



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 452
21 – 27 January 2026

Philippines

Imported rice must arrive in the Philippines by the end of February. According to the Department of Agriculture, the 300,000-tonne of rice must arrive by February 28, 2026, or the shipment will be rejected and sent back to its source country at the importer's expense. The importation deadline aims to prevent imported rice affect the upcoming local harvest in March-April 2026. The policy comes after the Philippines launched its four-month rice import ban and re-entered the global rice market at the beginning of 2026.

Source: VietnamPlus. (2026, January 26). *Philippines sets deadline for importing 300,000 tonnes of rice.*

Thailand

Thai rice exports have surpassed the 7.5-million-tonne target. According to the Department of Foreign Trade (DFT), Thailand exported 7.9 million tonnes of rice in 2025, exceeding its 7.5-million-tonne target, driven mainly by strong year-end demand ahead of major holidays. The exported rice value is worth 148 billion THB (4.52 billion USD), with Iraq, South Africa, the United States, and China as major markets. White rice exports, accounting for 45.8 percent of total exports, declined by 39.9 percent to 3.62 million tonnes, while fragrant rice declined by 6.35 percent to 590,000 tonnes. These declines were caused by intense price competition from major exporters such as Vietnam, India and Pakistan. Meanwhile, other varieties recorded growth, with Thai hom mali rice reaching 1.76 million

tonnes, a 0.57 percent increase compared to 2024, while parboiled rice rose by 18 percent to 1.51 million tonnes, glutinous rice increased by 10 percent to 330,000 tonnes, and unpolished rice saw a 200 percent surge to 90,000 tonnes. In addition, 2026 will remain a challenging year due to rising global supply, weaker demand from the key partner, economic slowdown, currency volatility, and geopolitical risks. However, DFT has set a 7-million-tonne export target for 2026, supported by trade delegations, government-to-government deals, expansion to the premium niche market, and digital marketing efforts.

Source: Bangkok Post. (2026, January 22). *Rice exports beat 2025 goal on strong year-end demand.*

Viet Nam

Viet Nam's rice export prices keep declining. Vietnam's rice export prices kept falling in early 2026, averaging 470 USD per tonne in January despite the Philippines reopening its import market. Viet Nam exported over 318,000 tonnes worth 150 million USD in the first half of January. In 2025, Viet Nam exports totaled about 8.06 million tonnes valued at 4.1 billion USD, down 10.8 percent in volume and 27.6 percent in value from 2024, with the average price being 39 USD lower than 2025 and over 157 USD lower than 2024. Philippine imports remain tariff-controlled to balance farmer protection with food supply stability.

Source: The Saigon Times. (2026, January 22). *Vietnam's rice export prices continue to fall.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: phattaranan.jir@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 and may be missing some important facts. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.*