



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Prices of Cambodian rice are in an upward trend from January to March 2021.

Prices of Cambodian milled-rice export to the international market has slightly increased in the first quarter of 2021. According to the price list compiled by the Cambodia Rice Federation, the rate for the premium Malay Angkor fragrant rice was quoted at 825 USD per tonne, up 9 USD per or 1.10 percent from 816 USD per tonne in December 2020. Meanwhile, prices of the premium soft white rice and premium-quality organic parboiled-rice were at 585 USD per tonne, up 17 USD per tonne or 2.99 percent and 10 USD per tonne or 1.74 percent, respectively.

Source: Phnom Penh Post. (2021, Mar 25). *Cambodian rice price up on international market.*

Malaysia

The Kemubu Agricultural Development Authority (KADA) will introduce the new rice varieties in June 2021.

The KADA plans to introduce two new rice varieties named U-Putra and NMR 152 in June 2021. In the initial stage, the new varieties will be planted into between four to ten hectares. These rice varieties have higher yields twice times than normal rice seeds as U-Putra could produce up to 10.2 tonnes per hectare while the NMR 152 could produce 11 tonnes per hectare. Also, the new varieties could produce a better yield, disease-resistant as well as short growing period, only around 100 days.

Source: Bernama. (2021, Mar 24). *KADA to introduce two new rice varieties in June.*

Viet Nam

Rates for Vietnamese rice increase this week as the uptick in global demand.

Prices of Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice rose to 515-520 USD per tonne, the highest since December 2011, from 510-515 USD per tonne a week earlier. Prices are expected to stay high as the global demand for rice is still strong due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Besides, Vietnam Southern Food Corp had won a contract to export 50,000 tonnes of Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice to Bangladesh.

Source: Vietnam News Agency. (2021, Mar 26). *High demands push Vietnamese rice's prices up: Business Recorder.*

Mekong Delta could harvest excellent winter-spring rice crop.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Mekong Delta has harvested the 2020-2021 winter-spring rice crop in more than one million of the 1.59 million hectares without the impact of saltwater intrusion. The crop is high-yield and could fetch high prices. An average yield per hectare was seven tonnes, which is 214 kilogrammes higher than the previous winter-

spring crop and the highest in the last five years.

Source: Viet Nam News. (2021, Mar 27). *Mekong Delta has excellent winter-spring rice crop.*

Republic of Korea

Rice production costs skyrocketed to 6.5 percent year-on-year due to the low output.

Rice production costs of the Republic of Korea in 2020 rose to 6.5 percent compared with the previous year. The rise in costs attributed to a record-long rainy season and typhoons, reducing rice output to a 52-year low.

Source: Korea Herald. (2021, Mar 30). *Rice production costs up 6.5% last year.*

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