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Report Highlights:

*Metro opens 1st wholesale store in Dong Nai *Coffee growers eye local market

General Information:

Welcome to "News Summary" from Vietnam, an occasional summary of issues of interest to the U. S. agricultural community. The report includes information that has been garnered during travel within Vietnam, reported in the local media, or offered by host country officials and agricultural analysts. Press articles are included and summarized in this report. Significant issues may be expanded upon in subsequent reports from this office. Minor grammatical changes have been made for clarification.

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Metro opens 1st wholesale store in Dong Nai

German wholesaler Metro Cash and Carry on July 9 opened its first store in the southern province of Dong Nai, a fast developing industrial area of Vietnam, as its ninth wholesale center in the country.

This store is called Metro Bien Hoa as it is located in Bien Hoa City, just more than 30 km from Ho Chi Minh City, a southern economic hub.

The company now operates three stores in Ho Chi Minh City, two in Hanoi, and each in Hai Phong, Da Nang, Dong Nai and Can Tho, as well as two distribution platforms in Binh Duong and Lam Dong provinces.

(Source: <http://www.vnbusinessnews.com>)

Coffee growers eye local market

Local coffee companies plan to shift their attention to the domestic market as the price of coffee on the global market continues to fall.

Vietnam, the second largest coffee producer in the world, consumes very little of its yearly output of more than one million tons of coffee, according to Doan Trieu Nhan, senior consultant for the Vietnam Coffee and Cocoa Association.

The country is ranked 19th in coffee consumption among coffee-producing countries as it consumes 938,000 bags per year, or 56,000 tons.

The Central Highland province of Lam Dong, the second largest coffee growing province, has 135,596ha under coffee cultivation, with a yearly output of 283,000 tons of beans.

(Source: Vietnam News, July 10, 2009)