

# THE NATION THAILAND

## Call for turning factory waste into fertilisers

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Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR), under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation has instructed related agencies and farmers in Kanchanaburi to produce organic fertilisers with filter cake waste from sugar factories in the province, citing Yuamanpong fertiliser factory as an example, said Sayan Tanpanich, deputy governor of TISTR's Research and Development Group for Bio-Industries.



"The use of filter cakes, which factories discharge at around 300,000 tonnes per year, helps them save disposal expense, and at the same time, provides quality fertilisers to farmers" he said.

"TISTR helped Yuamanpong fertiliser factory improve its economic potential by developing the new formula for commercial distribution. The factory now posts a monthly revenue of Bt1 million with 1,000 tonnes in production capacity".

The factory was part of TISTR initiative in applying the concept of Circular Economy in line with the government's BCG model policy, which promotes the integration of Bio Economy, Circular Economy, and Green Economy to improve provincial economies and reduce farmers' production costs.

"This model can be applied to other sugar factories in many provinces, such as Suphan Buri, Kamphaeng Phet, Udon Thani, and Nakhon Sawan" said the deputy governor.

"Also, it can be applied to canned pineapple factories where value can be added to pineapple leaves and peels through science, technology, and innovation".

Products of Yuamanpong fertiliser factory are well received by customers due to its high quality. The fertilisers help increase agricultural production and improves soil quality. Besides, it can be applied to all kinds of crop.