

Country Report : Current Status of Seed Industry in Taiwan

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Current Status of Seed Industry in Taiwan

World Overview (1/3)

 Seed industry includes seed business and nursery. In general, the proportion of seed business is much greater than that of nursery.

. The gross output value of global seed market is about USD 50 billion, including international seed market (50%) and domestic market of each country (50%). Corn, pasture, sugar beet, large/small vegetable seeds are the major items of seed market.

(Source : http://seed.agron.ntu.edu.tw/vtseed/industry/ind2.htm)



World Overview (2/3)

- The operation types of seed business
- (1) Domestic seed collection to supply local seed business.
- (2) Domestic seed collection to supply foreign seed business.
- (3) Foreign seed collection to supply local seed business.
- (4) Foreign seed collection to supply foreign seed business.
- (5) Foreign seed collection to supply export market following domestic seed conditioning.
- (6) Imported seeds to supply local seed business.



World Overview (3/3)

 Seed business is almost publicly-operated in developing countries, and owned by private sectors in developed countries.





 In developed countries, government is doing quality control only, or even leaves the QC work to private sectors.



Seed Industry in Taiwan (1/3)

• For the domestic market, rice is an overwhelming majority in seed industry. The required fields for rice cultivation are about 5,000 hectares. The need of food grains other than rice and wheat has been decreased a lot in recent years. The released fields of 60-70 thousand hectares were mostly replaced by green manures. This implies that we are still not able to find alternative crops to respond the plight timely.

(Source : http://seed.agron.ntu.edu.tw/vtseed/industry/ind2.htm)



Seed Industry in Taiwan (2/3)

• Government is responsible for the supply and inspection of rice, food grains and green manure seeds. Also, the breeding of rice and food grains is mainly done by government research institute. On the contrary, vegetable, herb, turf seeds dominate private seed companies, and parts of them are actually proceeding vegetable breeding and exhibit some new varieties to the public periodically.



Seed Industry in Taiwan (3/3)

Due to completely full cultivation, there is barely further space for domestic vegetable seed market. The market was developed by local seed dealers and partly imported from Japan.

However, the proportion of self-production might be getting fewer and fewer, because the changes of local production environment. Now, much attention is focused on export market.





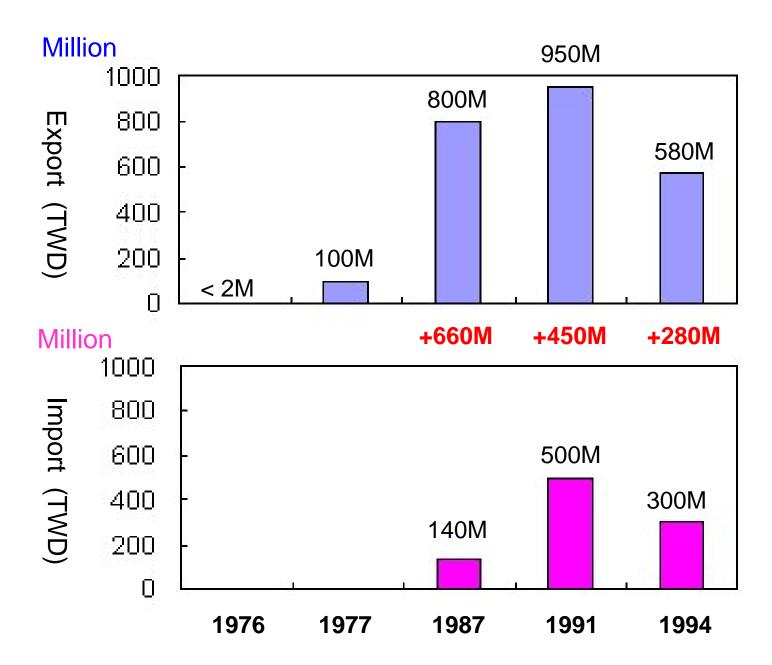


Figure 1. Changes of the annual seed markets in Taiwan.

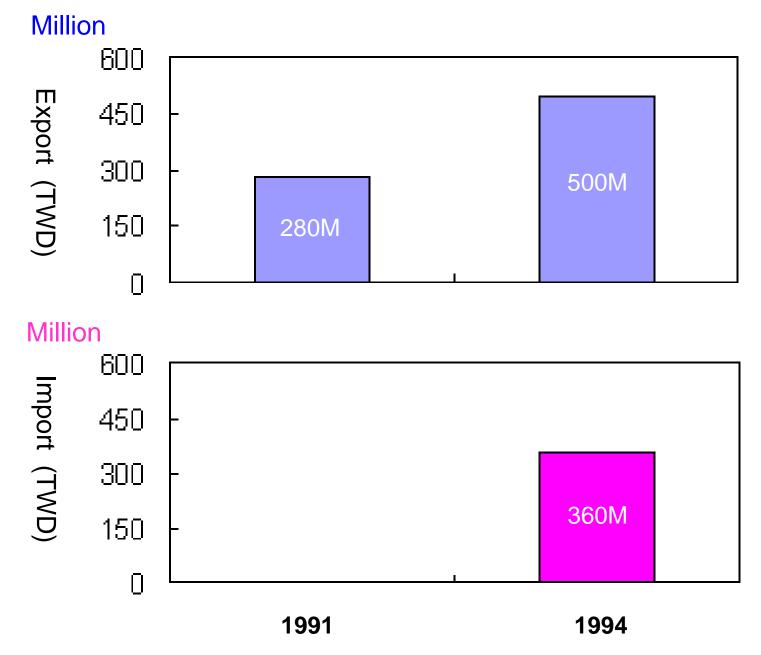


Figure 2. Changes of the annual ornamental market in Taiwan.

Conclusion

. From the viewpoint of output value in Taiwan, seed production of rice and food grains relies for its survival on government subsidies, green manure seeds depend on import market, vegetable seeds and fruit seedlings are almost full in domestic market. Therefore, it is necessary to lean on foreign market and seed production to develop a robust seed business. Limited fields only can be used for breeding research and propagation of stock seeds (or parents).



Introduction of Known-You Seed, Co., Ltd.

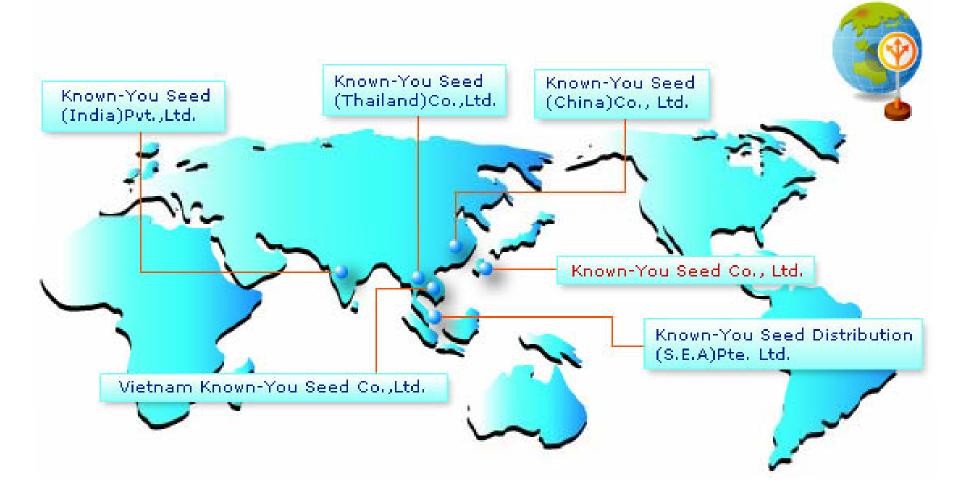


(Official website at www.knownyou.com)





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