



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Malaysia

The Large-Scale Smart Padi Field (Smart SBB) Programme is expected to increase the country's rice self-sufficiency.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI) has identified 17,000 hectares of paddy cultivation areas under the Smart SBB Programme. The programme is part of the National Food Security Action Plan 2021-2025, aiming to encourage cooperation between farmers and private sector to increase farmers' income as well as the country's rice self-sufficiency. Four states in the peninsula, including Pahang, Selangor, Perak and Kedah, were involved in the programme. Besides, a modern agricultural approach needs to be taken with efficient management to increase rice yields.

Source: Malay mail. (2021, Oct 16). *Ministry of Agriculture to activate padi cultivation under 'Smart Padi' programme.*

Viet Nam

Rice prices remained unchanged, despite the uptick in domestic demand.

Rates for Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice were unchanged from last week at 430-435 USD per tonne. Domestic demand for rice from autumn-winter harvest season increased slightly but there was no impact on export prices, said a trader based in Ho Chi Minh City. The autumn-winter harvest season has started in the Mekong Delta, but supplies will not increase significantly until late October or early November 2021.

Source: Business Recorder. (2021, Oct 14). *Asia Rice: Export rates steady across hubs, ship scarcity worries Thai traders.*

Viet Nam is on track to achieve 6.3 million tonnes of rice export target in 2021.

Viet Nam expects to achieve its rice export target of 6.3 million tonnes worth 3.2 billion USD in 2021 due to high global demand and an increase in rice export prices. According to the General Department of Vietnam Customs, the country exported 593,600 tonnes of rice in September with a value of over 293.1 million USD, up 19 percent in volume and 20.5 percent in value year-on-year. In the first nine months of this year, rice exports volume dropped by 8.3 percent to 4.57 million tonnes and value declined by 1.2 percent to 2.41 billion USD compared with the same period last year. However, it is expected the rice exports in the last months of 2021 and the first half of 2022 will increase, as foreign importers resume rice trading once the COVID-19 pandemic is put under control.

Source: Vietnam Plus. (2021, Oct 14). *Vietnam likely to achieve rice export target this year.*

China

China's third-generation hybrid rice reached a new high-yield record in 2021.

The third-generation hybrid rice achieved a new high-yield record of 1,603.9 kilogrammes per mu (0.67 hectares) in the experimental fields in Hunan province, one of the country's major rice producers where farmers plant double-cropping rice. Of the record, the yield of early season rice was 667.8 kilogrammes per mu and late season rice was 936.1 kilogrammes per mu. In 2020, the hybrid rice variety reached a yield of 1,530.76 kilogrammes per mu. The high yield under unfavourable conditions showed that the third-generation hybrid rice had strong adaptability and laid a good foundation for future promotion.

*1 hectare = 15 mu

1 mu = 0.067 hectares

Source: Xinhuanet. (2021, Oct 18). *Third-generation hybrid rice achieves high yield.*

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