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Thai farmers race their buffalo in show of gratitude



START OF SOWING SEASON. A Thai farmer controls a pair of buffalo while competing in a flooded field during the annual Wooden Plow Buffalo Race in Chonburi province, southeast of Bangkok, Thailand. The farmers were celebrating the start of the sowing season by racing their buffalo, whose usual duty is to plow the field. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)

CHONBURI, Thailand (AP) — Farmers in eastern Thailand celebrated the start of the sowing season by racing their buffalo, whose usual duty is to plow the fields.

The annual Wooden Plow Buffalo Race in Chonburi, about 37 miles southeast of

Bangkok, is held to express gratitude to the buffalo for working for the farmers all year long.

“It’s a long-inherited tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation,” said Supanee Saengue, one of

the race organizers.

Around 60 buffalo were registered for the race, with the farmers coaxing and goading the animals to the finish line.

Another competitor, Apichart Kongtrujareon, said his two buffalo had

to be trained from the ground up, starting by slowly walking them abreast 10 times a day until their rhythm matched.

“They’re just like humans — if they don’t exercise, their muscles get sore,” Apichart said.



Have a
safe and
prosperous
Year of
the Pig!!

February 5, 2019 to January 24, 2020

SPiLt ink Gallery

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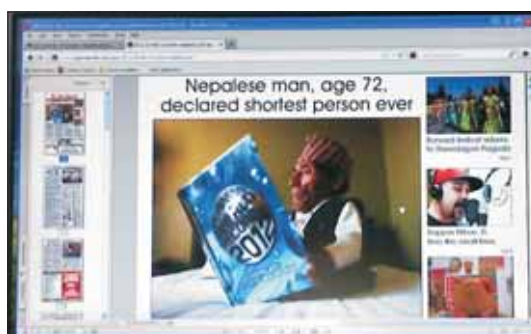


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A cartoon illustration of a pig-like character with a bowl and chopsticks, part of the ATE-OH-ATE restaurant logo.

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