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Voluntary - Public

Date: 12/2/2009

GAIN Report Number: KS9056

Korea - Republic of

Post: Seoul

Rice Production Update

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

Favorable weather helped raise MY 2009/10 rice production to 4.92 million metric tons, up 1.5 percent from the previous year. The increase in production is expected to soften local rice prices. Higher production will push MY 2009/10 ending stocks to 1.30 million metric tons.

General Information:

Production:

On November 11, 2009, the Korea National Statistical Office (KNSO) unexpectedly raised its MY 2009/10 rice production estimate to 4.92 million metric tons, which is up more than 230,000 metric tons from their September forecast. The production figures were revised because of stronger than expected yields resulting from favorable weather throughout the growing season.

Although the MY2009/10 crop is slightly larger than last year's crop, it would be the biggest in more than five years. This increase in production will likely put additional downward pressure on local rice prices at a time when local farmers are already complaining about weak prices. In fact, local rice farmers have staged several protests in recent weeks demanding that the government intervene in the market to stabilize sagging prices.

The PSD has been updated accordingly.

Stocks:

Higher production will push MY 2009/10 ending stocks to 1.3 million metric tons.

Korea: Rice Area, Yield and Production			
Crop Year	Area (1,00HA)	Yield (KG/HA)	Production (Milled, 1,000 MT)
2005	980	4900	4,768
2006	955	4890	4,680
2007	950	4640	4,408
2008	936	5180	4,843
2009 a/	924	5318	4,916

Source: Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (MIFAFF)

a/ MIFFAF Revised

Korea: 2009 Rice Area, Yield and Production			
Type of Rice Land	Area	Yield (KG/HA)	Production (Milled, MT)
Paddy Rice	917,990	5,340	4,898,725
Upland Rice	6,481	2,680	17,355
Total	924,471	5,318	4,916,080

Source: Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (MIFAFF)

Korea: Status of Rice Stocks						
(Milled rice, 1,000 MT, as of end October)						
Rice Year (Nov.-Oct.)	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 a/	2009/10 b/
Total	817	815	702	694	825	1,291
Government Stock	641	705	596	608	700	700
-Domestic Rice	113	493	456	510	600	600
-Imported Rice	528	212	140	98	100	100
Civil Stock	176	110	106	86	125	571

Source: Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (MIFAFF)

a/ MIFAFF Preliminary

b/ FAS/Seoul forecast

Rice PSD

Rice, Milled Republic of Korea,	2007			2008			2009		
	2007/2008			2008/2009			2009/2010		
	Market Year Begin: Nov 2007			Market Year Begin: Nov 2008			Market Year Begin: Nov 2009		
	USDA Official Data		Old Post	USDA Official Data		Old Post	USDA Official Data		Jan
			Data			Data			Data
Area Harvested	950	950	950	936	936	936	925	925	924
Beginning Stocks	702	702	702	694	694	694	825	825	825
Milled Production	4,408	4,408	4,408	4,843	4,843	4,843	4,682	4,682	4,916
Rough Production	5,962	5,962	5,962	6,545	6,545	6,545	6,327	6,327	6,643
Milling Rate (.9999)	7,393	7,393	7,393	7,400	7,400	7,400	7,400	7,400	7,400
MY Imports	254	254	254	262	262	262	300	300	300
TY Imports	282	282	282	260	260	260	300	300	300
TY Imp. from U.S.	97	77	77	0	70	70	0	80	80
Total Supply	5,364	5,364	5,364	5,799	5,799	5,799	5,807	5,807	6,041
MY Exports	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
TY Exports	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
Consumption and Residual	4,670	4,670	4,670	4,972	4,972	4,972	4,750	4,750	4,750
Ending Stocks	694	694	694	825	825	825	1,057	1,057	1,291
Total Distribution	5,364	5,364	5,364	5,799	5,799	5,799	5,807	5,807	6,041
Yield (Rough)	6.	6.	6.2758	7.	7.	6.9925	7.	7.	7.1894
TS=TD			0			0			0