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Korea - Republic of

Grain and Feed Update

Greater Exports of U.S. Rice to Korea

Approved By:

Ron Verdonk

Prepared By:

Sunchul Choi//Amanda F. Hinkle

Report Highlights:

Under the 2018 Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ), Korea purchased a total of 408,700 metric tons (MT) of rice (milled basis) from four countries, including the United States, China, Thailand, and Vietnam. The U.S. share reached 38.7 percent, up 4.8 percentage points from 2017. The pace of auctions in Korea continues to be slow. Korean rice exports sharply increased in 2018 to 64,164 MT, owing to donations of 60,000 MT. Consumption is adjusted down to 4.44 million MT (MMT) in this report to reflect changes in the Korean government's assessment of lowered values of "other and loss" and "actual consumption of feed."

Commodities: Rice, Milled

Production:

Production remains unchanged from the previous report (KS1844). With a continuation of high government production support prices expected, a marked change in rice output is unlikely.

Consumption:

The Korean government has revised downwards total rice consumption in MY 2016/17 to 4.44 MMT as they adjusted the "other and loss" account down to 0.12 MMT from 0.25 MMT. They also lowered "actual consumption of feed" to 0.38 MMT from 0.47 MMT. Other categories remain unchanged from the previous report.

Table 1

Kore	Korea: Rice Utilization Pattern (1,000 MT, milled)									
Rice Year (November - October) MY 2015/16 ^{a/} MY 2016/17 ^{b/} MY 2017/18 ^{c/} 2018/19 ^{c/}										
Table Rice	3,199	3,199	3,180	3,170						
Processing	745	1,086	1,420	1,220						
(for food)	(437)	(492)	(500)	(500)						
(for liquor)	(222)	(216)	(220)	(220)						
(for feed)	(86)	(378)	(700)d/	(500)						
Seed	34	33	33	33						
Other and Loss	241	117	250	250						
Total Demand	4,219	4,435	4,883	4,673						
Per Capita Table Rice Consumption (kg)	61.9	61.8	61.5	61.3						

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA)

Table 2

Korea: Rice Consumption Pattern for Processing Purpose (1,000 MT, milled)											
Purpose	Purpose MY 2014/15 a/ MY 2015/16 b/ MY 2016/17 c/ MY 2017/18 c/										
KRFA	197	222	220	220							
KALIA	155	222	216	220							
Others d/	223	215	272	280							
Feed	Feed 0 86 378 700										
Total	575	745	1,086	1,420							

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA)

a/ Revised

b/ Preliminary

c/ FAS/Seoul forecast

d/ Includes 73,800MT (milled) of imported rice for processing purpose, mainly from China

a/ Revised

b/ Preliminary

c/ Forecast

Table 3

				Consumpt			d			
			Marketin	g Year, Bro						
Month		Y 2015/16			Y 2016/17	'	_	Y 2017/18		
	Domest	Import		Domest	Import		Domest	Import		
				Total	ic	ed	Total	ic	ed	Total
	Rice	Rice		Rice	Rice		Rice	Rice		
Novemb er				7,530	86	7,616	53,806	0	53,806	
Decemb er				4,853	12	4,865	48,340	0	48,340	
January	0	0	0	4,652	0	4,652	43,163	0	43,163	
February	0	0	0	24,796	0	24,796	54,117	0	54,117	
March	609	0	609	36,128	0	36,128	62,448	0	62,448	
April	8,271	0	8,271	36,820	0	36,820	64,516	0	64,516	
May	13,784	2	13,78 6	40,923	0	40,923	64,816	850	65,666	
June	13,010	8	13,01	44,980	0	44,980	64,187	1,655	65,842	
July	13,496	8	13,50 4	45,140	0	45,140	58,654	2,235	60,889	
August	12,093	11	12,10 4	52,046	0	52,046	65,027	913	65,940	
Septemb er	11,741	15	11,75 6	55,944	0	55,944	67,160	1,003	68,163	
October	11,299	43	11,34	48,695	0	48,695	72,529	1,428	73,957	
Total	84,303	87	84,39	402,505	98	402,60	718,763	8,084	726,84 7	
Total (milled)	75,873	78	75,95 1	362,255	88	362,34 3	646,887	7,276	654,16 2	

Source: Korea Feed Association (KFA)

Note: actual rice consumption for feed is slightly different from government's estimate of feed use

Trade:

Although the previous arrangement requiring Korea to provide U.S. rice producers with a country-specific quota expired at the end of 2014, Korea has continued to import the mandatory import volume of 408,700 MT (milled) from Most Favored Nation (MFN) countries at the current duty level of five percent under the tariff rate quota (TRQ) regime. As of January 7, 2019, Korea completed purchasing under the 2018 MFN TRQ: 221,305 MT of which was delivered in the second half of CY 2018 (June-December) on a contracts basis and 187,395 MT of which is scheduled to be delivered in the first half of CY 2019 (January-June) also on the basis of contractual terms (Table 10).

2018 TRQ Tendering Results:

The Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT) completed the tendering process for 2018 rice TRQ commitments on January 7, 2019. Korea purchased 408,700 MT of rice (milled basis) from four countries: The United States, China, Thailand, and Vietnam. The U.S. share reached 38.7 percent, up 4.8 percentage points from 2017, due to relatively more competitive pricing than other countries, and a greater demand for medium grain variety rice (Table 6). Contracts for U.S. rice totaled 158,163 MT (milled), worth USD 151.9 million. Of this total, 134,625 MT was brown rice (equivalent to 121,163 MT on a milled basis) used for food processing, and the remaining 37,000 MT was milled rice for table use (Table 5).

Under the 2018 rice TRQ, the Korean government purchased 39,800 MT of USDA # 1 grade milled rice for table use, down 200 MT from the previous year. This total consisted of 37,000 MT of medium grain rice from the United States and 2,800 MT of long grain rice from Vietnam. Korean domestic political circles continued pressing the Korean government to reduce the quantity of table rice imports under the TRQ regime, blaming imported table rice for further disruption of domestic rice farm gate prices and for the currently large rice stocks.

The average contracted price for U.S. #1 medium grain table rice was USD 965.91/MT, CIF, up 17 percent from the previous year. Meanwhile, Vietnamese #1 long grain table rice was contracted at USD 513.80/MT, CIF, up five percent from the previous year.

Table 4

1 4010 +										
Kore	Korea: Rice Allocation per Country Based on Tenders under TRQ									
	(Milled Basis, MT)									
Calendar Year	r Year TRQ U.S.A. China Thailand Vietnam Australia Other									
2015	408,700	157,117	198,506	6,077	38,000	9,000	0			
%	100	38.4	48.6	1.2	9.3	2.2	0			
2016	408,700	165,865	187,335	14,000	22,000	14,500	5,000a/			
%	100	40.6	45.8	3.4	5.4	3.5	1.2a/			
2017	408,700	138,610	162,590	27,000	62,500	18,000	0			
%	100	33.9	39.8	6.6	15.3	4.4	0			
2018	408,700	158,163	119,232	18,000	113,305	0	0			
%	100	38.7	29.2	4.4	27.7	0	0			

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

a/ India

Table 5

Korea: Rice Contracts by Country under 2018 MFN TRQ ^{1/} (Unit: MT, Milled Basis, as of January 7, 2019)										
	MFN TRQ									
Country	Processing Use	Table Use	Total (Percent)							
USA	121,163	37,000	158,163(38.7)							
China	119,232	0	119,232(29.2)							
Thailand	18,000	0	18,000(4.4)							
Vietnam	110,505	2,800	113,305(27.7)							

S. Total	368,900	39,800	408,700(100.0%)
G. Total		408,700	408,700(100%)

Table 6

Korea: Rice Varieties of Contracts by Country under 2018 MFN TRQ (Metric Ton, Milled basis, as of January 7, 2019)											
Rice Variety Medium Grain Short Grain Long Grain Total											
USA	158,163	0	0	158,163							
China	98,232	21,000	0	119,232							
Thailand	0	0	18,000	18,000							
Vietnam	0	99,000	14,350	113,350							
Total	Total 256,395 120,000 32,350 408,700										
Ratio (%)	62.73%	29.36%	7.90%	100.00%							

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

Table 7

rable /					
		Korea: U.S. I	Rice Sales to K	Korea under 201	8 TRQ
		(buyin	g tenders as of	January 7, 2019)	
		Brown			
		rice			
	Milled	(MT)			
	rice	for	Unit Price		
Contracts	(MT)	Processin	(USD/MT)	Value	Estimated Time of Arrival
	for Table	g	CIP	(USD)	(ETA)
1		10,000	835.34	8,353,400	Dec 31, 2018
2		20,000	902.87	18,057,400	Dec 31, 2018
3		20,000	872	17,440,000	April 30, 2019
4		8,889	812	7,217,868	May 31, 2019
5		11,111	829	9,211,019	May 31, 2019
6		8,889	829	7,368,981	April 30, 2019
7	10,000		962 CIF	9,620,000	April 30, 2019
	10,000		962.69		A 11.20, 2010
8	10,000		CIF	9,626,900	April 30, 2019
9	10,000		975 CIF	9,750,000	May 31, 2019
	7,000		963.09		M 21 2010
10	7,000		CIF	6,741,630	May 31, 2019
11		19,444	885.34	17,214,551	June 15, 2019
12		10,000	848.62	8,486,200	June 15, 2019

G. Total	158,163 (1	milled)		151,904,547	
Sub. Total	37,000	134,625a/			
15		10,000	879.84	8,798,400	May 31, 2019
14		11,111	865.3	9,614,348	May 31, 2019
13		5,181	850	4,403,850	April 30, 2019

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT) a/ equivalent to 121,163 MT on a milled basis

Table 8

Korea: U.S. Table Rice Delivery Schedule Based on Contracts under 2018 TRQ (Non-Glutinous Milled Rice Medium Grain, Metric Ton)								
Supplier	Contractual Quantity	Grade	Shipment	ETA Busan Port (mm/dd/yyyy)				
ADM	10,000	U.S. No. 1	5,000	March 2019				
	10,000		5,000 April 201					
ACC	10,000		5,000	March 2019				
	10,000	April 2019						
The Ground Korea/Tanlong	10,000		5,000	April 2019				
	10,000		5,000	May 2019				
ACC	7,000		2,000	April 2019				
	7,000		5,000	May 2019				
Total		37,000						

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

Table 9

1 able 9									
		K	orea: 2018	TRQ F	Rice Tend	ler Resu	lts		
(as of January 7, 2019)									
Bidding Date (mm- dd-yy)	Rice Type	Quota Volume (Contra	Quota Volume (Milled Rice Basis)	Origi n	Awarde d Price (USD/ MT)	Terms and Conditi ons	delivery date	Local Agent	Supplier
5/4/201 8	SG #3 Brown	ct Basis) 20,000	18,000	Vietna m	668	CIP	6/30/20	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/4/201 3	SG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	Vietna m	638	CIP	6/30/20	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/4/201 3	SG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	China	706	CIP	6/30/20 18	Daewoo	COFCO
5/4/201 8	SG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	Vietna m	608	CIP	6/30/20 18	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/28/20 18	SG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	Vietna m	638	CIP	9/15/20 18	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/28/20 18	SG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	Vietna m	648	CIP	9/15/20 18	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/28/20 18	SG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	Vietna m	638	CIP	9/15/20 18	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
5/28/20 18	LG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	Thaila nd	468.95	CIP	9/30/20 18	Daewoo	Capital Rice Co., Ltd
5/28/20 18	LG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	Thaila nd	467.4	CIP	9/30/20 18	Daewoo	Capital Rice Co., Ltd
6/28/20 18	LG #1 Milled	2,800	2,800	Vietna m	513.80	CIF	12/31/2 018	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain

9/3/201 8	MG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	China	810.4	CIP	11/30/2 018	Daewoo	COFCO
9/3/201 8	MG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	USA	835.34	CIP	12/31/2 018	Philasun	ADM
9/3/201 8	MG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	USA	902.87	CIP	12/31/2 018	Philasun	ADM
9/3/201 8	MG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	China	852.1	CIP	12/31/2 018	Daewoo	COFCO
9/3/201 8	MG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	China	852.3	CIP	12/31/2 018	Daewoo	COFCO
9/3/201 8	LG #3 Brown	12,783	11,505	Vietna m	449.9	CIP	11/30/2 018	The Ground Korea	Green Mountain
12/21/2 018	MG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	USA	872	CIP	4/30/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/21/2 018	MG #3 Brown	20,000	18,000	China	853.2	CIP	3/31/20 19	Daewoo	COFCO
12/21/2 018	MG #3 Brown	15,000	13,500	China	874	CIP	4/30/20 19	Singsong	Jilin Grain
12/21/2 018	MG #3 Brown	8,889	8,000	USA	812	CIP	5/31/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/21/2 018	MG #3 Brown	11,111	10,000	USA	829	CIP	5/31/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/21/2)18	MG #3 Brown	8,889	8,000	USA	829	CIP	4/30/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/21/2 018	MG #1 Milled	10,000	10,000	USA	962	CIF	4/30/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/21/2 018	MG #1 Milled	10,000	10,000	USA	962.69	CIF	4/30/20 19	Singsong	ACC
12/21/2 018	MG #1 Milled	10,000	10,000	USA	975	CIF	5/31/20 19	The Ground Korea	Tanlong
12/21/2 018	MG #1 Milled	7,000	7,000	USA	963.09	CIF	5/31/20 19	Singsong	ACC
12/27/2 018	MG #3 Brown	19,444	17,500	USA	885.34	CIP	6/15/20 19	Philasun	ADM
12/27/2 018	MG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	USA	848.62	CIP	6/15/20 19	Singsong	ACC
12/27/2 018	MG #3 Brown	5,181	4,663	USA	850	CIP	4/30/20 19	The Ground Korea	Tanlong
12/27/2 018	SG #3 Sweet Rice, milled	1,000	1,000	China	921.3	CIF	3/31/20	Daewoo	COFCO
12/27/2 018	SG #3 Sweet Rice, milled	1,000	1,000	China	930	CIF	4/30/20 19	Singsong	Jilin Grain
12/27/2 018	SG #3 Sweet Rice, milled	1,000	1,000	China	923.1	CIF	4/30/20	Daewoo	COFCO
1/7/201 9	MG #3 Brown	24,147	21,732	China	916.3	CIP	5/31/20	Daewoo	COFCO
1/7/201 9	MG #3 Brown	11,111	10,000	USA	865.3	CIP	5/31/20	Daewoo	FRC
1/7/201 9	MG #3 Brown	10,000	9,000	USA	879.84	CIP	5/31/20	Singsong	ACC
	Total	449,355	408,700						

Total 449,355 408,700
Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

Table 10

Korea: Monthly Delivery of Rice Contracts under 2018 TRQ (Metric Ton, milled rice basis)					
Contractual Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA)	Volume of Contracts				
June 2018	63,000				
July	0				
August	0				
September	72,000				

October	0
November	20,505
December	65,800
Subtotal	221,305
January 2019	0
February	0
March	19,000
April	66,163
May	75,732
June	26,500
Subtotal	187,395
Grand Total	408,700

Auctions for Imported Table Rice:

Korea Agro-Fisheries & Food Trade Corporation (aT) sells table rice shipments to wholesalers/middlemen for HRI use and to consumers through a public auction system. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) distributes processing rice to end-users, such as food processors and alcoholic beverage producers, at a set price throughout the year.

Due to heavy stocks of domestic rice caused by consistent overproduction since 2013, the pace of auctions for imported rice for table use has been very slow, effectively reducing the volume of auctioned rice. As large rice stocks have led to low domestic prices, farmers' groups have petitioned the government to slow down auctions for imported rice for table use, and during the harvest season they have asked the government to stop conducting auctions for imported medium and short grains, which have competed with domestic short grain rice.

Accordingly, the Korean government has suspended auctions for medium and short grain rice imported under the 2016 TRQ regime for table purposes since September 24, 2018 to prop up domestic rice prices during the harvest period. However, selling auctions for long grain rice imported under the 2016 TRQ have been completed (Table 13), and selling auctions for long grains imported under the 2017 TRQ began in early January 2019 (Table 14). As of January 23, 2019, aT began auctioning U.S. medium grain rice imported under the 2017 TRQ (despite not having auctioned all of the 2016 TRQ medium grain rice).

Table 11

	Korea: Status of Table Rice Imports and Distribution (MT, Milled rice)									
Calendar Year Total Rice Imports Purpose Rate of Table Rice of Total Imports (%) Distribution to Consumers Processing										
MMA Quota	Regime (2005-2	014)								
2005	225,575	22,557	10	22,557	0					
2006	245,922	34,429	14	34,429	0					
2007	266,270	47,928	18	47,928	0					

2008	286,617	63,055 ^{a/}	22	38,121	24,934a/
2009	306,964	79,810 ^{b/}	26	45,007	34,803b/
2010	327,311	98,193 ^{c/}	30	92,576	5,617c/
2011	347,658	104,297	30	104,297	0
2012	368,006	110,401	30	110,401	0
2013	388,353	116,505	30	116,505	0
2014	408,700	122,610 ^{d/}	30	65,072	57,538d/
Total	3,171,376	799,785	25	676,893	122,892
TRQ Regim	e (Since 2015)				
2015	408,700	60,000e/	15	7,041	52,959e/
2016	408,700	50,000f/	12	26,310	23,690
2017	408,700	40,000g/	10	358	na
2018	408,700	39,800h/	9.7	na	na

Table 12

Korea: Status of Table Rice Distribution per Country under MMA Regime (2005-2014) (MT, Milled rice, Calendar Year Basis, as of Oct. 7, 2016)									
(MT, Milled rice	, Calendar Y	ear Basis, a	s of Oct. 1, 2	016)					
Country of Origin	USA	China	Thailand	Australia	Total				
Total Imports (A)	289,548	470,964	28,027	11,246	799,785				
Conversion to Processing (B)	8,754	107,294	1,500	5,395	122,943				
Quantity for auctions (A-B)	280,794	363,670	26,527	5,851	676,842				
Distribution to Markets	280,285	362,708	25,662	5,851	674,506				
Loss	509	962	865	-	2,336				

Source: FAS/Seoul

Table 13

Korea: Status of Rice Auction for Table Rice under 2016 TRQ ^{2/} (Unit: metric tons, milled basis, as of January 2, 2019)									
Commodity (Period of Auctions)	Auctioned								
U.S. Medium Grain (Apr. 2018 ~Sep. 21, 2018)	#1	40,000	16,916	23,084	42	1,585			
Vietnamese Short Grain	#1	3,000	2,454	546	82	1,332			

a/ of which, 24,934MT of Chinese rice was diverted to alcohol processing purpose in CY 2010

b/ of which, 33,303 MT of Chinese rice and 1,500 MT of Thai rice were diverted to alcohol processing purpose in CY 2011

c/ of which, 5,671MT of Chinese rice were diverted to alcohol processing purpose in CY 2012.

d/ of which, 8,754 MT of U.S. rice, 43,386 of Chinese rice and 5,395 MT of Australian rice were converted to alcohol processing purpose in CY 2016

 $e/\ of\ which, 34,035\ MT\ of\ U.S.\ rice\ and\ 18,924\ MT\ of\ Chinese\ rice\ have\ been\ converted\ to\ alcohol\ processing\ purpose\ in\ CY\ 2018$

f/ suspended auctions for 23,084 MT of U.S. medium grain and 546 MT of Vietnamese short grain as of September 24, 2018 but completed auctioning-off for 7,000 MT of Thai long grain as of January 2, 2019

g/ consisting of 37,000MT of U.S. medium grain and 3,000MT of Vietnamese long grain

h/consisting of 2,800 MT of Vietnamese long grain delivered in December 2018 and 37,000 MT of U.S. medium grain to be delivered during April - May 2019 based on contracts

(Apr. 2018 ~Sep. 21, 2018)						
Thai Long Grain (Oct. 2016 ~Jan. 2, 2019)	#1	7,000	6,940	60	99.1	966
Total		50,000	26,310	23,690	52.6	

Table 14

Korea: Status of Rice Auction for Table Rice under 2017 TRQ (Unit: metric tons, milled basis, as of January 16, 2019)									
Commodity (Period of Auctions)	USDA Grade	Total Table Rice TRQ	Auctioned Off	Balance	Auctioned Off (%)	Auctioned Price 1/			
U.S. Medium Grain (Jan. 23, 2019~)	#1	37,000	156	36,844	0.4	1,765			
Vietnamese Long Grain (Jan. 9, 2019 ~)	#1	3,000	202	2,898	6.7	1,067			
Total		40,000	358	39,798	0.9				

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

Table 15

Korea: Status of Rice Auction for Table Rice under 2018 TRQ (Unit: metric tons, milled basis)								
Commodity (Period of Auctions)	USDA Grade	Total Table Rice TRQ	Auctioned Off	Balance	Auctioned Off (%)	Auctioned Price 1/		
U.S. Medium Grain 2/	#1	37,000	none	37,000	0	na		
Vietnamese Long Grain3/	#1	2,800	none	2,800	0	na		
Total		39,800	none	39,800	0			

Source: Korea Agro-Fisheries and Food Trade Corporation (aT)

Exports:

Korea's rice exports were 64,164 MT in 2018. This number sharply increased from 2017 due to a rice donation of 60,000 MT, which includes a 50,000 MT donation to Yemen, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda through the World Food Program (WFP) under the Food Assistance Convention (FAC), and a 10,000 MT donation to Vietnam under the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR).

^{1/} Weighted average in Korean Won per Kg

^{2/} Suspended auctions for U.S. medium grain and Vietnamese short grain since September 21, 2018 but completed auctioning-off for 7,000 MT of Thai long grain as of January 2, 2019

^{1/} Weighted average in Korean Won per Kg

^{1/} Weighted average in Korean Won per Kg

^{2/} to be imported in the first half of 2019

^{3/} imported in December 2018, sitting in the warehouse

Table 16

		Korea: Rice Expor (Milled)	ts	
Calendar Year	To th	e World	To the U	nited States
	Quantity (MT)	Value (USD1,000)	Quantity (MT)	Value (USD1,000)
2005	18	89	5	5
2006	9	40	0.2	1
2007	507	1,322	333	876
2008	356	829	115	285
2009	4,183	7,300	443	777
2010	3,765	6,394	272	587
2011	3,782	6,277	161	244
2012	2,223	4,424	90	185
2013	1,517	3,363	86	180
2014	1,684	3,894	123	303
2015	1,987	4,472	365	1,148
2016	2,313	4,847	477	1,175
2017	2,767	5,641	540	1,390
2018	64,164a/	43,823	425	1,171

Source: Korea Customs Service (KCS), Global Trade Atlas (GTA)

a/includes 60,000 MT of food assistance in 2018.

Food Assistance Convention (FAC)

After joining the Food Assistance Convention (FAC) in early 2018, Korea plans to donate 50,000 MT of domestic rice (milled basis) to developing countries through the World Food Program (WFP) in 2019. In 2018, Korea donated 50,000 MT of domestic rice (milled basis) as stated in the preceding section: 17,000 MT to Yemen, 15,000 MT to Ethiopia, 13,000 MT to Kenya and 5,000 MT to Uganda, all through the WFP.

Stocks:

The MY 2018/19 ending stocks forecast (as of the end of October 2019) is revised up to 975 thousand MT (TMT) from the previous 762 TMT, or 20.9 percent of total consumption due to lower consumption of rice caused by the reduced estimate of other and loss account in MY 2016/17. Accordingly, MY 2017/18 ending stocks (as of the end of October 2018) are increased up to 1.42 million MT (MMT) from the previous estimate of 1.21 MMT. MY2016/17 ending stocks reached two MMT, up 12 percent from the previous estimate.

Table 17

Korea: Status of Rice Stocks									
(Milled rice, 1,000 MT, as of end October)									
Rice Year (NovOct.)	2013/14	2014/15a/	2015/16b/	2016/17c/	2017/18d/	2018/19d/			
Total Stock	887	1,406	1,831	2,000	1,423	975			
Government Stock	887	1,406	1,831	2,000	1,423	975			
Total Domestic	4,422	4,197	4,212	4,435	4,883	4,673			

Consumption						
Stock to Use Ratio (%)	20.0	33.5	43.5	45.1	29.1	20.9

Source: FAS/Seoul Estimate based on MAFRA data

a/ MAFRA Revised b/ MAFRA Preliminary c/ MAFRA forecast

d/ FAS/Seoul forecast

Production, Supply and Demand Data Statistics:

Rice PS&D

Rice, Milled	2016/20	017	2017/20	2017/2018		2018/2019	
Market Begin Year	Nov 20	16	Nov 2017		Nov 2018		
Korea, Republic of	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	
Area Harvested	779	779	755	755	738	738	
Beginning Stocks	1831	1831	1784	2000	1210	1423	
Milled Production	4197	4197	3972	3972	3868	3868	
Rough Production	5596	5625	5296	5286	5157	5193	
Milling Rate (.9999)	7500	7461	7500	7514	7500	7448	
MY Imports	411	411	400	398	410	410	
TY Imports	412	412	420	386	410	410	
TY Imp. from U.S.	138	164	0	91	0	160	
Total Supply	6439	6439	6156	6370	5488	5701	
MY Exports	4	4	63	64	53	53	
TY Exports	4	4	63	64	53	53	
Consumption and Residual	4651	4435	4883	4883	4673	4673	
Ending Stocks	1784	2000	1210	1423	762	975	
Total Distribution	6439	6439	6156	6370	5488	5701	
Yield (Rough)	7.1836	7.2208	7.0146	7.0013	6.9878	7.0366	
(1000 HA), (1000 MT),	(MT/HA)						

Korea: Import Trade Matrix of Rice					
Country	Korea, Republic of				
Commodity	Rice, Mil				
Time Period	Jan/Dec	1,000MT			
Imports for:	2017		2018		
U.S.	164	U.S.	91		
Others		Others			
China	141	China	144		
Thailand	32	Thailand	18		
Australia	9	Australia	9		
Vietnam	64	Vietnam	124		
India	2				
Total for Others	248		295		
Others not Listed	0		0		
Grand Total	412		386		

Author Defined: Appendix

Table 18

Table 10							
Korea: Monthly Wholesale Price of Milled Rice							
	(High Quality)						
Month\Year		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Won/kg	USD/ kg	Won/kg	USD/kg	Won/kg	USD/kg	
January	1,810	1.51	1,602	1.35	1,994	1.87	
February	1,810	1.49	1,590	1.39	2,094	1.94	
March	1,810	1.53	1,590	1.40	2,174	2.03	
April	1,810	1.58	1,590	1.40	2,234	2.09	
May	1,810	1.54	1,590	1.41	2,227	2.07	
June	1,810	1.55	1,590	1.41	2,236	2.05	
July	1,810	1.58	1,598	1.41	2,286	2.04	
August	1,802	1.62	1,626	1.44	2,299	2.05	
September	1,705	1.54	1,677	1.48	2,330	2.08	
October	1,546	1.37	1,814	1.61	2,428	2.15	
November	1,620	1.40	1,917	1.74	2,478	2.20	
December	1,620	1.37	1,952	1.80	2,469	2.20	
Average	1,747	1.51	1,678	1.49	2,271	2.07	

Source: Korea Agricultural Marketing Information Service (KAMIS) Note: Monthly Average Exchange Rate is applied.

Korea: Monthly Retail Price of Milled Rice (High Quality)							
Month\Year	CY 2	CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Won/kg	USD/ kg	Won/kg	USD/kg	Won/kg	USD/kg	
January	2,132	1.78	1,805	1.53	2,167	2.03	
February	2,112	1.74	1,806	1.58	2,215	2.06	
March	2,085	1.76	1,803	1.59	2,286	2.14	
April	2,027	1.77	1,804	1.59	2,368	2.22	
May	1,998	1.70	1,768	1.57	2,367	2.20	
June	1,990	1.71	1,745	1.54	2,380	2.18	
July	1,992	1.74	1,728	1.53	2,403	2.14	
August	1,983	1.79	1,742	1.54	2,443	2.18	
September	1,970	1.78	1,931	1.71	2,473	2.20	
October	1,895	1.68	2,023	1.79	2,664	2.36	
November	1,850	1.59	2,118	1.92	2,678	2.38	
December	1,809	1.53	2,136	1.97	2,676	2.39	
Average	1,985	1.71	1,867	1.65	2,427	2.21	

Source: Korea Agricultural Marketing Information Service (KAMIS) Note: Monthly Average Exchange Rate is applied.

Table 20

Korea: Foreign Exchange Rate						
(Korean Won against USD)						
Month	CY 2016	CY 2017	CY 2018			
January	1,196	1,183	1,065			
February	1,216	1,143	1,077			
March	1,184	1,133	1,070			
April	1,146	1,132	1,067			
May	1,172	1,126	1,075			
June	1,167	1,130	1,092			
July	1,142	1,133	1,122			
August	1,110	1,129	1,120			
September	1,107	1,130	1,122			
October	1,125	1,128	1,130			
November	1,160	1,101	1,126			
December	1,182	1,083	1,122			
Average	1,158	1,129	1,099			

Source: Global Financial Service