

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Vietnam

Grain and Feed Update

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Report Highlights:

Post revises its estimate for Vietnam's MY 2009 rice production from the October estimate of 39.28 million tons to 39.50 million tons (paddy basis), due mainly to the larger-than-expected planted area of the Winter crop in the Mekong River Delta (MRD).

Post:
Hanoi

Commodities:
Rice, Milled

PS&D Table:

Rice, Milled Vietnam	2008/2009		2009/2010		2010/2011	
	Market Year Begin: Jan 2009		Market Year Begin: Jan 2010		Market Year Begin: Jan 2011	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	7,334	7,334	7,355	7,415	7,350	7,390
Beginning Stocks	2,018	2,018	1,961	1,961	1,561	1,400
Milled Production	24,393	24,393	24,550	24,689	24,750	24,819
Rough Production	38,904	38,904	39,280	39,502	39,600	39,710
Milling Rate (.9999)	6,270	6,270	6,250	6,250	6,250	6,250
MY Imports	500	500	400	400	500	500
TY Imports	500	500	400	400	500	500
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	26,911	26,911	26,911	27,050	26,811	26,719
MY Exports	5,950	5,950	6,200	6,500	5,800	5,800
TY Exports	5,950	5,950	6,200	6,500	5,800	5,800
Consumption and Residual	19,000	19,000	19,150	19,150	19,300	19,500
Ending Stocks	1,961	1,961	1,561	1,400	1,711	1,419
Total Distribution	26,911	26,911	26,911	27,050	26,811	26,719
1000 HA, 1000 MT						

PRODUCTION

Vietnam's Area, Yield, and Production for Rough Rice (as of October 2010)

Marketing Year	2008 Revised		2009 Estimate		2010 Forecast	
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Harvested Area (tha)						
Winter ¹	1,800	1,800	1,710	1,770	1,710	1,750
Spring ²	3,024	3,024	3,035	3,035	3,030	3,030
Autumn ³	2,510	2,510	2,610	2,610	2,610	2,610
TOTAL	7,334	7,334	7,355	7,415	7,350	7,390
Yield (mt/ha)						
Winter	4.46	4.46	4.36	4.34	4.35	4.35
Spring	6.15	6.15	6.22	6.22	6.20	6.20
Autumn	4.89	4.89	4.96	4.96	5.16	5.10
AVERAGE	5.30	5.30	5.34	5.33	5.40	5.37
Production (tmt)						
Winter	8,028	8,028	7,456	7,678	7,439	7,613
Spring	18,598	18,598	18,878	18,878	18,786	18,786
Autumn	12,278	12,278	12,946	12,946	13,468	13,311
TOTAL	38,904	38,904	39,280	39,502	39,693	39,710

¹ Lua Mua (10th Month), ² Winter-Spring, ³ Summer-Autumn
Source: *MARD, Post estimates*

Estimate for MY 2009 (began January 2010)

Post revises its estimate for Vietnam's MY 2009 rice production from the October estimate of 39.28 million tons to 39.50 million tons (paddy basis), due mainly to the larger-than-expected planted area of the Winter crop in the Mekong River Delta (MRD). This additional area was planted because the current high prices have encouraged some shrimp farmers to plant a winter rice crop. There is an increase of 600,000 tons on a year-on-year basis, due to increases in both yield and harvested area for the Spring and Autumn crops.

Autumn Crop (including main autumn and late autumn crops)

Harvests of both the main and late Autumn crops are almost complete. Post's October estimate of a harvested area of 2.61 million hectares, an increase of 100,000 hectares compared with MY 2008, remains unchanged. In line with increased planted area and better yield, paddy production for the MY 2009 Autumn crop increased by about 670,000 tons compared with MY 2008.

Winter Crop

According to MARD, as of November 15, 2010, the Winter crop planting area increased 62,000 hectares, mainly in the MRD's coastal area, where farmers raise shrimp as the main cash crop and occasionally plant one rice crop at the end of the year if prices are high. The harvest of the Winter crop in the MRD has just started and is only 7.2 percent complete.

As of November 15, 2010, the Winter crop harvest in the north was 95.5 percent complete, and was reported in good condition. The yield is estimated as the same as the MY 2008 Winter crop. Heavy rain and flooding caused a delay in the harvest in the central area. However, no severe damage was reported there.

Post revises the Winter crop harvested area up from 1.71 million hectares to 1.77 million hectares, due mainly to increased planted area in the MRD.

The Mekong River Delta (MRD) Rice Production

Winter Crop

Due to high paddy prices, farmers in the coastal area managed their land such that they could produce a rice crop in the area they typically use for shrimp cultivation. The yield on this land is usually lower than in other areas. Therefore, the increase of 60,000 hectares has lowered the overall average yield for the Winter crop in MRD from 3.95 tons per hectare to 3.90 tons per hectare. Total paddy production, however, increased from 869,000 tons to 1,092,000 tons.

In total, the MRD produced 21.885 million tons of paddy rice in MY 2009, a 1.75 million ton increase over MY 2008.

Spring crop MY 2010

MARD currently expects the MRD's MY 2010 Spring crop to be planted on 1.558 million hectares, or about the same area as MY 2009. The planting progress was recorded at about 300,000 hectares planted by November 15, 2010, according to MARD.

Table 3. Rice Production in the Mekong Delta by Marketing Year

(000 ha; mt/ha; 000 mt)

	2008 (Revised)			2009 (Estimate) (old)			2009 (Estimate) (new)		
	Area	Yield	Prod.	Area	Yield	Prod.	Area	Yield	Prod.
Winter	320	3.95	1,264	220	3.95	869	280	3.90	1,092
Spring	1,544	6.32	9,758	1,559	6.56	10,227	1,559	6.56	10,227
Autumn	1,553	4.72	7,330	1,644	5.00	8,220	1,644	5.00	8,220
Late Autumn	470	3.80	1,786	510	4.40	2,244	510	4.60	2,346
Total	3,907		20,138	3,933		21,560	3,993		21,885

Source: *MARD, Post estimate*