



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Cambodia Rice Federation sets to promote fragrant rice in the European countries as tariff is removed.

After the removal of the European Union's (EU) rice import tariff, The Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) is planning the bold promotion of Cambodian fragrant rice in some EU countries to promote the quality of milled rice to the bloc's consumers. Also, the CRF sets to join the exhibitions in the EU countries to push direct sales to customers. Cambodian rice exports to the EU are expected to reach at least 200,000 tonnes or up to 250,000 tonnes in 2022 due to the high demand. The rice farmers would be encouraged to plant quality rice seeds to produce quality rice.

Source: Khmer Times. (2022, Jan 25). *CRF all set to market fragrant rice in European countries.*

Thailand

Drought causes difficulties for rice farmers in Nakhon Sawan province.

Rice farmers with paddies that run alongside irrigation canals in Nakhon Sawan province have had to buy water for 500 baht per rai (0.16 hectare) because drought has hit many provinces. Regarding the issue, Deputy Prime Minister has appointed the water resources management subcommittee of the central region to monitor the water shortage, especially during the dry season. The better

water resources management and a larger budget were required to deal with emergency drought. Besides, the subcommittee has been ordered to advise local agencies on management solutions and emergency plans.

*1 hectare = 6.25 rai

1 rai = 0.16 hectare

Source: Bangkok Post. (2022, Jan 19). *Drought leads to rising water costs for rice farmers.*

The strong currency pushes Thai rice prices amid the muted demand.

Rates for Thai 5 percent broken rice rose to 407-410 USD per tonne, the highest level since mid-July 2021, from 404-405 USD per tonne last week. The baht appreciated against the US dollar, driving rice prices up. The prices are expected to hover around these levels as overseas demand is muted, said Bangkok-based traders.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Jan 20). *ASIA RICE-India rates jump to 7-month peak on freight trains shortage.*

Viet Nam

Over 13,000 tonnes of rice will be allocated to needy people in nine provinces.

Deputy Prime Minister has signed decisions on the free-of-charge provision of over 13,000 tonnes of national rice reserves to nine provinces nationwide, aiming to support flood-hit and needy people during the Lunar New Year festival and the between-crop period in early 2022. The Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs are tasked to cooperate to implement the decision. Meanwhile, the People's Committees of beneficiary localities are requested to be responsible for the accuracy of relevant information and deliver the rice aid in a timely manner.

Source: Vietnam Plus. (2022, Jan 22). *Over 13,000 tonnes of rice provided to needy people in nine provinces.*

Vietnamese rice prices see stable this week due to the quiet market.

The prices of Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice remained unchanged at 395-405 USD per tonne. The market is quiet and it is expected to remain sluggish until after the Lunar New Year holiday. Furthermore, domestic supplies will be low until the beginning of the harvest season in February 2022, said a trader based in Ho Chi Minh City.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Jan 20). *ASIA RICE-India rates jump to 7-month peak on freight trains shortage.*

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