



THAILAND HUMAN'S HARVESTING TECHNIQUES

Thailand's coconut production meets or exceeds international standards in safety, quality, flavor, environmental sustainability, and social welfare - including animal rights.

Unfortunately, some social media publications, read and viewed out of context, have confused modern industrial harvesting with traditional, now comparatively inefficient techniques.

The current, standard commercial harvesting method for Thai coconut industry is to use a 'Mai-soi', a long pole with a knife attached at the end which the harvester uses to cut the stalk of the bunch. A bunch has approximately 10-30 nuts which can be quite heavy. Picking 10-30 nuts with one cut is fast and cost-effective. The Thai coconut industry is constantly looking to improve the equipment and techniques to harvest coconuts even more efficiently and economically to supply a massive demand, in sequent after got the accomplishment on developing the shorter stem coconut trees breed. Moreover, Thai coconut industry are continuously improving full traceability system across the supply chain through the contract farms to ensure that every coconut is picked by the modern commercial harvesting method.

Thailand does have small agro-tourism farms where family farmers have trained monkeys to pick coconuts. This traditional way of life is like the traditional Western practice of sheep herding dogs - a mutually beneficial coexistence in which complementary skills are combined to achieve a goal. Much like sheep dogs, these monkeys are considered by farmers to be family members. Anyways, the number of raising monkeys is gradually decreasing consequent with the human life being change. However, all raising animals in Thailand are protected under Cruelty Prevention and Welfare of Animal Act, B.E. 2557 (2014) and must be registered to comply with the Department of Live Stock's requirements.

Accordingly, Thailand invites all persons interested in the Thai coconut industry to view the Mai Soi harvesting process in action on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/fZInCTVYESE>. This practice has been widely used among Thai coconut manufacturers.

For additional information about the Thai coconut industry, please feel free to contact the Thai Food Processors' Association.

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HOW TO USE MAI SOI HARVESTING COCONUT IN THAILAND

