



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATION

No. 2 16-22 November 2016

Myanmar

Short-life paddy price drop in Thaton, farmers stuck with high yield

Even though short-life paddy with a 90-day-yield can provide high production, the price had dropped due to low demand from international market. A farmer in Thaton township, Mon state said the farmers in town expected good price from this year but now they were struggling with the falling price of short-life paddy rice.

In Thaton region, the rice cultivations every year yield over 6.1 million baskets (292,425.7 Kilogrammes) from 123,000 acres of paddy field (49,776.3 hectares).

*1 Acre = 0.4 Hectare

**1 Basket of paddy rice = 20.86 Kilogrammes

Source: The Global New Light of Myanmar, (2016, Nov 21). *Short-life paddy price drop in Thaton, farmers stuck with high yield.*

Philippines

Philippines said 2016 paddy rice output to be lowest in 3 years

The Philippines paddy rice production currently is forecasted to have 17.91 million tonnes in 2016, the lowest in three years, effected from an El Nino dry spell and typhoons. The Philippines could buy another 250,000 tonnes of rice in addition to the 250,000 tonnes purchased recently from Viet Nam and Thailand, if it has a need to increase state buffer stocks.

Unmilled rice output in the fourth quarter is expected to grow 0.33 percent from last year to 7.3 million tones following a 16.35 percent annual increase in the July-September quarter, the statistic authority said.

Source: RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices, (2016, Nov 16). *Philippines says 2016 paddy rice output to be lowest in 3 years.*

Thailand

Thai rice grades to be redefined

The Commerce Ministry has reclassified Hom Mali rice standards for all export markets after the existing standards have been in place for almost 20 years since 1997. The grain will be divided into three grades to enhance the country's export competition.

Under the new standards, the best grade is "Thai Hom Mali" rice; the grain which target on upper market must have at least 92 percent of Thai Hom Mali.

The second grade, called "Thai jasmine rice", "Thai fragrant rice, or "Thai aromatic rice", is the brand for competing with neighboring countries such as Viet Nam and Cambodia. It must have at least 80 percent of Thai fragrant rice and not more than 20 percent of amylose content.

The third grade aims to promote exports. Customers who want specific types of rice

other than the two aforementioned types can place custom orders as needed.

Source: Bangkok Post, (2016, Nov 17). *Thai rice grades to be redefined.*

Thailand to export at least 9 million tonnes of rice in 2017

This figure was not an official target, the Foreign Trade Department at the Commerce Ministry added.

In the first 9 months of 2016, Thailand exported 6.85 million tonnes of rice; the Commerce Ministry said Thailand will meet its full-target of 9.5 million tonnes this year.

Thai government rolled out some rice schemes to help farmers who were facing with the falling of rice prices.

The country's benchmark 5-percent broken rice prices were quoted at USD 342- 345 a tonne on Wednesday, the lowest in 14 months.

Source: Bangkok Post, (2016, Nov 17). *Thailand to export at least 9 million tonnes of rice in 2017.*

Viet Nam

Viet Nam struggles to find buyers for over 1 million tonnes of rice.

Viet Nam has 1.2 million tonnes of stockpile of rice, according to the Viet Nam Food Association (VFA).

For the first time in 8 years, rice exports are predicted to decline below 6 million tonnes. Data from Viet Nam Customs showed that China, Viet Nam's biggest buyer, imported 153,000 tonnes of rice worth USD 66.2 million in October, dropped 10 percent in volume and 12 percent in value compared with September.

Viet Nam's rice exports in the first 10 months hit 4.2 million tonnes, increasing by 21.2 percent on-year; however, the export value declined by 16.9 percent around USD 1.9 billion.

Source: RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices, (2016, Nov 16). *Viet Nam struggles to find buyers for over 1 million tonnes of rice.*

China

Hybrid rice sets new world record in production

A hybrid rice project headed by Yuan Longping has achieved an annual yield of 1,537.78 kilograms of rice per mu (about 0.07 hectares) of farmland in Xingning City, south China.

The double-cropping rice production is equal to over three seasons in the past.

The hybrid rice breeding programme had been officially operated in 1996 by China's Ministry of Agriculture.

Source: Xinhua, (2016, Nov 20). *Hybrid rice sets new world record in production*, The state council of The People Republic of China.

Gathered by secretary to the Japanese Expert of the
APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: nisacholsn@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Related Information is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.