WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Indonesia

Indonesia Plans First Rice Shipment to Malaysia

Following a memorandum of understanding between state-run Bulog and Malaysia's Padi dan Beras Borneo, Indonesia plans to export 1,000 MT of premium rice to Malaysia as the country seeks to expand its presence in international markets. The initial shipment is part of a partnership with Malaysia's Padi dan Beras Borneo, with of 1,000 MT would serve as the first consignment under the partnership, with the initial 1,000 MT shipment annual exports expected to gradually increase to 200,000 MT. Bulog said the deal reflects Indonesia's stronger rice production and food security, with government rice reserves reaching around 5.2 million MT. The government also assured that rice exports would not affect domestic food supplies.

Source: ANTARA News. (2026, August 15). *Eastern Shan State trials Pawsan Hmwe, Basmati rice.*

Myanmar

Myanmar Trials Pawsan Hmwe and Basmati Rice in Shan State

According to Shan State government. Myanmar is conducting trial cultivation of Pawsan Hmwe and Basmati rice in Monghsat and Mongpan townships in eastern Shan State. In Monghsat, 60 acres (24.28 hectares) of Pawsan Hmwe have been planted, with farmers receiving agricultural inputs. The Shan State government aims to revive Pawsan Hmwe's reputation as a premium export rice and increase exports from Shan State to international markets.

*1 hectare = 2.47 acres

Source: Global New Light of Myanmar. (2026, August 12). *Eastern Shan State trials Pawsan Hmwe, Basmati rice.*

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Thailand

Thailand's Q2 Economy Slows as Paddy Rice Output Declines

According to the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Thailand's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 1.9 percent in the second quarter of 2026, slowing from 2.8 percent in the first quarter. The agricultural sector expanded 1.5 percent, supported by higher output of fruit, sugar cane and rubber, while paddy rice and oil palm production declined. Despite the fall in rice output, overall farm income increased 6.6 percent, marking its first growth in five quarters. The NESDC expects Thailand's GDP to grow 2.0 – 2.5 percent in 2026, with a midpoint forecast of 2.2 percent.

Source: Nation Thailand. (2026, August 17). *Thailand's Q2 GDP growth eases to 1.9% despite strong investment.*

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