An official animal health or zoo-sanitary certificate issued by a duly veterinary authority of the country of origin shall accompany the imported animal or animal products upon arrival, attesting the animal health status and zoo-sanitary conditions. The certificate has to be presented along with other documents to a veterinary official at the AQS of the port of entry. The AQS officials check the certificate in compliance with the health requirement stipulated by the DLD before performing general examination and health inspection of the imported animals or animal products and record. The animals and animal products will be subject to quarantine or maintained in DLD accredited facilities, for 30 days post importation. During the quarantine period, samples from imported animals shall be collected and tested for certain diseases as prescribed by the DLD. In case of animal products, samples are also randomly collected and submitted for testing at the DLD laboratory. The Import Licence will be issued on release from the quarantine upon negative test results to avoid any potential risks of animal diseases.

In addition, the movement control along the border of Thailand and neighbouring countries is also emphasized. Several measures to reduce illegal movement and to encourage the legal process are conducted such as meetings with traders, establishing one stop-service to facilitate traders, the smuggling control activities in the provinces along the border, and bilateral meeting between the authorities concerned of the neighboring countries and Thailand.

The standard protocols to export either live animals or animal products are carried out in the same manner and must be strictly followed to all conditions imposed by the importing country and recognised by DLD authorities concerned.

## Domestic Animal Movement Control

According to the DLD movement control regulations, any movement of animal such as cattle, elephant, buffalo, horse, sheep, goat, pig, and poultry or their carcasses from one province to another will be allowed only under the movement permit. The permit will be issued by the provincial or district livestock officials after the animals have been passed the conditions set up by the DLD including vaccination status and clinical examination. The animal movement will be prohibited when any disease outbreak occurs or is suspected. Some activities of animal checkpoints are shown in Figure 6-4.

In addition, the e-Movement, an electronic service system recently provided by DLD has been used to facilitate and support the convenient and rapid services on animal movement management.



Figure 6-4. Animal check point and border inspection post

## Import, export and transit of animals and their products into Thailand

### Importation of live animals or products of animal origins

#### Pre-Import Process

1. An importer or any person wishing to import live animals or products of animal origins into the Kingdom of Thailand should receive an Import Permit from the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) prior to an importation.
2. The importer should contact a veterinary official at the International Animal Quarantine Station (AQS) at the port of entry, and request for information on a protocol and an animal health requirement of importation of live animals or products of animal origins into Thailand.
3. The importer should personally submit an application request (Form No 1/1) to import live animals or products of animal origins into the country to an AQS veterinary official, at least 15 days prior to an importation. The application should be attached with a copy of the importer's identification card. He could appoint a representative to submit the application, in written paper, and attach copies of identification cards of himself and his representative.
4. The DLD authority will necessarily examine animal disease status of the country of origin before an issuance of Import Permit which will include an appropriate animal health requirement. The animal health requirements for importation of live animals or products of animal origins into Thailand shall be periodically revised to cope with the present situation and/or the current animal disease status.
5. The importer should send the Import Permit to a duly veterinary authority of the country of origin in order to prepare, inspect, test, and certify those imported animals in compliance with the animal health requirement set by DLD.
6. The importer should confirm an exact date of arrival of the imported animals to an AQS veterinary official at the port of entry to prepare all facilities concerned, at least 3 days in advance.

#### Process at the time of Import

1. The AQS veterinary official is authorized to issue a preliminary import license (Form No 6) shortly at the time of importation for customs formalities.  
An official health certificate, in English, issued by a duly veterinary authority of the country of origin, for those imported animals should also be presented to an AQS veterinary official to check before general inspection of the imported animals on arrival (Figure 6-5 and Figure 6-6).
2. In case that imported animals for breeding purpose, pedigree certificate or other evidence should be presented to a veterinary official of the AQS to check for import fee exemption
3. The importer should attach a copy of an Invoice which indicates the price of imported animals or Price List, Packing List, Air Waybill / Bill of Lading and etc. to the application.
4. The importer must pay an import fee as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation, which was issued in accordance with the Animal Epidemics Act B.E. 2499 (1956)

#### Post-Import Process

1. The animals are moved to animal quarantine facilities after general examination on arrival. During quarantine period, samples from all imported animals shall be collected for countercheck or tested for certain diseases as prescribed
2. In case that the imported animals are sick or dead while travelling or quarantine, all concerned should be informed as immediately as possible. The AQS veterinary official shall take an emergency measure to investigate and/or to control should there be any disease outbreak.
3. The ultimate import license (Form No 7) will be issued when all imported animals have passed the prescribed tests, to release the animals to their final destination, at the completion of post-import quarantine in Thailand.



Figure 6-5. AQS veterinary official performs a general inspection on health of live animals at port of entry



Figure 6-6. Veterinary inspectors at the International Animal Quarantine Station check animal products at the port of entry.

## **Exportation of live animals or products of animal origins**

### **Pre-Export Process**

1. An exporter or any person wishing to export live animals or products of animal origins to another country should receive an Import Permit from or contact a duly veterinary authority of the country of destination, for information on a health requirement for exportation of live animals from Thailand to such country.
2. The exporter should present an Import Permit or animal health requirement, when received, to a veterinary official of the International Animal Quarantine Station (AQS) at the port of exit, for advice.
3. The exporter should personally submit an application request (Form No 1/1) to export live animals or products of animal origins from Thailand, to an AQS veterinary official at the port of exit, at least 15 days prior to exportation. The application should be attached with a copy of the exporter's identification card. He could appoint a representative to submit the application, in written paper, and attach copies of identification card of himself and his representative.
4. The AQS veterinary official is authorized to issue an export license (Form No 9) and a health certificate for exported animals after health examination and/or tests for certain diseases, inspection of a farm or premises of origin to detect animal disease status and etc, in compliance with a health requirement set by a duly veterinary authority of the country of destination. In case that the exported animals were vaccinated against or tested for any disease, the exporter should present a vaccination certificate or other evidence to a veterinary official to consider for export permission and/or to record in an official health certificate (Figure 6-7).
5. On exportation for commercial purpose, the exporter should attach a copy of an animal trade license (Form No 10) and an Invoice which indicates the price of exported animals or Price List, Packing List, Air Waybill / Bill of Lading and etc, to the application.
6. Names of the exporter and a consignee at the country of destination should be corresponding to those written in English in all documents concerned, particularly in his passport. The AQS veterinary official could use this information on issuing a health certificate for the exported animals.

### **Process at the time of export**

1. The AQS veterinary official will issue an export license (Form No 9) to the exporter for customs formalities. An official health certificate will be issued, in English, to accompany the exported animals to the country of destination, and its copy should also be attached to containers or crates of the exported animals.
2. For animals travelling with the owner as personal effects, copies of an export license and a health certificate should be presented to the authorities concerned at the time of departure. Several countries prohibit this means of transportation but allow live animals imported via cargo only.
3. The exporter must pay an export fee as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation, which was issued in accordance with the Animal Epidemics Act B.E.2499 (1956).





Figure 6-7. Veterinary officer checks live animal for exportation.

### Transit of live animals or animal products

Transit of live animals and/or animal remains from one country to another country through the Kingdom of Thailand shall be preceded under the responsibility of the International Animal Quarantine Station (AQS) in the area.

#### Process

1. Any person wishing to transit live animals or animal remains through the Kingdom of Thailand should notify and submit an application request (Form No 1/1) to a veterinary official of the International Animal Quarantine Station (AQS) at the port, at least 3 days prior to a transit.
2. The AQS veterinary official shall check documents attached to the application i.e. an Official Health Certificate, Invoice, Packing List, Air waybill/Bill of Lading and etc, for transit permission.
3. The AQS veterinary official shall perform a general inspection on health of those transit live animals or animal remains and/or disinfection deemed necessary, before issuing transit license (Forms No 6 and No 8) for customs formalities.
4. The transit live animals or animal remains may be removed to quarantine facilities as considered necessary. The owner shall be responsible for all expense incurred.
5. The owner must pay a transit fee as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation , which was issued in accordance with the Animal Epidemics Act B.E.2499 (1956)

### Document required for application of import, export or transit license of live animals or animal products

Figure 6-8 describes procedures for import of animals and animal products. All required documents are as follows.

#### Individual person

1. A copy of identification card of an importer/exporter
2. A letter of representative appointment, and a copy of identification card of the representative (if the applicant cannot personally submit an application, he should appoint a representative.)
3. A copy of house registration certificate

#### Other juristic person

1. A copy of identification card of an importer/exporter
2. A copy of certification of juristic registration
3. A letter of representative appointment
4. A copy of identification card of the representative

**Commercial purpose including**

1. A copy of animal trade license (Form No 10)

This license can be applied for at the Provincial Livestock Office in any province where the applicant has domiciled.)

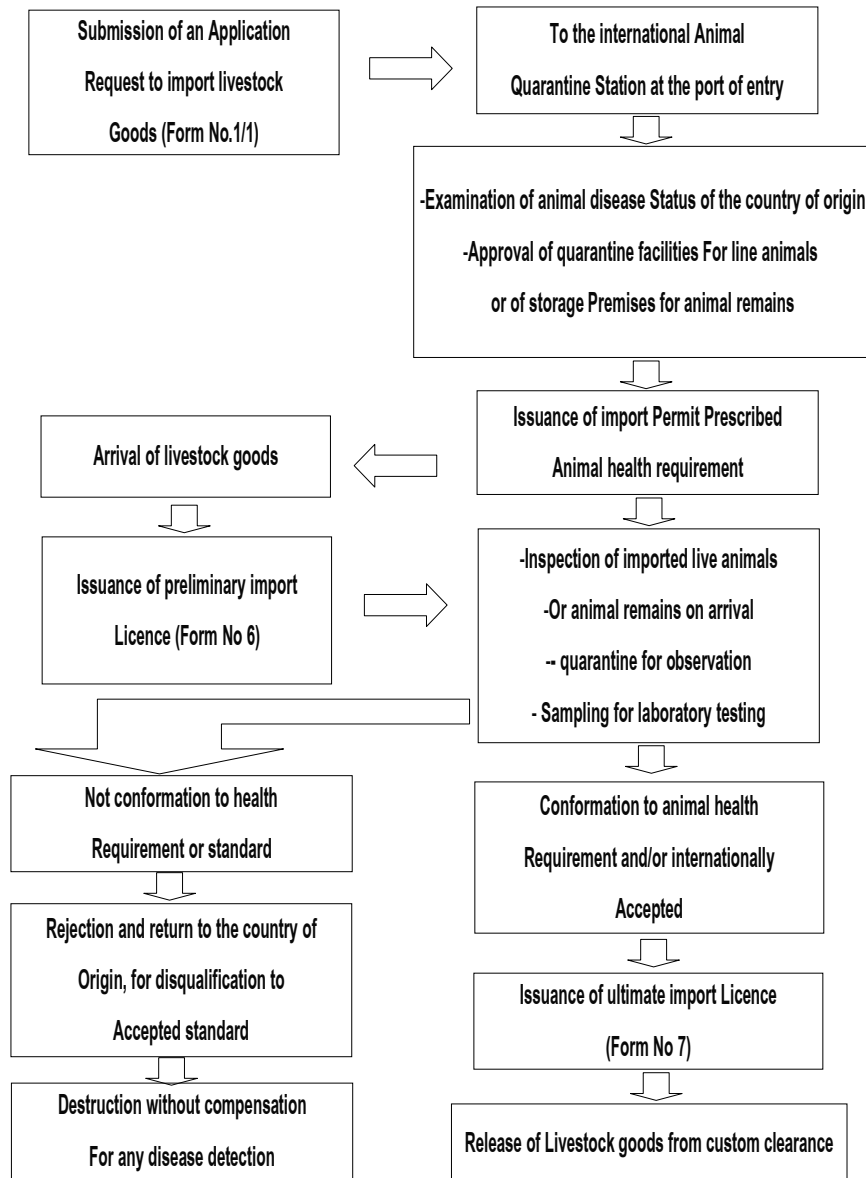
**Exportation of pets (dog, cat, bird, and etc.)**

1. Submission of an Application Request (Form No 1/1) to International Animal Quarantine Station , at the port of exit
2. Examination of animal health, not earlier than 2-3 days before an export
3. Issuance of Export License (Form No 9) and Issuance of Official Health Certificate

**Documents required:**

1. A copy of passport of an owner of the animals
2. A copy of rabies vaccination certificate for exportation of dog or cat
3. A copy of CITES Permit for exportation of bird or wildlife. (The Permit could be obtained from the Royal Forest Department, and/or an export approval in written paper by a wildlife official of the checkpoint at the port of exit.)

## Procedure of Livestock Goods Importation



**Figure 6-8. Procedures for import of animals and animal products**

### e-Service for animal movement control (e-Movement)

e-Movement is the electronic service system recently provided by DLD for the purpose to support the convenient and rapid services (Figure 6-9). This service is user friendly for traders and public who require the electronic approach for obtaining the various kinds of application forms for animals and animal products movement, import, transit or export, livestock traders and approved private quarantine for animal and warehouse for the carcasses.

An application form can be done online where the internet is accessible. This system can reduce unnecessary paper works and time consuming in the application process.

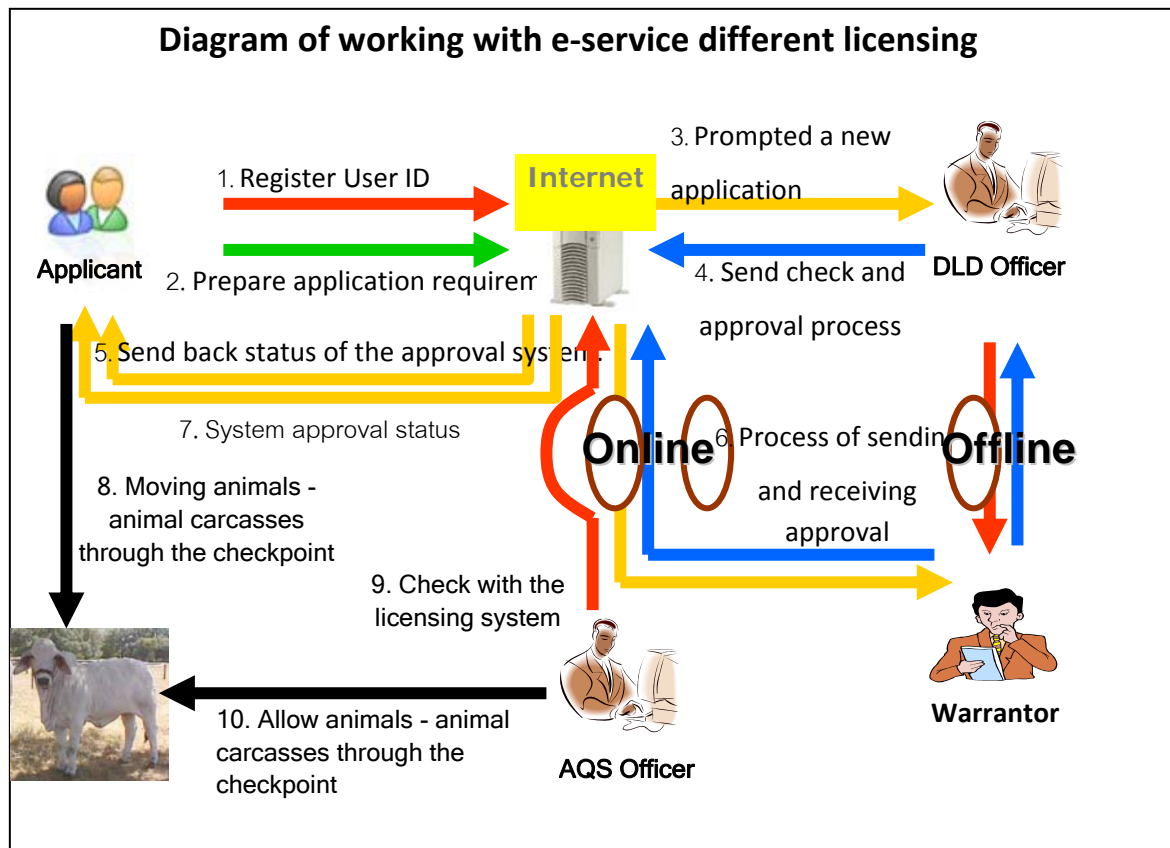


Figure 6-9. Flowchart and procedure of e-Movement

## National livestock identification and registration system (NID)

The national livestock identification and registration system (NID) is a government-run program in Thailand intended to extend government animal health surveillance by identifying and tracking specific animals. The identification and registration system helps to strengthen disease investigation, improvement of animal productivity, livestock trading including slaughter system. NID covers most livestock species, including cattle, buffaloes, sheep, and goats (Figure 6-10 and Figure 6-11). The first step in the system is identification of individual animals while identification of locations, or premises, where these animals are housed or otherwise handled, is the second component. The final part of the program is to track animal movement between the various premises. This trace-back would enable animal health officials to identify all the animals and locations that have had direct contact with the animal and take appropriate measures to prevent the further spread of disease.

The system will provide the basic tenets of an improved animal disease traceability capability in Thailand. The objectives of establishing this system are:

- To compile data and information associated with identification and registration of individual or flocks of cattle, goats, sheep, pigs and other animals,
- To support consumer confidence to livestock products of Thailand in both domestically and internationally with the DLD-certified traceable system,
- To prevent and control the disease effectively as the result of determining and tracking all individual animals.

By DLD's efforts, the expected outcomes are as follows:

- The spread of animal diseases or transmissible diseases from animals to humans will significantly decrease and eventually deplete.
- The production, animal trading and animal exchange system will be fast and fair because of the ability to monitor animal data at any time.

- The traceability system helps increase a consumer confidence for the livestock products of Thailand so the livestock commodities tend to export increasingly.

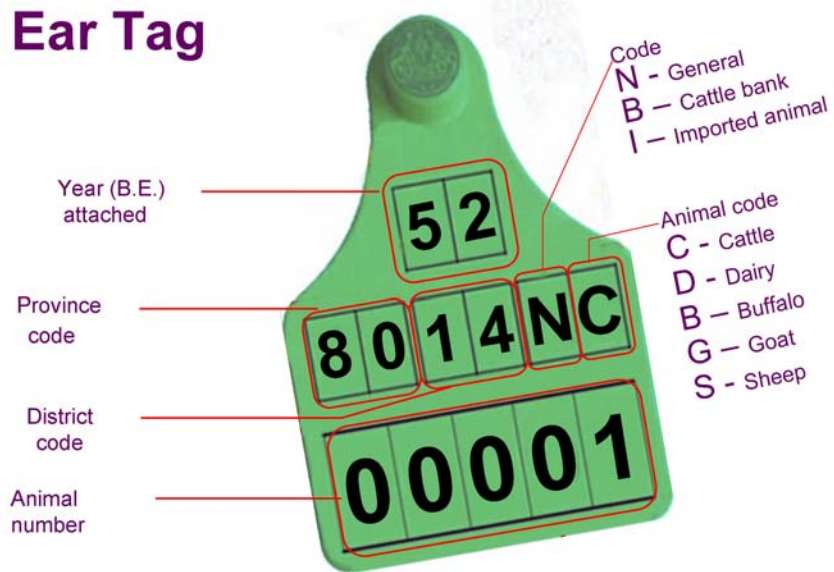


Figure 6-10. Ear tag used in the national livestock identification and registration system (NID)



Figure 6-11. Identification card and ear tagging

## Traceability of animal products

The DLD regulation regarding traceability system of livestock products, B.E. 2546 (2003) stipulated that the operators of the animal feed production, livestock farms, slaughterhouses and meat processing plants shall establish a management and documentation system on raw material suppliers, production processes and distribution as well as laboratory results in order to trace back of livestock products. The DLD officials are responsible for inspection of the traceability system of the operators.

The traceability system for poultry meat and its products includes the information related to

- imported breeders,
- grand parents,
- parent stocks,
- hatcheries,
- broiler farms,
- feed sources supplying to poultry farms,
- live poultry laboratory test results,
- processed poultry at slaughterhouses,
- cutting and deboning plants,
- poultry meat packaging and distribution or for export or for further processing,
- poultry meat processed as poultry meat products at products processing plants,
- poultry meat product packaging and distribution or for export, and
- fresh poultry meat and poultry meat products laboratory test results.

Movement permit from the DLD is required for every movement of live poultry, fresh poultry meat and offal and non-heat processed by-products from poultry slaughterhouses. Traceability system implemented by private companies is either using log book or online computerized system recording detail of lot and sub-lot number of in-process and finished products for tracing. Since 2007, the DLD has developed the online traceability system using OpsSmart programme. Meanwhile, the export consignment of poultry meat and poultry meat products can be traced back on-line to the whole chain of production steps in the pre- and post-harvest stages including the laboratory test results (Figure 6.12). The system in place for traceability in poultry plants is using number of lot and sub-lot as the key indicators for tracing. Lot number is required to be labeled at every process step post- harvesting stage. For finished products, lot number is required to be shown on outside carton indicating establishment approval number and production date, i.e. Lot 1054005: 10 is establishment Approval No., 54 is the last two digit of Buddhist year 2554 which is equivalent to 2011, 005 is the number of day in that year, here is 5 January.

Apart from traceability of poultry products, online traceability systems for pigs and cattle and their products are being developed.

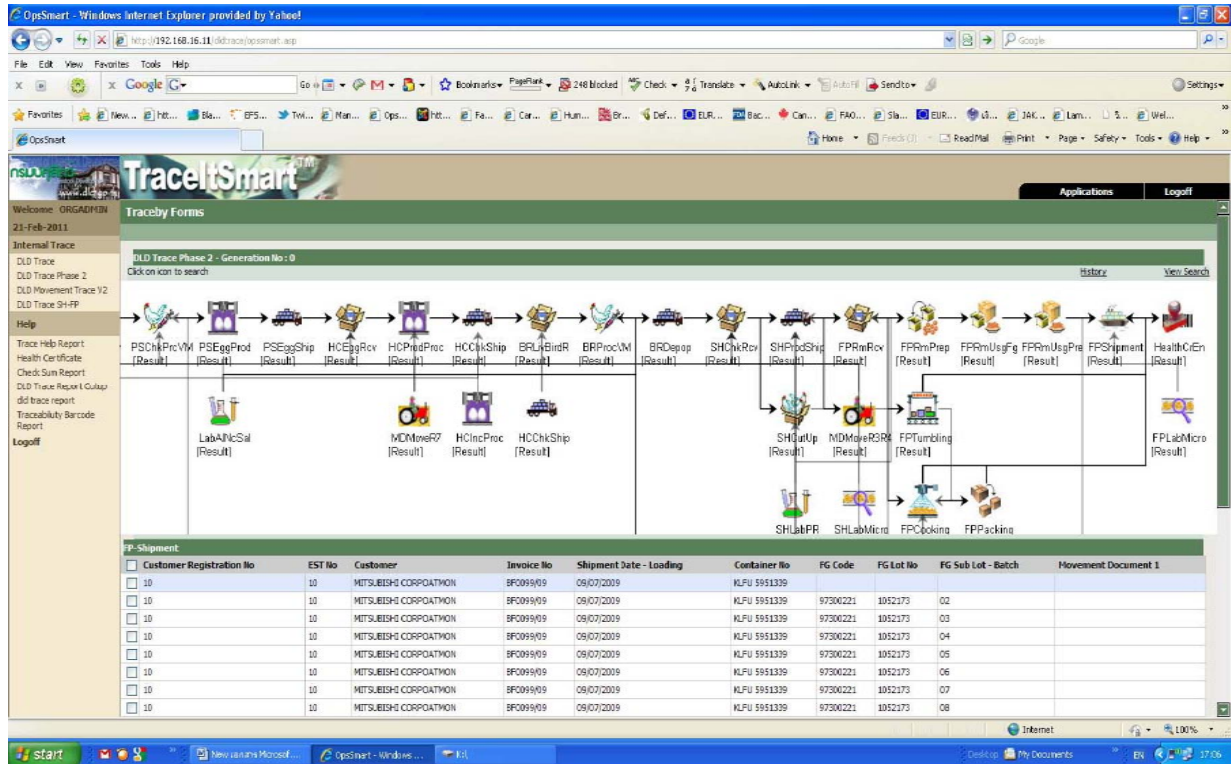


Figure 6.12. Traceability system using OpsSmart programme for poultry products