

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 - October**

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

Burma exported 63,587 metric tons of beans and pulses in October, a decrease of 45 percent from the same period in 2009, with 59 percent going to India. Additionally, 6,961 MT of mung beans (green gram) were exported to China through border trade.

## Trade

Burma's beans and pulses exports in October 2010 totaled 63,587 MT, down 45 percent from 116,089 MT in October 2009. Matpe (Black gram) accounted for 54 percent of the total exports, followed by mung bean (green gram) 29 percent and toor whole (pigeon pea) 11 percent. India remained the largest buyer accounting for 37,243 MT or 59 percent of total exports, followed by China with 6,961 MT or 11 percent and Sri Lanka with 5,105 MT or 8 percent.

Total exports of beans and pulses in the first 10 months of 2010 (Jan-October) also declined significantly by 42 percent from 1,415,433 MT in 2009 to 808,839 MT due to increased cultivation and production in India in response to the Indian government's price incentive program.

Only 6,000 MT of Matpe ready cargo (RC) and 2,150 MT of Matpe Special RC were traded in Bayint Naung wholesale market.

Table 1. Beans and Pulses Exports by Types and Destination in September, 2010 (MT)

	Butter	Matpe	Mung	Toor Whole	Other	Total
India	-	27,227	2,866	7,150	-	37,243
China (border trade)	-	-	6,961	-	-	6,961
Sri Lanka	-	5,105	-	-	-	5,105
Pakistan	-	-	3,439	-	-	3,439
Japan	31	1,702	1,146	-	-	2,879
Indonesia	-	-	2,293	-	-	2,293
Philippines	-	-	1,720	-	-	1,720
Thailand	-	-	-	-	1,447	1,447
Singapore	-	-	-	-	1,300	1,300
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	1,200	1,200
<b>Total</b>	31	34,034	18,425	7,150	3,947	63,587
Other category includes kidney, bamboo, black eye, sultani, gram, chickpea and brown brown beans						

Table 2. Monthly export of pulses and beans for 2009 and 2010.

	2009		2010	
	Monthly	Cumulative Total	Monthly	Cumulative Total
January	192,619	192,619	64,576	64,576
February	169,236	361,855	125,428	190,004
March	206,703	568,558	133,315	323,319
April	82,743	651,301	57,379	380,698
May	74,501	725,802	69,025	449,723
June	321,187	1,046,989	79,447	529,170
July	118,805	1,165,794	72,910	602,080
August	70,334	1,236,128	72,791	674,871
September	63,216	1,299,344	70,381	745,252
October	116,089	1,415,433	63,587	808,839
November	70,899	1,486,332		
December	49,867	1,536,199		

## Export Prospects

This year Burmese pulses and beans have faced unexpected challenges. A member of the Pulses and Beans Traders' Association stated that Burmese toor whole market in India faces competition from a larger size toor whole from Canada, Malawi and Tanzania, resulting in a weakening demand for Burmese toor whole which current traders hold record stocks of 250,000 MT. In addition, an increase in cultivated area of pulses and beans in India was due to a price incentive program implemented by the Indian government, which has resulted in a softening demand for Burmese matpe (black gram ) and mung (green gram) beans and is expected to continue throughout 2010.

These trends are reflected in the price declines. The export price of toor whole has declined 48 percent to \$700/MT from last year's price of \$1350/MT. Burma's current export price for mung bean (green gram) is \$1030/MT which is unchanged from last year and matpe ( black gram) is \$920/MT which has decreased 12 percent compared to last year's price of \$1050/MT. Traders who bought toor whole at \$885/MT at the beginning of the year have lost \$185/MT. If there is no way out to sell toor whole, the traders stated they would need to sell the remaining stocks to vermicelli producers in Burma.

Additionally, Post is revising border trade transactions as the Commerce Journal, a weekly journal, came out this week stating that border export for the for the year is estimated to be about 100,000 MT of mung beans to China, which would have a significant increase of overall exports of beans and pulses by the end of the year surpassing the 1 MMT mark.

End of Report.