



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 167
6 - 12 May 2020

Philippines

The Philippines is set to import 300,000 tonnes of rice from Viet Nam.

The government will put through with its plan to import 300,000 tonnes of rice from Viet Nam to boost state stockpiles amid the Covid-19 pandemic. This volume is an additional of 2.7 million tonnes of rice approved by the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) this year, bringing the volume of import rice to 3 million tonnes. The rice would be imported by government-to-government (G2G) deal and it would be undertaken by the Philippines International Trading Corp. under the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI).

Source: Inquirer. (2020, May 12). *PH to import 300,000 MT of rice from Vietnam*; and : Reuters. (2020, May 11). *Philippines to import 300,000 tonnes of rice.*

Thailand

Prices of Thai rice slightly decrease this week because rainfalls ease concern over supply shortage from drought.

This week, prices of Thailand's benchmark 5 percent broken rice were quoted at 515-546 USD per tonne, down from 535-557 USD per tonne last week. Prices have been high because the mills concerned over possible supply shortage from the worst drought this

year, but after a spell of rainfall, the mills are starting to sell rice stock again.

Source: Reuters. (2020, May 8). *RPT-Asia Rice-India prices gain, expensive Thai offers lose out.*

Viet Nam

The rates for Vietnamese rice this week is peak in over two years as domestic supplies are running low.

This week, Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice prices raised to a fresh two-year peak of 450 USD per tonne. The activity on the export market remained quiet and a few contracts have been signed recently because the domestic supplies are running low. Besides, many local firms are focusing on purchasing rice from farmers for the national stockpiling programme.

Source: Reuters. (2020, May 8). *RPT-Asia Rice-India prices gain, expensive Thai offers lose out.*

Prices of export rice increase as Viet Nam prepares to resume rice exports.

Since the Prime Minister allowed resumption of rice export on 1 May 2020 onward, prices of export rice in the Mekong Delta have risen by 200,000-400,000 VND (8.5-17 USD) per tonne from late April. The farmers in Mekong delta hope that the prices would continue to increase for the summer-autumn crop. Besides, the farmer has sown more than 750,000 hectares of summer-autumn rice and the output is expected to reach 8.7 million tonnes, of which 2.3-2.4 million tonnes for export.

Source: Bizhub. (2020, May 7). *Rice prices rising as Viet Nam prepares to resume exports.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: nattakarn.san@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.