

Vegetation consists of mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forests and some pine forest above 1,000 meters in elevation. In the lowlands, transplanted rice is the main crop. Some parts of the paddy soils are used for tobacco, vegetables and soybeans as an irrigated second crop in the dry season. Other soils are used for the cultivation of upland crops, including tobacco, corn, peanuts, soybeans, sugar cane, vegetables and fruit trees like longan and mandarin oranges.

Northeast

The Northeast is Thailand's driest region consisting of approximately one third of the country's land, of which approximately 13% is still forested. Solar radiation is strong and temperature variation wide. April is the hottest time of year, January the coolest, with the highest rainfall in August. The monsoon rainfall is not retained well by the region's sandy soil.

The most important crop in the lowlands is glutinous and non-glutinous rice. Low fertility of soils, frequent droughts and flash floods make other areas only moderately suited for rice cultivation.

Upland crops are grown on the alluvial flood plains on more fertile soil, but in some areas soils have a high salt content. Cassava and kenaf are the main crops of the Northeast. Corn, sugar cane, sorghum, castor bean and peanuts are also grown. Continuing crops are mulberry for silk production, mango and kapok. The Northeast region is also the most important livestock production area.

Central

The Central region is an alluvial plain which extends from the western mountains to the southeastern coast. This region covers one-fifth of the country and it contains the fertile basin of the Chao Phraya river. It is Thailand's most productive farming land due to alternating tropical wet and dry seasons, plentiful water supply and efficient natural soil replacement. April is the hottest month, January the coolest and September the wettest.

The main crop in the southern Central Plain is wet land rice, as most of the soils are poorly drained, very fine textured and are flooded during the rainy season. Due to the Chao Phraya Irrigation Project, it can grow a second crop of rice in the dry season.

Increasing areas are used for vegetables and fruit, some grown on land once used for rice. Vegetables and fruit trees are grown on raised beds, separated by deep ditches. The most widely grown fruits are citrus, papaya and mangoes. The important vegetable crops are beans, eggplant, peas, tomato, sweet corn, baby corn, lettuce, cabbage, chinese kale and cucumber. In the tidal flat areas, land is used for saltwater-shrimp, salt farming and sugar production.