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Burma

Grain and Feed

Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - December 2008

2009

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Report Highlights:

Burma exported 134,319 metric tons of beans and pulses in December 2008, up 162 percent from the same period in 2007 following a significant increase in sales to India. In 2008, Burma's bean and pulse exports increased by 28 percent from 1.45 million tons in 2007 to 1.86 million tons. After a large buying mission in November, India reportedly plans to send another delegation from its state-owned trading agency to inspect samples of bean and pulse in Burma in early 2009.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Rangoon [BM1]
[BM]

Trade

Burma exported 134,319 metric tons of beans and pulses in December 2008, up 162 percent from the same period in 2007 following a significant increase in sales to India. Toor Whole (Pigeon pea) accounted for 46 percent of the total exports, followed by Matpe with 29 percent, and Mung beans with 18 percent. India continued to be Burma's largest buyer in December, accounting for 91 percent of the total exports. Japan, did not import any Burmese Butter beans (Lima beans) in December.

In 2008, Burma's total beans and pulse exports reached 1,861,867 mt, an increase of 28 percent from the 2007 level. Increased demand from India drove Burma's export growth through the year. Japan, a regular buyer of Butter beans (Lima beans), has shifted to other kinds of beans and pulses and has not imported Burmese Butter beans since August 2008. China is considered the second largest buyer, but exports occur mostly through border trade basis and are not officially recorded.

December Beans and Pulses Exports by Destination (MT)						
	Butter	Matpe	Mung	Toor Whole	Other	Total
Bahrain		8	8	8		16
Belgium					22	22
China		48			560	608
India		36864	21355	61187	2775	122181
Indonesia		23				23
Italy			1			1
Japan		92			60	152
Korea	100	48		238	104	490
Latvia					21	21
Malaysia		141	3		48	192
Mauritius				24		24
Oman			48			48
Pakistan		790		120	2846	3756
Philippines					216	216
Russia					87	87
Singapore		365	1223	640	881	3109
Sri Lanka		486	168		168	822
Saudi		48	96		24	168
Thailand			48		68	116
UAE		96	627	216	349	1288
United Kingdom		24			165	189
Vietnam		374	408			782
Total	100	39407	23985	62433	8394	134319
Other category includes kidney, bamboo, black eye, sultani, gram, chickpea and brown beans						

Beans and Pulses Exports (mt)	2007	2008
January	68,006	91,596
February	81,386	138,477
March	151,743	288,839
April	233,490	415,895
May	164,326	209,967
June	174,156	211,582
July	141,478	165,710
August	99,245	112,897
September	86,860	89,437
October	96,237	44,184
November	102,226	93,283
December	51,247	134,319
TOTAL	1,450,400	1,861,867
Others not included		
Grand Total	1,450,400	1,861,867

Prices

Export prices set for beans and pulses by the Price Appraisal Committee that met in December 2008 are:

Matpe (FAQ)	US\$ 450-500
Matpe (SQ)	US\$ 530-580
Butter beans (Lima beans) (FAQ)	US\$ 350-400
Mung beans (FAQ)	US\$ 450-500
Toor Whole red (Pigeon pea)	US\$ 530-580
Toor Whole white/red (Pigeon pea) (FAQ)	US\$ 500-550
Black eye beans (FAQ)	US\$ 500-550

Note: 1) FAQ= Fair Average Quality; SQ= Superior Quality

2) Average exchange rate in December is US \$1= Kyat 1,205

Export prospects

The Indian government visited Burma in late November and agreed to purchase 80,000 tons of MY 2007/08 bean and pulse crop supplies, including Matpe, Pigeon pea and Mung beans. The GOB assigned the State-owned State Trading Cooperation (STC) as the only exporter. The STC would procure the export supplies by directly buying beans and pulses from Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), Bean and Pulse Exporters Association and other local trading entities. India reportedly plans to send another delegation from its state-owned trading agency to inspect samples of bean and pulse in Burma in early 2009.

Domestic trading activities for beans and pulses were weak in December since traders were waiting on the availability of new crop supplies which would enter the market in January. Domestic prices for beans and pulses appeared to drop across the board. Burmese farmers have been attempting to sell their old crop stocks (about 100,000 mt in total) since they anticipate a sharp decline in domestic price after the new crop production enters the market. It is likely that several farmers will face selling both paddy and beans at lower than hoped prices.

End of Report.