



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Indonesia

Indonesia rejects Malaysia's rice import desires: maintain domestic stock first.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture in Indonesia, Malaysia aspires to import rice from Indonesia as Malaysia's rice prices are increasing. However, the minister rejects Malaysia's desire, as Indonesia must maintain the availability and security of their domestic stock first. Nevertheless, Indonesia and Malaysia are willing to exchange experience and technology in order to increase rice production.

Source: VOI. (2025, Apr 22). *Minister Amran Rejects Malaysia's Desire To Import Rice From Indonesia: Prioritize Domestic Stock.*

Water-sufficient paddy irrigation (IPHA) technique boost agricultural efficiency and productivity.

Indonesia's Minister of Public Works has instructed all regions to use water-saving rice irrigation (IPHA) technology for boosting agricultural crop quality and yield. This technology enhances agricultural efficiency through modern methods. It not only reduces water consumption but also improves crop quality and yield. In fact, IPHA utilises intermittent irrigation, which alternates between wet and dry rice field cycles has saved up to 30 percent of water and increased rice production by 169 percent compared to the traditional techniques. Besides, the ministry developed the management system to support IPHA implementation and also plans to continue collaborating with local governments farmers groups, and other stakeholders to ensure successful national adaptation of IPHA.

Source: ANTARA News. (2025, Apr 21). *Indonesia expends use*

of water -saving rice irrigation technology.

Thailand

Thailand rice exports drop to 2.1 million tonnes in the first quarter of 2025.

According to the Thai Rice Exporters Association (TREA), Thai rice exports fell 30 percent yearly in the first quarter of 2025, decreasing to 2.1 million tonnes. Besides, TREA stated that the decline was due to countries delaying the decision of buying and India resuming rice exports. In addition, the second quarter of 2025 would be similar to the first quarter of the same year period. Furthermore, the full-year exports could fall to below the forecast 7.5 million tonnes. At this time, the exporters are seeing more of the United States of America's orders after 90 days of pausing the imposition of new tariffs. However, the tariff of 36 percent imposed on Thailand is among the higher rates imposed by the U.S. President Donald Trump's administration. A delegation led by Finance Minister Pichai Chuhavajira will meet U.S. official in Washington this week to seek lower tariffs.

Source: Reuters. (2025, Apr 21). *Thai first-quarter rice exports fall 30% annually.*

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea will export the largest amount of rice to Japan.

Due to the rice price surge situation in Japan , the Republic of Korea will export 22 tonnes of rice to Japan, which is the largest amount since 1990. The price of Japanese rice has almost doubled in a year, marking Korean rice more competitive. The Republic of Korea exported about 10 tonnes of rice to Japan in 2011-2013 and 2016, according to the Korea Agro-Fisheries & Food Trade Corporation.

Source: Chosun Biz. (2025, Apr 21). *South Korea sends largest rice export to Japan in 35 years as prices spike.*

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