Models of geographical indication protection in Vietnam:
facts, difficulties and prospects

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Abstract
Protecting local speciality agricultural products with a geographical indication approach has become important in the context of Vietnam international integration. Protection of geographical indications for agricultural products is expected to contribute to farmers’ economic improvement and to conserve local biodiversity. A legal framework has been set up and several governmental programmes on geographical indication protection for agricultural food products have been implemented, resulting in the registration of 14 agricultural food products. The building, management and effective protection of geographical indication products face a number of difficulties, such as incomplete administrative system and lack of coherence between rules, controls and sanctions. However, the model of geographical indication building and management for Thieu litchi from Thanh Ha presented in this paper may be a useful reference for stakeholders, research, and producers who want to strengthen local speciality agricultural products according to a geographical indication approach.

Key words: Geographical indication, local speciality food product, quality management, agricultural product distribution, producers’ association.

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