



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Cambodian milled rice exports hit 536,305 tonnes in the first ten months of 2020.

From January to October this year, Cambodia exported 536,305 tonnes of milled rice worth about 367 million USD, up more than 17.11 percent in volume from 457,940 tonnes last year. China remained the top buyers of Cambodian rice during this period with 194,451 tonnes of rice imported, accounting for 36.26 percent of the total market share. However, the shipments in October alone were 47,530 tonnes, down 19.92 percent compared with the 59,354 tonnes in the same period last year. The falling of the country's rice export attributed to the flash flood but it is expected to recover after the floods receded.

Source: Phnom Penh Post. (2020, Nov 2). *Kingdom exports 536K tonnes of rice in Jan-Oct.*

Myanmar

Rice exports for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 hit 2.58 million tonnes.

Myanmar's rice exports for the FY 2019-2020 has reached over 2.58 million tonnes, an increase in volume year-on-year, worth 800 million USD. Earlier, the country has reduced the target for FY 2019-2020 to 2.4 million tonnes from a previous target of 2.5 million tonnes due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, the country's rice exports this year has exceeded the target. Many countries have increased their import of Myanmar rice to fill their stockpiles during the pandemic period.

Source: Global New Light of Myanmar. (2020, Nov 1). *Myanmar earns nearly US\$800 mln from export of over 2.58 mln tonnes of rice in 2019-2020 FY.*

Philippines

The Philippines receives rice aids from Japan to help the Taal volcano eruption victims in Batangas province.

On 26 October 2020, the Japanese government officially turned over 425 tonnes of rice to the National Food Authority to assist the victims of the Taal Volcano eruption in Batangas province last January 2020. The contribution was made by Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries through the programme of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve or APTERR. At a simple ceremony in Batangas province, the Economic Minister of the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines hands over the rice sack to the country. Moreover, in 2019, Japan contributed 560 tonnes of rice to the disaster-affected household in Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan.

Source: Philippines News Agency. (2020, Oct 30). *Japan turns over 425 MT of rice to Taal eruption victims.*

Thailand

Thai rice exporters would benefit from the zero tax on rice import in Brazil.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Thai rice exporters would benefit from a decision made by the Brazilian government to reduce import tariffs on paddy and rice to zero. The Council of the Foreign Trade Chamber had announced since late-September 2020 that zero tax would be collected from rice and paddy imported during 11 September - 31 December 2020. The measure aims to ensure food security in Brazil amid the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. Previously, Thailand paid 12 percent tariff on the exports of rice and paddy to Brazil. From September to October this year, Thailand

exported 28,136 tonnes of rice to Brazil, up 433 tonnes year-on-year.

Source: Nation. (2020, Nov 2). *Brazil's zero tariff on rice imports to benefit Thai exporters.*

China

Third-generation hybrid rice achieves high yields under unfavourable conditions.

The third-generation hybrid rice developed by Yuan Longping and his team achieved record-breaking yields of 1.5 tonnes per mu (0.067 hectares) or about 22.5 tonnes per hectare in two growing seasons. An experiment field is in the Hunan province of Central China. The late-season hybrid rice yield reached 0.91 tonnes per mu while the early-season rice yields were 0.62 tonnes per mu. The new generation of hybrid rice could survive in unfavourable conditions, such as low temperature and shorter duration of sunlight. In addition, the research team is still working on combinations of the third-generation hybrid rice and conducting studies on simplifying cultivation, as aiming to produce high yields with lower fertilisation usage.

*1 hectare = 15 mu

1 mu = 0.067 hectares

Source: China.org.cn. (2020, Nov 3). *Third-generation hybrid rice achieves high yield*; pandaily. (2020, Nov 3). *China's Newly-developed Hybrid Rice Produces Record Harvest*; and China Global Television Network. (2020, Nov 2). *22.5 tonnes per hectare! China's hybrid rice yield breaks record.*

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