

Tuangporn Khotchasene 2009: Impact of Tariff and Non-tariff Barrier on Exports of Agriculture Goods under the Thailand-Australia Free Trade Area. Master of Science (Agricultural Economics), Major Field: Agricultural Economics, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Prapinwadee Sirisupaluxana, Ph.D. 105 pages.

This study is aimed at examining general nature of Thai-Australian FTA including reviewing tariff and non- tariff barriers and analyzing factors influencing export volume of 4 types of product such as canned tuna, canned pineapple, pineapple not in airtight containers and pineapple juice by referring to series of data from time series for the period of 32 years.

From the study, it was found that after the concerned FTA has been introduced, export volume of canned tuna increased where the average volume of export for the period of 3 years after FTA was 31,695 tons while the average volume for 3 years before FTA implementation was only 26,093 tons. The export value has been increased at the rate of 26.76 % and the result of the study also showed that after FTA, export volume of canned pineapple also increased and reached at 7,801 tons while the average export volume before FTA was only at 3,817 tons. The export volume of Pineapple not in airtight containers slightly increased to 742 tons after FTA from 707 tons before enforcement of such agreement. For pineapple juice, it was found that FTA has produced adverse effect to export volume.

Regarding factors having an impact on export volume, it was found that all products under the study had independent variable coefficient in accordance with hypothesis of defined theory. It showed that factors influencing statistically significant changes in export volume includes relative price between Thai product price and the competitor's price, GNP per capita, exchange rate, tariff barriers and tariff equivalent except in the case of canned tuna where tariff equivalent is not a factor influencing on export volume from Thailand to Australia. The export volume of such agricultural products most responded to changes of GNP per capita of Australian consumer and exchange rate. Further more, it was also found that the implementation of tariff and non-tariff barriers of Australia has a negative impact on Thai export. According to study results, the government should control exchange rate that appreciated. The production cost should also be reduced in order to reduce the product prices and increase import. In addition, the government should organize a Trade Fair in Australia in order to access to new market for Thai products and to make it well-known for Australian.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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