



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) and a Japanese company will join hands in the establishment of a calibration centre.

According to the CRF, the federation is in talks with Kett Electric Laboratory Co.,Ltd, a Japanese-based company, to set up a calibration centre in Cambodia, which could improve the quality and safety of rice and other crops as well as boost exports. On 19 April 2022, two parties met and discussed a feasibility survey to better define the target market for the project, especially for moisture metres. A number of Cambodian rice millers and exporters currently use the company's products. Also, the two parties would work together to potentially produce a term of reference or memorandum of understanding to define tasks and specify timeframes for completion.

Source: The Phnom Penh Post. (2022, Apr 20). *Japan firm's devices to boost crops.*

Thailand

Thai rice prices see a slight increase despite the muted trading activity.

Prices of Thai 5 percent broken rice rose slightly to 410-414 USD per tonne from 408-412 USD per tonne two weeks before. Traders revealed that the market saw small purchases while overall activity was muted. Referring to the data from the Ministry of Commerce, Thailand exported 1.1 million tonnes of rice from January to February 2022,

an increase of 29 percent compared with the same period last year.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Apr 21). *RPT-ASIA RICE-India, Vietnam export rates fall on rising supplies.*

Thailand's rice export seems to skyrocket as the Russia-Ukraine conflict raise concerns about the global food supply.

Thailand's rice export is surging as buyers hunt for alternative grain sources apart from Russia and Ukraine. According to the Thai Rice Exporters Association (TREA), buyers tried to secure rice due to concerns over the further increase in food commodity prices amid the Russia-Ukraine war. Traders said although rice is not a perfect substitute for wheat, it can help provide food security during times of geopolitical uncertainty. Also, orders from some countries in Europe and the Middle East, where many Asians live, are rising. For example, Iraq imported 130,000 tonnes of Thai rice in January and February 2022, which surged from 146 tonnes at the same time last year. Furthermore, the weak baht is a benefit for Thai rice exports as exporters can quote a lower price in dollar terms. With the positive factors, the TREA is now considering raising Thailand's rice export target of 2022 from 7 million tonnes to 8 million tonnes.

Source: Nikkei. (2022, Apr 21). *Thai rice exports surge as Ukraine war disrupts global food supply.*

Viet Nam

Viet Nam's rice export rates fall amid plentiful domestic supplies.

Rates for Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice decreased to 415 USD per tonne from 420-425 USD per tonne a week earlier. There were ample domestic supplies and farmers in the Mekong Delta had already harvested about 90 percent of the winter-spring crop. The Vietnam Food Association expects rice exports to be increased in the coming months as strong demand has been seen in China, Bangladesh, Iran, and Sri Lanka. Preliminary shipping data showed that 291,690 tonnes of rice are set to be loaded at Ho Chi Minh City

port in April 2022 with most of the orders heading to the Philippines and Cuba.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Apr 22). *RPT-ASIA RICE-India, Vietnam export rates fall on rising supplies.*

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