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Vietnam

Grain and Feed Update

Rice Production Update, May 2012

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Report Highlights:

Post revised up its estimate of total production for MY 2011/2012 to 42.679 million tons of paddy rice, due to the higher production of the Spring crop in the Mekong River Delta (MRD) region. An increase of 350,000 tons of rice paddy compared to Post's last estimate in early April, 2012.

Post:	Commodities
Hanoi	Rice, Milled

Author Defined: STATISTICAL TABLES

Vietnam's Production, Supply and Demand for Rice

Rice, Milled Vietnam	2010/20	11	2011/20)12	2012/2013			
	Market Year Begin: Jan 2011		Market Year Begi	n: Jan 2012	Market Year Begin: May 2012			
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post		
Area Harvested	7,607	7,607	7,600	7,599	7,600	7,600		
Beginning Stocks	1,470	1,470	1,941	1,941	2,241	2,165		
Milled Production	26,371	26,371	26,750	26,674	26,500	26,544		
Rough Production	42,194	42,194	42,800	42,678	42,400	42,470		
Milling Rate (.9999)	6,250	6,250	6,250	6,250	6,250	6,250		
MY Imports	500	500	400	400	400	400		
TY Imports	500	500	400	400	400	400		
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Supply	28,341	28,341	29,091	29,015	29,141	29,109		
MY Exports	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000		
TY Exports	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000		
Consumption and Residual	19,400	19,400	19,850	19,850	20,100	20,100		
Ending Stocks	1,941	1,941	2,241	2,165	2,041	2,009		
Total Distribution	28,341	28,341	29,091	29,015	29,141	29,109		
1000 HA, 1000 MT, MT/HA								

PRODUCTION

Vietnam's Area, Yield, and Production for Rough Rice (as of May 2012)

Marketing Year	2010/2011 Revised		2011/2012 Estimate		2012/2013 Forecast	
Harvested Area (tha)	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Winter ¹	1,776	1,776	1,775	7,775	1,765	1,765
Spring ²	3,095	3,095	3,095	3,094	3,095	3,095
Autumn ³	2,740	2,740	2,730	2,730	2,740	2,740
TOTAL	7,607	7,607	7,600	7,599	7,600	7,600
Yield (mt/ha)						
Winter	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.70	4.70
Spring	6.29	6.29	6.35	6.46	6.35	6.35
Autumn	5.27	5.27	5.27	5.27	5.30	5.30
AVERAGE	5.54	5.54	5.57	5.62	5.59	5.59
Production (tmt)						
Winter	8,294	8,294	8,289	8,289	8,295	8,295
Spring	19,466	19,466	19,653	20,003	19,653	19,653
Autumn	14,434	14,434	14,387	14,387	14,522	14,522

TOTAL 42,194 42,194 42,329 42,679 42,470 42,470	4 42,329 42,679 42,470 42,470
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¹ Lua Mua (10th Month), ² Winter-Spring, ³ Summer-Autumn

Source: MARD, Post estimates

Estimate for MY 2011/2012 (began January 2012)

Post revised up its estimate of total production for MY 2011/2012 to 42.679 million tons of paddy rice, due to the higher production of the Spring crop in the Mekong River Delta (MRD) region, assuming average production of Spring rice crop in the other parts of Vietnam and average production of the other rice crops; Autumn and Winter crops. An increase of 350,000 tons of rice paddy compared to Post's last estimate in early April, 2012.

Spring Crop

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), the total planting area of the MY 2011/2012 Spring crop is planned at 3.095 million hectares, as of the middle of May 2012. This number is identical with Post's latest estimated number. The Mekong River Delta completely harvested its Spring rice crop in early May, and it consisted of 1.579 million hectares. The remaining Spring crop rice planted area in the other parts of Vietnam was partly harvested.

The planted area in the northern area, in particular, accounts for about 37 percent of Vietnam's total Spring crop area, which was at the flowering stage at the end of May and was reported in a good growing condition.

Post estimates the production of Vietnam's MY 2011/2012 Spring crop to reach a record of 20.00 million tons, which is about 350,000 tons higher than post's last estimate, and about 500,000 tons higher than that of the MY 2010/2011 Spring crop.

Autumn Crop

The Autumn crop is mainly located in the southern provinces. The Mekong River Delta typically accounts for more than 80 percent of the total Autumn crop planting area. As of May 15, 2012, the ongoing MY 2011/2012 Autumn crop planting area totaled more than 1.367 million hectares, compared to about 1.252 million hectares at the same period last year, due to favorable weather. Post currently maintains the same figures with its latest estimate for Autumn rice crop.

Mekong River Delta (MRD) Rice Production

Spring Crop

Mekong River Delta (MRD) farmers completed their harvest of the Spring rice crop in early May 2012. According to MARD, the total harvested area was 1.579 million hectares of 1.580 million planted hectares, or 99.9 percent of planted area. The harvested yield is 6.86 tons per hectares, compared to 6.65 tons per hectares in Post's last estimate. The production, therefore, is revised up 350,000 tons to 10.832 million tons.

Autumn Crop

As of May 15, 2012, the on-going planted area in the Mekong River Delta for the Autumn crop is 1.305 million hectares. Harvesting for some early planted area has already started.

Rice Production in the Mekong Delta by Marketing Year

(000 ha; mt/ha; 000 mt)

2010/	.010/2011 (Revised)		2011/2012 (old)			2011/2012 (Estimate) (new)		
Area	Yield	Prod.	Area	Yield	Prod.	Area	Yield	Prod.

Winter	212	4.06	861	212	4.10	869	212	4.10	869
Spring	1,616	6.56	10,600	1,580	6.65	10,507	1,579	6.86	10,832
Autumn	1,646	5.40	8,888	1,661	5.40	8,969	1,661	5.40	8,969
Late Autumn	640	4.84	3,098	630	4.85	3,055	630	4.85	3,055
Total	4,114		23,447	4,083		23,400	4,082		23,750

Source: MARD, Post estimate