



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 76
20-26 June 2018

Myanmar

Myanmar earned over 180 million USD from rice exports over the past two months.

From the first of April to 8 June 2018, Myanmar exported over 527,800 tonnes of rice to around 50 countries with the value of 182 million USD. Of the total amount, 278,000 tonnes worth about 100 million USD were exported via border trade, while 249,800 tonnes worth about 82 million USD were export via maritime trade. According to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), rice export target is expected to hit 4 million tonnes in 2020-21 fiscal year with the value of 1.5 billion USD. In the last 2017-18 fiscal year, Myanmar exported nearly 3.6 million tonnes, earning around 1.1 billion USD.

Source: Eleven Myanmar. (2018, Jun 26). *Over \$180m earned from two months of rice export.*

Philippines

The National Food Authority (NFA) held the auction to bid for the rice importation under Minimum Access Volume (MAV). On 25 June 2018, NFA conducted the “Auction to bid for the Service Fee for the CY 2017-2018 MAV Rice Importation Program” in compliance with Philippines’ commitment to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to import

805,200 tonnes of rice, as the country gave up the quantitative import restrictions (QR). According to NFA Administrator, at least 348 private corporations, cooperatives, and Farmers Organisations (FO) participated in the bidding. Only those who applied, pre-qualified, and were awarded Eligibility to Bid (ETB) by the NFA may submit their bids. Under the importation guidelines, rice traders are allowed to source from countries with a specific quota – MAV Country Specific Quota (MAV-CSQ), including Thailand and Viet Nam with 293,100 tonnes each; China, India, and Pakistan with 50,000 tonnes each; Australia with 15,000 tonnes; El Salvador with 4,000 tonnes; and other rice-producing countries with 50,000 tonnes. To prevent the monopoly from big companies, the proportion of total imported volume was divided into 644,160 tonnes for non-FO, and 161,040 tonnes for FO, when each company of non-FO and FO has a volume limit of 50,000 tonnes and 5,000 tonnes, respectively.

Source: National Food Authority. (2018, Jun 26). *NFA CONDUCTS 'AUCTION TO BID FOR RICE IMPORTATION' UNDER MAV FOR 2018; and TREA.*

Rice shipments of 107,600 tonnes from Viet Nam and Thailand already arrived in various ports across the Philippines.

From this volume, as part of 250,000-tonne rice importation under government-to-government (G2G) tender, after arriving on 19 June 2018, 97,040 tonnes are still in the ports waiting to be unloaded after proper documentation is completed. The 10,560 tonnes were already delivered to designated warehouses. Other four vessels are in transit carrying 33,100 tonnes, while 60,700 tonnes are still being loaded at the ports in Viet Nam and Thailand. According to the National Food Authority (NFA), arrivals of all the total volume are expected to be completed this week. Of the total volume, 75,000 tonnes will be discharged in the port of Manila; 25,000 tonnes each in Subic and Cebu; 20,000 tonnes in Tabaco; 19,000 tonnes in Batangas; 22,000 tonnes in Cagayan de Oro;

15,000 tonnes in Davao; 14,000 tonnes in Poro Point in La Union; 12,000 tonnes in Tacloban; 10,000 tonnes in General Santos; 5,000 tonnes in Surigao; and 4,000 tonnes each in Iloilo and Bacolod.

Source: National Food Authority. (2018, Jun 21). *NFA starts selling rice in Mindanao as imports arrive.*

Thailand

Price for 5 percent white rice is tended to decrease temporarily.

In accordance with the International Trade Department and Thai Rice Exporters Association (TREA), in late April 2018, the domestic prices of 5 percent white rice (newly harvested) had risen to 12,900-13,000 baht (389-392 USD) per tonne, while the export prices were quoted at 459 USD per tonne. However, both prices remained steady until early June 2018. The domestic rice prices for the mentioned rice grade dropped to 12,100-12,200 baht (365-368 USD) per tonne, while export prices were quoted at 437 USD per tonne. The falling in rice prices is likely caused by lower demand from rice importers as they increased their purchase volume earlier. Nevertheless, there is no worry as the decline is just temporary. Demand for Thai rice remains in good prospect, when more purchase orders in the second half of the year are anticipated from China, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Africa, said Deputy Minister of Commerce.

* 1 USD = 33.08 baht

Source: Bangkok Post. (2018, Jun 22). *Duo: Rice price dip temporary.*

Viet Nam

Rice fields in Mekong Delta was threatened by diseases due to early planting.

In accordance with earning large profits from the 2017-18 winter-spring rice crop, many farmers immediately planted the summer-autumn rice crop after finishing the previous crop with hope to earn high profits,

even local agricultural officials did warn that they had to have a gap at least three weeks between the two rice crops to eliminate diseases. According to the Plant Cultivation Department, this year, schedule for planting the summer-autumn rice crop in Mekong Delta was between April to mid-June. However, farmers started planting in mid-March. Regarding to this, 15,500 hectares of more than 252,140 hectares in Kien Giang province were affected by diseases, which occurred by brown-plant hoppers and other pests moving from unharvest fields of previous rice crop to the newly sowed fields.

Source: Viet Nam News. (2018, Jun 21). *Delta summer-autumn rice planted too early, threatened by diseases.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: voraporn.mue@apterr.org
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Rice Situations 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.