



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

About 3,000 tonnes of rice seeds will be distributed to the farmers affected by the recent floods across the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) has prepared about 3,000 tonnes of rice seeds to aid farmers whose crops were destroyed by floods. So far, about 500 tonnes of rice seeds have already been transported and distributed to the provinces of Stung Treng, Kampot, Preah Sihanouk, Koh Kong and Banteay Meanchey. The ministry plans to continue transporting rice seeds in other provinces, including Battambang, Kandal, Kampong Cham and Prey Veng. The floods had hit 23 provinces across Cambodia, leading to 61 deaths and damages to 105,013 hectares of rice fields, which 51,495 hectares were completely destroyed, according to National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM).

Source: Khmer Times. (2018, Oct 4). *Rice seeds to be distributed to flood victims this weekend.*

Philippines

Thirteen foreign firms showed interest to supply 250,000 tonnes of rice.

As the National Food Authority (NFA) invited bidders to supply the country with an initial 250,000 tonnes of 25 percent broken rice via government-to-private (G2P) scheme, 13 foreign firms, including five traders from

Thailand, four from Viet Nam, two from Singapore, and one each from Myanmar and Dubai, expressed interest in supplying rice. The initial volume is part of the 750,000 tonnes of rice importation for the rest of 2018 in order to boost buffer stocks and lower domestic prices. Based on the instruction of the NFA Council, the 750,000 tonnes of imported rice will be divided in three batches of 250,000 tonnes each. The bidding for the first batch will be on 18 October 2018, and followed by the subsequent tenders every two weeks after. The initial shipment is expected to arrive the country no longer than November 2018, while the remaining batches may arrive by early 2019.

Source: The Manila Times. (2018, Oct 6). *13 foreign firms eye rice import contract*; Iquirer.Net. (2018, Oct 4). *Bidding for importation of 750,000MT of rice set*; and Business World. (2018, Oct 3). *NFA Council approves three rice importations at 2-week intervals.*

Thailand

Thai rice exports in the first nine months of 2018 hit 8.4 million tonnes, increasing in both of volume and value.

According to data from Foreign Trade Department, from January to September 2018, Thailand had shipped 8.4 million tonnes of rice with the earning of 4.31 billion USD, up 2.9 percent in volume and 21.4 percent in value year-on-year. With higher purchase demand, Thai rice exports in 2018 are confident to achieve the set target of 11 million tonnes, when the nine-month export volume accounted for 84 percent of it. In the remaining three months, Thailand should export an average of 860,000 tonnes per month to achieve the set target, said the department.

Source: Commerce News Agency. (2018, Oct 3). *9 months of rice exports exceed 8.4 million tons, increased 21.40%, expected to reach 11 million tons.*

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