



THAI AGRICULTURAL STANDARD

TAS 6705-2014

BIRD'S NEST

**National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives**

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BIRD'S NEST

National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards

Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

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**Technical Committee on the Elaboration of the Thai Agricultural Standard for
Bird's Nest and Products**

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Swiftlet nest has been consumed and traded for a long time. Demand for this commodity supports the Thai economy. Thailand has the potential to cultivate and process the bird's nest, especially in the southern and eastern regions. To improve the bird's nest product for the standard on quality and hygiene to gain consumer's trust both domestically and internationally, the Agricultural Standards Committee deems it necessary to establish the Thai Agricultural Standard entitled Bird's Nest.

This standard is based on the following documents:

MS 2334:2011. Malaysian Standard: Edible-Birdnest (EBN) – Specification. Selangor Darul Ehsan: Department of Standards Malaysia.

Stannard, Cathy. 1997. "Development and Use of Microbiological Criteria for Foods." *Food Science and Technology Today* 11, 3: 161.



NOTIFICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES
SUBJECT: THAI AGRICULTURAL STANDARD:
BIRD'S NEST
UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL STANDARDS ACT B.E. 2551 (2008)

Whereas the Agricultural Standards Committee deems it necessary to establish an agricultural standard on Bird's Nest as a voluntary standard in accordance with the Agricultural Standards Act B.E. 2551 (2008) to promote such agricultural commodity to meet its standard on quality and safety.

By virtue of Sections 5, 15 and 16 of the Agricultural Standards Act B.E. 2551 (2008) and the decision of the Third Session of B.E. 2557 (2014) on 27 August B.E. 2557 (2014), the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives hereby issues this Notification on Thai Agricultural Standard: Bird's Nest (TAS 6705-2014) as a voluntary standard, details of which are attached herewith.

Notified on 17 October B.E. 2557 (2014)

Mr. Petipong Pungbun Na Ayudhya
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives

THAI AGRICULTURAL STANDARD

BIRD'S NEST

1. SCOPE

1.1 This agricultural standard applies to bird's nest which is secreted from the salivary glands of the edible-nest swiftlets of *Aerodramus germani* or *Collacalia germanis* or *Aerodramus fuciphagus* or *Collacalia fuciphagus* of the genus *Aerodramus* or *Collocalia* which has been primarily processed of sorting, cleaning and drying and may be made in any shape ready for distribution and consumption.

1.2 This standard does not apply to raw-unclean bird's nest, bird's nest for manufacture as well as products that have undergone processing such as pasteurization or sterilization resulting in alteration of its important characteristics.

2. DEFINITION

For the purpose of this standard:

2.1 Bird's nest means nest of edible-nest swiftlets which is made of salivary gland secretion.

2.2 White bird's nest means nest of edible-nest swiftlets which is white, yellow or golden in colour depending on the swiftlet's habitat.

2.3 Red bird's nest or Blood-red bird's nest means nest of edible-nest swiftlets that is red naturally.

2.4 Foreign matters means substances apart from bird's nest which may be adulterated such as feathers, soil or plant debris.

3. TYPE

White and red bird's nests can be categorised into 4 natural colour types without bleaching or dying as follows;

- (1) White
- (2) Red
- (3) Yellow
- (4) Golden

4. QUALITY

Bird's nest shall be as follows;

- 4.1 Authentic bird's nest;
- 4.2 Natural colour and odour of bird's nest, no off colour and odour;
- 4.3 Clean, free of visible foreign matters;
- 4.4 Moisture content, not exceed 15 % by weight.

5. FOOD ADDITIVES

Food additives and flavoring agents are prohibited.

6. PESTICIDE RESIDUES

Type and maximum residue limit of pesticides in bird's nest shall be in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations and the requirements under the Thai Agricultural Standards on Pesticide Residues: Maximum Residue Limits (TAS 9002) and Pesticide Residues: Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits (TAS 9003).

7. CONTAMINANTS

- 7.1 Type and maximum limit of contaminants shall be in compliance with the provisions of the relevant laws and requirements.
- 7.2 Natural occurrence of nitrite (NO₂) in bird's nest (as of sodium nitrite: NaNO₂) shall not exceed 30 mg/kg.

8. HYGIENE

- 8.1 Production, packaging, storage and transportation of bird's nest shall be under hygienic conditions so as to prevent any contamination which can be harmful to consumers.
- 8.2 Microbiological criteria shall be as follows;
 - 8.2.1 *Escherichia coli* shall not exceed 100 cfu/g.
 - 8.2.2 *Bacillus cereus* shall not exceed 1,000 cfu/g.
 - 8.2.3 *Staphylococcus aureus* shall not exceed 1,000 cfu/g.
 - 8.2.4 Mold shall not exceed 1,000 cfu/g.

9. PACKAGING

9.1 Package

The package shall be of good quality, hygienic and free of any foreign material and smell. It shall be able to protect bird's nest quality. The materials used inside the package shall be clean and of good quality. The use of such materials, particularly paper or stamp bearing trade specifications is allowed, provided that the printing or labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

9.2 Uniformity

The contents of each package shall be uniform and contain only bird's nest of the same variety, quality, size and type. The visible part of the content of the package shall represent the entire package.

10. LABELLING AND MARKING

10.1 Consumer package

The following information shall appear on the package, wrapping, fastening materials or tag. They shall be legible, clear and indelible without false or deceptive information:

(1) Name of the product;

“Bird's nest”

(2) Detail of bird's nest such as type (white, red, yellow or golden);

(3) Net weight;

(4) Information of producer and/or distributor;

Indicate name and address of the producer, re-packer or distributor. Name and address of head office of producer or re-packer may be provided. For imported product, the importer's name and address shall be indicated.

(5) Source of origin;

Indicate country of origin, except product for domestic market.

(6) Language

Label of product for domestic market shall be in Thai. However, foreign language may also be added. Label of exported product can be in foreign language.

(7) Date of production or packaging

(8) Instruction for suitable storage

10.2 Non-Retail Package

The information shall appear on the accompanied documents, on the label or package in the manner that is legible, indelible without false or deceptive information:

- (1) Name of the product;
“Bird’s nest”
- (2) Detail of bird’s nest such as type (white, red, yellow golden)
- (3) Net weight
- (4) Name and address of producer and/or distributor;

Indicate name and address of the producer, re-packer or distributor. Name and address of head office of producer or re-packer may be provided. For imported product, the importer’s name and address shall be indicated.

- (5) Source of origin;

Indicate country of origin, except product for domestic market.

- (6) Language

Label of produce for domestic market shall be in Thai. However, foreign language may be added. Label of exported produce can be in foreign language.

- (7) Date of production or packaging
- (8) Instruction for suitable storage

10.3 Certification Mark

The use of certification mark shall be complied with the Ministerial Regulation of B.E.2553 (2010) concerning Characteristic of Mark, Application and Display, and the related Notifications of National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards.

11. METHOD OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

11.1 Analytical methods:

Analytical methods of bird’s nest quality shall be indicated in Table 1 by referencing to the latest editions or other equivalent and recognised methods as follows.

Table 1 Analytical methods

Provisions	Analytical methods	Principle
1. Authenticity (Section 4.1)	Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectrometer and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AOAC 930.29 • Nynhydrin test for proteins 	Fourier transform spectroscopy And <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Titrimetry (Kjeldahl method) • Ninhydrin reaction
2. Colour, odour and foreign matters (Section 4.2 and 4.3)	Visual inspection	-
3. Moisture content (Section 4. 4)	AOAC 931.04	Gravimetry
4. Nitrite (Section 7.2)	ISO 13395:1996	Flow analysis – Spectrometric Detection
5. <i>Escherichia coli</i> (Section 8.2.1)	ISO 4832:2006	Conventional Plate Count Method
6. <i>Bacillus cereus</i> (Section 8.2.2)	Biological Analytical Manual (BAM) (2012), Chapter 14	Conventional Plate Count Method
7. <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (Section 8.2.3)	BAM (2001), Chapter 12	Conventional Plate Count Method
8. Mold (Section 8.2.4)	BAM (2001), Chapter 18	Conventional Plate Count Method

11.2 Sampling Methods

Sampling method shall be in accordance with the relevant laws, regulations and provisions of the Agricultural Standard related to method of sampling.