

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary \_ Public

**Date:** 7/6/2011

**GAIN Report Number:** BM1013

### **Thailand**

Post: Bangkok

## Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - May 2011

**Report Categories:** 

Grain and Feed

**Approved By:** 

Orestes Vasquez Agricultural Attaché

**Prepared By:** 

Tun Winn Agricultural Specialist

#### **Report Highlights:**

BM1013 Burma exported 156,987 metric tons (MT) of beans and pulses in May, an increase of 127 percent from the same period in 2010, with 64 percent going to India or 101,119 MT followed by 12 percent to Singapore or 20,165 MT and 6 percent to China or 9,109 MT. Additionally, 23 percent or 6,064 MT of mung beans (green gram) were traded with China through border trade.

# **General Information:** Trade

Burma's beans and pulses exports in May 2011 totaled 156,987MT, up 127 percent from 69,025 MT in May 2010. Most of the shipments were destined to India and matpe (black gram) accounted for 54 percent of the total exports, followed by mung bean (green gram) 17 percent and other 14 percent. India and Singapore were the largest buyers accounting for 101,119 MT or 64 percent and 20,165 MT or 12 percent of total exports respectively.

Table 1. Beans and Pulses Exports by Types and Destination in May, 2011 (MT)

| Country      | Butter | Matpe  | Mung   | Toor | Whole  | Other  | Total   |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|---------|
| India        |        | 67,079 | 1,912  |      | 18,068 | 14,060 | 101,119 |
| Singapore    | 225    | 10,885 | 5,196  |      | 943    | 2,916  | 20,165  |
| China        | 545    | 269    | 7,880  |      |        | 415    | 9,109   |
| Philippines  | 312    | 48     | 3,831  |      |        | 170    | 4,361   |
| Japan        | 2,667  | 922    | 90     |      |        | 243    | 3,922   |
| Indonesia    |        | 240    | 3,302  |      | 4      | 166    | 3,712   |
| Vietnam      |        | 1,284  | 1,932  |      |        | 44     | 3,260   |
| Malaysia     | 290    | 1,175  | 1,076  |      | 48     | 282    | 2,871   |
| Pakistan     |        |        |        |      |        | 2,690  | 2,690   |
| UAE          |        | 1,725  | 138    |      | 20     | 480    | 2,363   |
| Thailand     |        | 1,177  | 431    |      | 50     | 62     | 1,720   |
| UK           |        |        | 551    |      |        | 0      | 551     |
| Korea        | 63     |        |        |      |        | 432    | 495     |
| Russia       |        |        |        |      |        | 158    | 158     |
| Netherland   |        |        | 72     |      |        | 69     | 141     |
| Egypt        |        |        |        |      |        | 75     | 75      |
| Saudi Arabia |        | 48     |        |      | 24     | 0      | 72      |
| Honking      | 48     |        |        |      |        | 0      | 48      |
| Poland       |        |        | 46     |      |        | 0      | 46      |
| Chad         |        |        |        |      |        | 45     | 45      |
| Sibilance    |        | 24     |        |      |        | 0      | 24      |
| Italy        |        | 10     | 4      |      |        | 6      | 20      |
| Newzealand   |        | 3      | 8      |      | 9      | 0      | 20      |
| Total        | 4,150  | 84,889 | 26,469 |      | 19,166 | 22,313 | 156,987 |

Other category includes kidney, bamboo, black eye, sultani, gram, chickpea and brown beans

Table 2. Monthly Export of Pulses and Beans for 2010-2011

| Months   | 2010    |                         | 2011    |                  |
|----------|---------|-------------------------|---------|------------------|
|          | Monthly | <b>Cumulative Total</b> | Monthly | Cumulative Total |
| January  | 64,576  | 64,576                  | 81,145  | 81,145           |
| February | 125,428 | 190,004                 | 87,418  | 168,563          |
| March    | 133,315 | 323,319                 | 87,129  | 255,692          |

| April     | 57,379  | 380,698 | 81,307  | 336,999 |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| May       | 69,025  | 449,723 | 156,987 | 493,986 |
| June      | 79,447  | 529,170 |         |         |
| July      | 72,910  | 602,080 |         |         |
| August    | 72,791  | 674,871 |         |         |
| September | 70,381  | 745,252 |         |         |
| October   | 63,587  | 808,839 |         |         |
| November  | 46,277  | 855,116 |         |         |
| December  | 117,453 | 972,569 |         |         |
| Total     | 972,569 |         | 493,986 |         |

Average exchange rate in May: one US\$= Kyat 826

#### **Export prospects**

The kyat continues to strengthen with a 2.6 percent increase in May from ks 848/dollar in April to ks 826/ dollar in May, however exports increased 93 percent from the previous month as speculation that the kyat, Burmese currency, would strengthen up to ks 700/ dollar. As such, traders who have accumulated stocks from the February and March harvest are no longer taking the risk of holding on to stocks. Year to date export of pulses and beans of the country increased 10 percent from 449,723 MT in MY 2009-2010 to 493,986 MT in MY 2010-2011.

Due to the total exports during initial five months of 2011 has reached 0.49 million metric tons, the annual export for the whole year on 2011 is expected to be 1 million, however it remains to see how the kyat behaves with respect to the dollar in order for Burmese beans and pulses to remain competitive.

End of Report