



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Indonesia

Rice supply warehouses in central Java and West Java are currently in full-stock. According to Agriculture Minister, Indonesia's rice production has surplus in 2016 after 9 years past. Prices of rice are below Rp 3,700 (USD 0.28) per kilogramme.

The Agriculture Ministry will arrange a National Week for farmers and fishermen in Aceh during 6 - 11 May, 2017 to develop partnerships and open an agricultural product trade among ASEAN farmers.

*USD 1 = Rp 13,329

Source: Tempo. (2017, Feb 2). *Indonesia's rice production experiences surplus after 9 years.*

Thailand

Thai rice exports are expected to drop by 3.8 percent in volume this year. Export prices likely to stay low because of higher global supply and competition. The decline will mainly affect white rice exports, which are expected to fall by 310,000 tonnes from 4.91 million tonnes in 2016. The Thai Rice Exporters Association projected Thai rice production in the 2016/2017 season will total 32 million tonnes of paddy. Thai rice export prices are expected to average USD 430 per tonnes this year, lower from USD 445 in 2016.

Source: Arunmas, P. (2017, Feb 4). *Rice exports could slip.* Bangkok Post.

More than 84,000 rai (13,440 hectares) of second rice crops in Ayuthaya and Saraburi are at risk during the dry season. The Royal Irrigation Department (RID) announced there might be not enough water for agricultural purpose during the dry season, starting from February to May. About 50 percent of paddy field would die if water was not supplied to the canal in 1-2 weeks. The RID would propose the committee to increase water supply to the canal every two weeks to solve this issue.

*1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Pongpao, S. (2017, Feb 1). *Farmers may lose 84,000 rai of off-season crops.* Bangkok Post.

Viet Nam

The report showed that Viet Nam could only export 4.9 million tonnes in 2016, worth USD 2.2 billion, dropped 26 percent in volume and 21 percent in value compared with 2015. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) approved a VND 7 trillion (USD 309.6 million) plan on restructuring the rice

sector which says that 50 percent of rice exports by 2030 will bear a Vietnamese brand, 30 percent of which will be specialty and fragrant rice.

Of the total amount of VND 7 trillion (USD 309.6 million), VND 5 billion (USD 221.1 million) will be spent on upgrading rice fields, transport conditions, irrigation systems, and the electricity systems in rice growing areas in Mekong Delta, Red River Delta, and coastal areas in the south central region.

*USD 1 = VND 22,655.19

Source: VietNam.Net. (2017, Feb 3). *Rescuing Vietnam's rice sector by improving quality, branding.*

China

China scientists develop diseases and insects resistant rice with genome-wide chip technology. This new rice variety is expected to be the first disease and insect resistance, and high yield rice in the country. The scientists of China National Seed Group have been identifying the genes in the past five years, and finally developed the new breed. The new rice variety will be cultivated in Heilongjiang province in April.

Source: Xinhua. (2017, Feb 4). *China scientists develop diseases and insects resistant rice with genome-wide chip.*

South Korea

With the rice reduction scheme, farmers plan to cultivate 762,000 hectares in 2017, a decrease of 2.1 percent from 2016.

The Korean government announced that they would reduce the burden of ending stocks by expanding rice availability for use in animal feed to 522,000 metric tonnes of brown rice in 2017. Consequently, rice consumption for market year (MY) 2016/2017 is forecast at

4.74 million metric tonnes, a sharp increase of 532,000 MT from the previous year.

In MY 2016/2017, rice imports are expected to remain at 410,000 metric tonnes. MY 2016/2017 stocks (at the end of October 2017) are forecast to decline to 1.7 million tons, or 36 percent of total domestic consumption.

Source: Choi, S., Hinkle A. F. (2017, Jan 31). *Grain and Feed Update.* USDA Foreign Agricultural Service.

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* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Rice Situation 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.