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Cricket Production Survey in Thailand

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Abstract

This research was carried out during 2017–2019 by using questionnaires to get information from 150 farmers, and reviewing of publications. The objective of the study was the investigation of the current state of the cricket sector in Thailand. There are 3 cricket species: house cricket (*Acheta domestica* L.) (15%), two-spotted cricket (*Gryllus bimaculatus* De Geer) (80%), and ground cricket (*Teleogryllus mitratus* (Burmeister, 1838) (5%) used by farmers in Thailand. However, the main species in the export market is the house cricket, and the local market is two-spotted cricket while the ground cricket is the minor species but the highest price. The cricket farm are about 20,000 farms mainly in the northeast provinces (Kalasin, Khon Kaen, Maha Sarakham, Nakhon Phanom, Nakhon Ratchasima, Roi Et, and Ubon Ratchathani) follow by central provinces (Lopburi, Nakhon Sawan Suphan Buri), north provinces (Chiang Mai, Nan, Phitsanulok and Sukhothai), east provinces (Chanthaburi and Sa Kaeo) and south province (Surat Thani). The farm value of the cricket yield is about 37.36 million € in 2019. The price of cricket powder export is about 40–50 € per kilogram. The key factors of cricket production are feed, water, temperature (35–38°C), relative humidity (60%), density of cricket population (7,255 adults m⁻³), and sanitary farm and good health of the farmer. The largest challenges, according to cricket farmers surveyed, are cricket feed, the cricket variety, and product development. The Thai cricket sector will be established as a global standard cricket farm and safe cricket products.

Keywords: Cricket, cricket powder, house cricket, production, two-spotted cricket