

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Burma - Union of

Post: Rangoon

Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - December

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

BM0002. Burma exported 49,867 metric tons of beans and pulses in December, a 63 percent decrease from the same period in 2008. Burma's total bean and pulse exports in 2009 were 1.5 million metric tons, down 17 percent from 2008.

Trade

Burma exported 49,867 metric tons (MT) of beans and pulses in December 2009, a 63 percent decrease from the same period in 2008 reflecting decreased shipments to India, yet India remained the largest buyer accounting for 86 percent of total exports. Export breakdown was 73 percent for Matpe bean, 23 percent for Mung bean and 4 percent for Toor Whole bean. Japan, a regular market for Burmese Butter beans (Lima beans), did not import Butter beans.

Burma's total bean and pulse exports in 2009 were 1.5 million metric tons, down 17 percent from 1.9 million MT exported in 2008. This decline was a result of a significant decrease in demand from India, as exports to India fell 19 percent from 2008 from 1.6 million MT in 2008 to 1.3 million MT in 2009. The decrease was attributed to the Indian government's ban on the re-export of beans and pulses, a 25 percent reduction of Toor Whole bean production due to drought conditions, and a volatile Kyat currency appreciation against the U.S. dollar which made some exporters reluctant to export averting the possibility of losses in exchange rates.

Trade sources reported that 50 MT of Matpe raw, 7,700 MT of Matpe ready cargo and 3,350 MT of Matpe special quality ready cargo and 130 MT of Toor whole were traded at the Bayint Naung Market in Rangoon in December.

Beans and Pulses Exports by Types and Destination in December 2009(MT)

	Butter	Matpe	Mung	Toor Whole	Other	Total
Australia				24		24
China	40	287				327
India		29,257	10,163	1,959	1,514	42,893
Indonesia			24			24
Japan		104				104
Korea	140					140
Kuwait			25			25
Pakistan					3,328	3,328
Russia					23	23
Singapore		115	428	24	71	638
Sri Lanka		48			240	288
Saudi Arabia			72		24	96
Thailand		678	80		37	795
UAE		24	24	200		248
UK		77	45		24	146
Vietnam			768			768
Total	180	30,590	11,629	2,207	5,261	49,867
Other category includes kidney, bamboo, black eye, sultani, gram, chickpea and						

Average exchange rate in December: one US\$= Kyat 963.00

Beans and Pulses Exports (MT)

	2008	2009
January	91,596	192,619
February	138,477	169,236
March	288,839	206,703
April	415,895	82,743
May	209,967	74,501
June	211,582	321,187
July	165,710	118,805
August	112,897	70,334
September	89,437	63,216
October	44,184	116,089
November	93,283	70,899
December	134,319	49,867
TOTAL	1,861,867	1,536,199

Export prospects

Inactive export demand led domestic bean and pulse prices to weaken in December 2009. Most exporters held high stocks and were reluctant to buy the new crop supplies, as they are waiting to see a clearer picture on the demand outlook for India in 2010 and for the kyat to stabilize.