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Recent news on rice

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

The media reports on several issues related to the domestic rice sector such as producer price adjustments, imports from Guyana, and plans for converting the plains of Apure state into a production center.

General Information:

Rice prices at the producer level adjusted

The government has increased the price of rice at the producer level by 30 percent. Type "A" rice was adjusted from Bs 0.925 to Bs 1.20 per kilogram, while type "B" increased from Bs 0.915 to Bs 1.19 per kilogram. As per Official Gazette No. 39,289, these new prices will come into effect on January 1, 2010. This will be the second time in a year

that rice received an adjustment at producer level. However producers claim that the adjustment is insufficient, and have pointed out that these were the prices they requested at the beginning of the year.

Rice imports from Guyana

The Guyana's Minister of Agriculture, Robert Persaud, announced that the Venezuelan Government will buy from them 50,000 tons of rice at a cost of USD 18.8 million. The agreement signed by both countries includes 10,000 tons of paddy rice sold at USD 330 per ton and another 40,000 tons of white rice valued at USD 550 per ton. This rice will arrive in Venezuela within a month.

In August, 30,000 tons of rice was reportedly purchased from Ecuador, with negotiations ongoing for an additional 80,000 tons in October.

9,000 hectares of rice to be planted in Apure State during 2010

The government is planning to turn Apure state in a grain production center. According to the Minister of Agriculture, 50,000 hectares of rice will be planted during 2014 in Apure through the State Venezuelan Agricultural Corporation. The Minister indicated that as a part of a pilot project, 300 hectares of rice were planted at two well-known farms, El Frio and El Cedral. The yields of this project are around 3,200 kilos per hectare. In 2010 the Ministry has plans for planting about 9,000 hectares of rice in order to reach 50,000 hectares in 2014 in Apure. President Chavez recently said that "Venezuela is now approaching the level of self-sufficiency in rice. Now we will industrialize the rice." However, this year Venezuela has announced its intention to import at least 70,000 tons of paddy rice.

Sources: Major Daily Papers