



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

The Quality Declared Seed (QDS) will be promoted to rice producers in 2020.

Rice Seed Production and Promotion Project (RSPP) was implemented in October 2017 under the cooperation between the General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. The RSPP aims to produce high-quality rice seeds and promote them to farmers for producing higher yields. In 2020, the project focuses on establishing the QDS system, one of its significant pillars. The QDS system consists of documentation screening, field inspections and quality checks. With this system, only 10 percent of harvested seed and producing area will be inspected. Therefore, it could maximise the use of limited human and financial resources.

Source: The Phnom Penh Post. (2020, Nov 24). *Quality Declared Seed system producing high-quality rice.*

Myanmar

Rice exports via border trade rise due to the high demand from China.

Since early October 2020, Myanmar's rice exports via the Muse border in Shan State have surged due to the increasing demand from China. Both regular and broken rice exports to China via the Muse border accounted for 85 percent of border exports in November 2020 compared with only 30

percent in the same period last year. The rapidly growing demand from China came after typhoon flooded the country and destroyed many rice fields. Besides, the demand for broken rice is higher than regular rice because it has more profitable from no tax.

Source: Myanmar Times. (2020, Nov 23). *Typhoon floods in China prompts surge in rice exports via Muse border.*

Viet Nam

Prices of Vietnamese rice is unchanged from last week, despite the uptick demand from the Philippines.

Rates for Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice remained unchanged from a week earlier at 495-500 USD per tonne. Demand from the Philippines is upward but rice shipments from Cambodia to Viet Nam help offset the thin domestic supplies. Besides, prices of Vietnamese rice exports seem to be stable around these current levels until the end of 2020.

Source: Reuters. (2020, Nov 19). *Thai rice exports rates hit two-month high on supply risks.*

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea (ROK) sets to release rice reserves to the market.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the ROK will release up to 370,000 tonnes of reserved rice to the market, as aiming to cope with the reducing of rice output after long rainy season and typhoons. The rice will be released in the different phases after the harvest season to minimise fluctuations in the market. Moreover, the country's rice production as of mid-November 2020 was at 3.51 million tonnes, a short of 120,000 tonnes from the annual goal of 3.63 million tonnes.

Source: Korea Herald. (2020, Nov 24). *S. Korea to release rice reserve amid output decline.*

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