



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Cambodian rice exporters will focus on exporting more rice to China.

According to the Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF), Cambodian rice exporters expect higher demand from China to compensate for the drop of rice shipment to the European Union (EU) as high transportation costs and a lack of containers have caused difficulties to ship rice. Therefore, the CRF is switching to China because of its growing market. The CRF suggested the exporters to focus on stable long-term shipments instead of increasing export volume at the moment because they may suffer losses.

Source: Khmer Times. (2021, Jul 21). *Rice exporters switch focus to serving demand from China.*

Indonesia

Rice supply seems sufficient with a stable price during the enforcement of level 4 Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM).

Ministry of Agriculture assured rice stock availability and price stability during the extension of level 4 PPKM in Java and Bali province. The current rice available nationwide is under control due to the ongoing second harvest period in major rice-producing provinces, including West Java, Central Java, East Java, West Sumatra, and Sulawesi. After its arrival, the rice stocks are expected to increase. Besides, the prices of rice remained stable and even decreased by one percent compared with June 2021, according to the PT Food Station Tjipinang Jaya, one of the Jakarta Regional-Owned Enterprises.

Source: Tempo.co. (2021, Jul 21). *Agriculture Ministry ensures rice stocks, stable pricing during PPKM.*

Philippines

Authorities give a green light on the commercial propagation of GMO rice. The Philippines will become the world's first country to cultivate the genetically modified rice variety called golden rice after the Bureau of Plant Industry has approved commercial propagation of the rice, aiming to reduce childhood malnutrition. Golden rice was developed through genetic modification by the Department of Agriculture-Philippines Rice Research Institute in partnership with the International Rice Research Institute to contain an additional level of beta-carotene, which the body converts to vitamin A. A cup of golden rice contains up to 40 percent of vitamin A, an essential nutrient for children aged six months to five years. Besides, this rice variety has already received food safety approvals from regulators in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States of America.

Source: The Cattle Site. (2021, Jul 26). *Philippines government gives nod to GMO golden rice.* The Straits Times. (2021, Jul 24). *Philippines gives nod to 'golden rice' production;* and Philippines News Agency. (2021, Jul 23). *Commercial propagation of 'golden rice' gets DA nod.*

Viet Nam

Prices of Vietnamese rice decrease significantly due to the dwindling demand.

Rates for Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice hit over 16-month lows, falling sharply to 395-400 USD per tonne from 465-470 USD per tonne last week. Demand for Vietnamese rice is weak, while prices of rice offered by other rice-producing countries are low. Also, domestic supplies are increasing as the summer-autumn harvest is in full swing, said the local trader.

Source: Reuters. (2021, Jul 23). *ASIA RICE-Rates sink to multi-month lows in top exporting hubs.*

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