Rice Growing Outlook Report

May, 2021

Overview

In the Northern side of SE-Asia, the harvesting of dry season rice has almost completed. The final production is estimated to increase than last year based on the increasing of planted area due to high trade price and stable weather conditions. In this seasonal rice, initially there was some concern about the growth condition due to lack of irrigation water in some countries and regions, but the yields were almost the same as the last year due to securing alternative water supply and rainfall in the latter half of growth.

On the other hand, the wet season rice is in seeding and field preparation stage. Total planted area is forecasted to slightly decrease due to the reduction of rice price and concerns about lack of water supply.

In the Southern side of SE-Asia (Indonesia), the harvesting of wet season rice is in final stage. The yield is expected to be fair under enough irrigation water and sunlight. If it is as usual, this May is the second month of planting dry season rice, but the planted area is still limited due to the delay after the rainy season.

Cambodia

This month, the sowing of wet season rice has started and it’s up to 18% of national plan 2.60 million hectares. The germination condition is good due to enough rainfall.

Moreover, for the operation problem, the agriculture work tends to be stagnant due to the impact of COVID-19.
**Indonesia**

May is the fifth month of harvesting the wet season rice and it was about 0.6 million hectares in February planted. The yield is expected to be fair with last wet season rice due to enough irrigation water and sunlight at flowering phase.

This May is supposed to be the second month of planting the dry season rice, but the planted area is still limited due to the delay after the rainy season so that farmers have planted wet season rice until early of March. Some areas where they finished the harvesting of wet season rice, farmers are starting the land preparation of dry season rice. The high rainfall is recorded in some areas in this month, but no report of damage.

**Laos**

The dry season rice is at the end of the harvesting stage. The harvesting area has progressed about 72% of the planted area. The final harvested area is estimated 88 thousand hectares, with the paddy production is about 390 thousand tons, and the yield would be 4.5 tons per hectare. In general, the yield increased compared with the last year due to good weather condition of rice growing, but the planted area is lower than the national plan due to lack of irrigation water in some province and regions.

The national planting plan of wet season rice in 2021 is approximately 870 thousand hectares, and now it is in land preparation.

**Myanmar**

Up to May 2021, harvesting of the dry season rice has been done for almost 700 thousand hectares that account for 75.6% of the total planted area (920 thousand hectares). The progress of harvesting work is similar to last year. It produced 3.38 million tons of paddy with a yield of 4.85 tons per hectare. The yield is good and also similar to last year. The weather of this month is very hot often together with strong wind and heavy rain. But it does not have any adverse effect on the harvest of the dry season rice.

**Philippines**

Dry season rice planted during the period of November to December was completely harvested. The production was recorded at around 4.63 million metric tons, which was an increase of 8.6% compared to last year. Generally, the crop growing condition of dry season rice in the country was good as most regions experienced normal to above normal rainfall condition.

Preparation and planting of wet season rice have already started. The whole country is more likely to experience near to above normal rainfall condition.

As a topic, the typhoon "Bising" caused heavy rainfall in Eastern Visayas in late April. The damage situation is currently under investigation.
Precipitation Map by JASMIN: the typhoon "Bising" caused heavy rainfall in Eastern Visayas in late April

**Thailand**

The harvesting of dry season rice is almost completed. The increase of planted areas in all regions was motivated by a high domestic price. Although some areas were short of the irrigation water, the farmers tried to divert water from an irrigation canal or river to feed their paddy fields. As the cultivation areas exceeded the irrigation plan by about 100%, it caused the yield to reduce as well as paddy grains to be underweight. However, the production is expected to increase from last year by about 8% because of the expansion of the planted area.

The wet season rice is in the field preparation time and starts to sow rice seed in some area. The planted area is forecasted to decrease due to the reduction of rice price and the rising price of other crops such as sugarcane.

**Vietnam**

In the North of Vietnam, the winter-spring rice (dry season rice) is in young panicle forming stages. The growing condition is good due to warm weather and better irrigation preparation.

In the South, the winter-spring rice (dry season rice) is in the harvesting stage. The harvested area of dry season rice reached 1.58 million hectares out of 1.92 million hectares planted. The yield of harvested rice is 7.15 tons per hectare, 2.4% higher than last year due to warm weather and better irrigation preparation. On the other hand, the summer-autumn rice (wet season rice) is in the seeding stage with the sown area of 0.3 million hectares.