

Required Report: Required - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Grain and Feed Update

Country: Cambodia

Post: Phnom Penh

Report Category: Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

Cambodian rice farmers shifted production in 2023/24 toward short-term dry-season rice and used more inputs, resulting in higher production. Rice exports are revised higher with strong demand from neighboring countries and expansion to new export markets. Despite global prices declining in recent weeks, Cambodian exports are not expected to be negatively impacted in MY 2024/25 due to the differences in varieties.

RICE

Production, Supply, and Distribution

Rice, Milled	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
	Jan 2023		Jan 2024		Jan 2025	
Market Year Begins	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Cambodia	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	3470	3470	3580	3580	3640	3700
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	1053	653	1157	1003	1081	1063
Milled Production (1000 MT)	6963	7000	7174	7400	7377	7800
Rough Production (1000 MT)	11415	11475	11761	12131	12093	12787
Milling Rate (.9999) (1000 MT)	6100	6100	6100	6100	6100	6100
MY Imports (1000 MT)	41	50	50	60	50	70
TY Imports (1000 MT)	41	50	50	60	50	70
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	8057	7703	8381	8463	8508	8933
MY Exports (1000 MT)	2500	2700	2900	3300	2900	3500
TY Exports (1000 MT)	2500	2700	2900	3300	2900	3500
Consumption and Residual (1000 MT)	4400	4000	4400	4100	4500	4300
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	1157	1003	1081	1063	1108	1133
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	8057	7703	8381	8463	8508	8933
Yield (Rough) (MT/HA)	3.2896	3.3069	3.2852	3.3885	3.3223	3.4559
(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)						
MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column						
TY = Trade Year, which for Rice, Milled begins in January for all countries. TY 2024/2025 = January 2025 - December 2025						

Production

Table 1: Rice Area, Production, and Yield by Crop

MY	2022/2023			2023/2024 Estimate			2024/2025 Forecast		
	Harvested area (THA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Production (TMT)	Harvested area (THA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Production (TMT)	Harvested area (THA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Production (TMT)
Wet season	2,800	3	8400	2,900	3	8,700	3,000	3	9,000
Dry season	670	4.5	3015	680	5	3,400	700	5.5	3,850
Total	3,470	3.2896	11,415	3,580	3.3799	12,100	3,700	3.4730	12,850

Notes: For the wet season, Cambodia's primary crop period, sowing starts in May-June, with the crop harvested in August-September for short- and medium-term varieties and October-January for longer term varieties. For Cambodia's secondary crop period, the dry season, sowing starts in November-December, with the crop harvest occurring from February to April. MY 2023/24 includes two crops: 2023 wet season and 2023-2024 dry season.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF); Post's estimates.

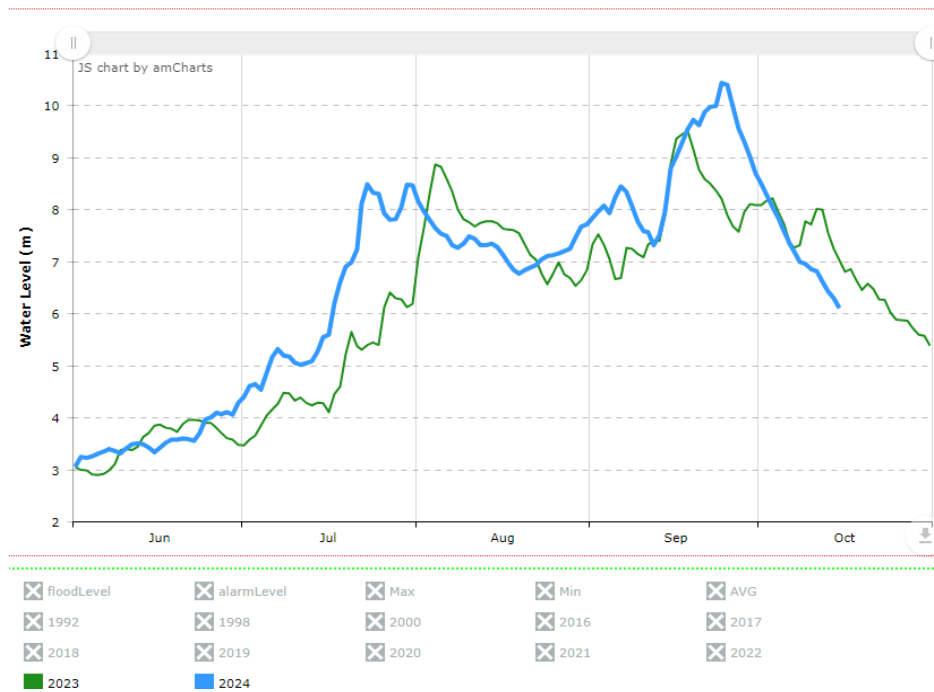
Thousand Metric Tons = (TMT), Thousand Hectares = THA

Post revised both MY 2024/25 and MY 2023/24 production figures to increase to 7,800 TMT and 7,400 TMT, respectively on a milled basis, increasing due to higher dry season rice area. In addition, farmers were motivated by the high prices offered by Vietnamese traders for recent crops to invest more in inputs in the hopes of higher yields. Farmers in Takeo province, a key rice production area in Cambodia, reported that the price for OM 5451 variety was priced at 1,300 riels/kg, almost the price of a longer-term variety such as Jasmine. OM 5451 is a premium high-yielding, long-grain fragrant variety developed in Vietnam with a short growing time that is popular in Vietnamese exports markets especially the Philippines. Consequently, it has become more profitable for farmers to cultivate dry season rice where irrigation is available, as varieties such as OM 5451 from Vietnam require only 90-95 days to mature, enabling farmers to produce up to three crops annually in certain regions, only one crop

for Jasmine. As a result of the high prices, farmers have increased incentive to use additional inputs, thereby increasing the yield for OM 5451 rice to approximately 5-6 MT/ha on average.

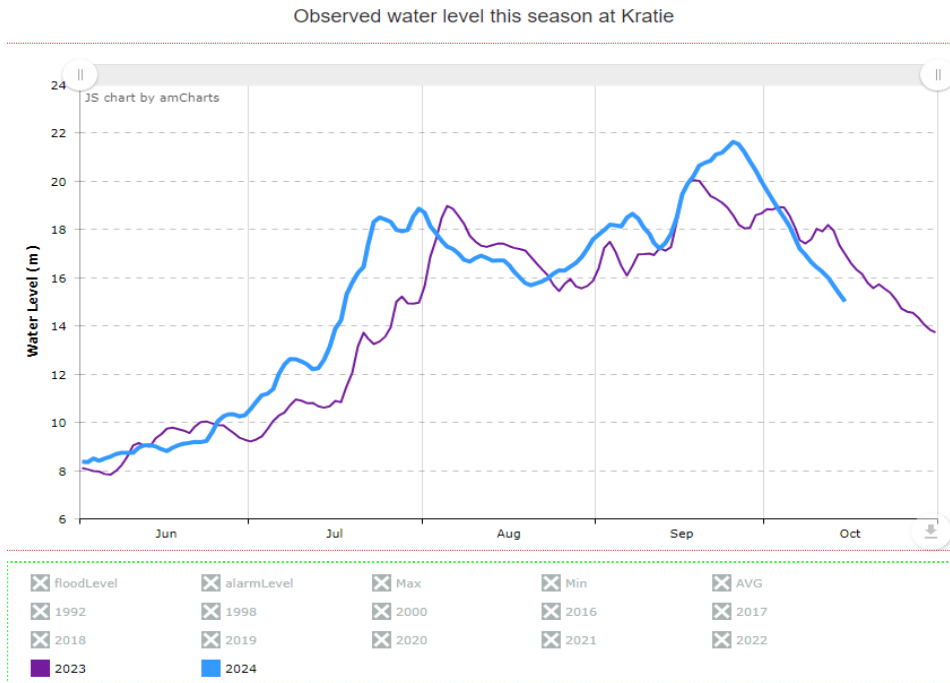
Although rains were delayed, the water levels became higher after the first rain in May allowing farmers to cultivate their dry season rice with enough water. Farmers cultivate dry season rice multiple times per year depending on the water sources they have. With the prolonged drought, they were not able to cultivate the dry season until late May. Although typhoon Yagi impacted Vietnam’s production, Cambodia was not affected. However, recent flash floods damaged around 10,000 hectares of rice farms in seven provinces, which is about 0.3 percent of the total MY 2024/25 wet season rice area.

Figure 1: Mekong River Water Level Monitoring at Stung Treng Station
Observed water level this season at Stung Treng



Source: [Mekong River Commission \(MRC\)](#)

Figure 2: Mekong River Water Level Monitoring at Kratie Station



Source: Mekong River Commission

Consumption

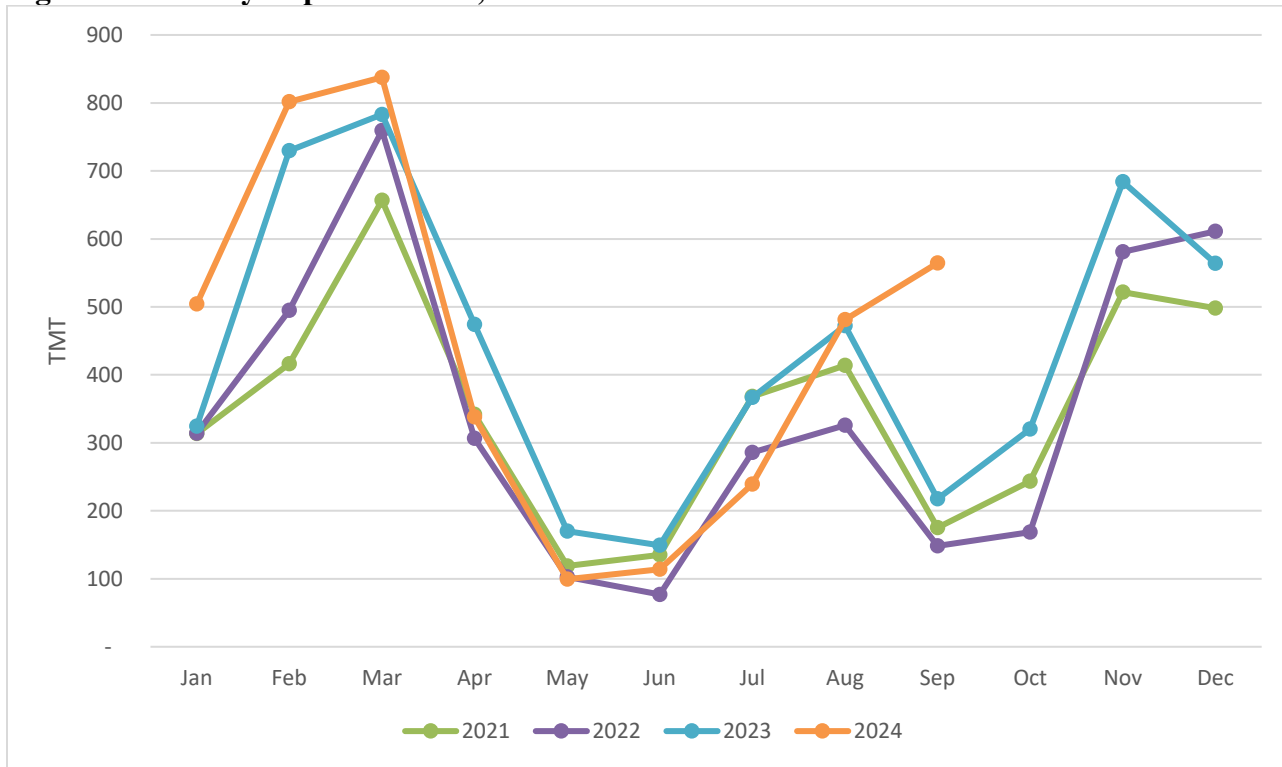
Post estimates consumption in MY 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25 slightly lower due to high export demand and high prices.

Trade

Post increases MY 2022/23, MY 2023/24 and MY 2024/25 rice export forecasts to reflect the strong demand in Vietnam and new market expansion in and beyond the region.

Due to a lack of sufficient dry, storage and milling capacity, farmers sell rice immediately after harvesting, especially in March, August and October (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Monthly Exports of Rice, 2021-2024



Source: Post Calculations, Trade Data Monitor LLC (includes both paddy and milled rice)

Vietnam continues to be Cambodia's primary destination for paddy rice exports. In the first nine months of 2024, according to the Cambodian Rice Federation (CRF), a volume of 3.3 MMT, which is documented through official records that include proper sanitary and phytosanitary certificates, shipped to this market, accounting for 86 percent of total rice exports. Despite the recent lifting of the Indian rice ban, industry contacts informed Post that Vietnamese traders continue to purchase significant quantities from Cambodia. Vietnamese traders have secured significant contracts with the Philippines. Having significant contracts in place allows them to obtain loans at lower rates and requires traders to seek out enough rice to meet these contracts. As a result, substantial quantities of paddy rice are expected to be exported from Cambodia to Vietnam for processing to fulfill those contracts.

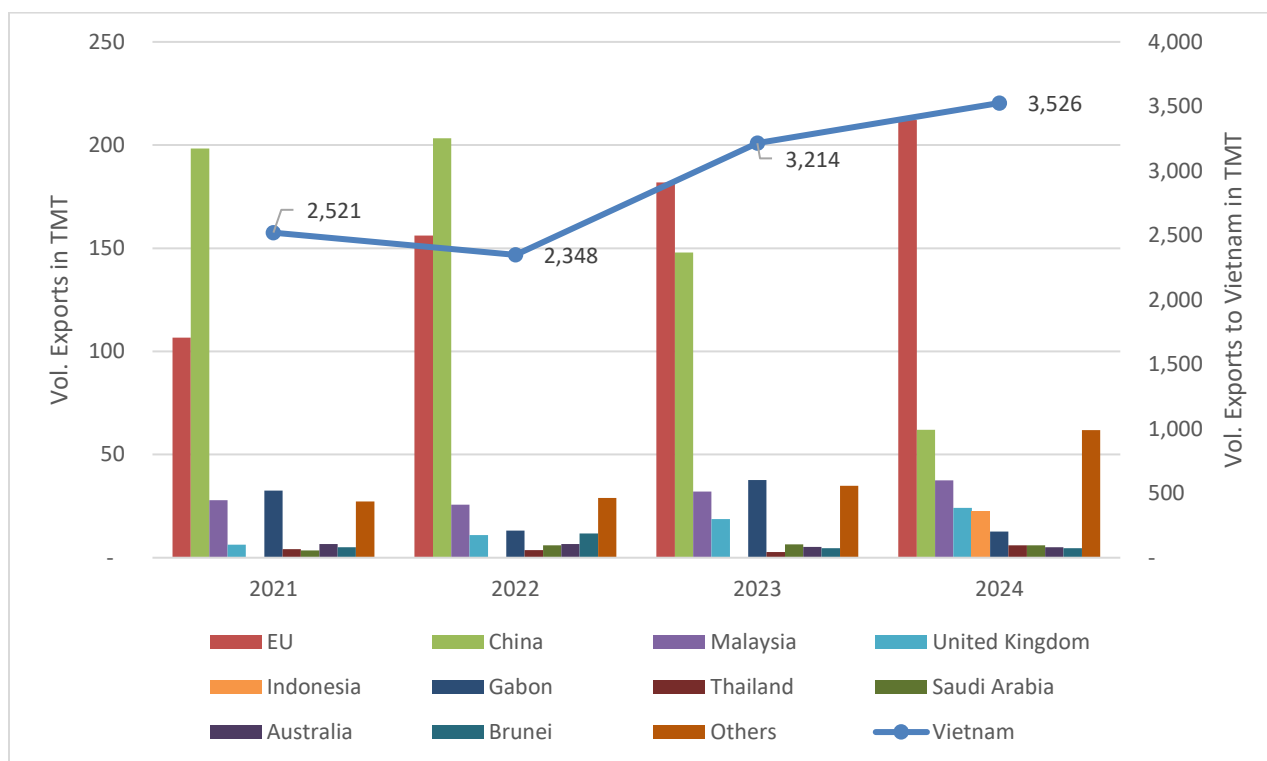
According to Trade Data Monitor, LLC, in the first nine months of 2024, Cambodia has exported about 454,000 MT of milled rice, accounting for 14 percent of total rice exports. This is an 8 percent decrease compared to the same period last year. The President of CRF announced Cambodia's goal to export 1 MMT of milled rice, particularly Jasmine/Fragrant rice (Figure 5). EU and China are the main buyers of this type of rice. EU has imported about 212,000 MT, an increase of 17 percent, but China has only imported about 62,000 MT, a decrease of 68 percent compared to the same period last year. Industry contacts told Post this is due to a slower Chinese economy and high stocks within the country.

Millers and exporters have informed Post that Asian markets, particularly Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines, are increasingly attractive markets for Cambodia. The Indian rice export ban enabled

Cambodia to strengthen its rice trade connections with these countries. The relatively shorter distances to these markets, compared to the EU, facilitate easier trading. This shift is further supported by Cambodia recently increasing its cultivation of white rice varieties that are in higher demand by these markets. Moreover, Indonesia and Cambodia recently renewed a memorandum of understanding regarding rice trade, which is described further in the policy section. From January to September 2024, Cambodia exported 23,000 MT to this market. Post estimates that approximately 100,000 metric tons of milled rice are exported to Thailand every year, but there is no official data to confirm this figure. According to the Trade Data Monitor, LLC, Cambodia exported around 6,000 MT milled rice to Thailand from January to September, more than 2 times higher than the volume of the same period last year.

Cambodia is also exploring markets beyond the region, including the United States. In late September 2024, a delegation of Cambodian businesses secured a five-year [agreement](#) with a U.S. company to export its aromatic and white rice with a goal of supplying major supermarkets like Costco and Walmart. Currently, Cambodia exports both paddy and milled rice to 65 destinations worldwide.

Figure 4. Main export markets of Cambodia Rice Jan.-Sept., 2021-2024



Source: Post Calculations, Trade Data Monitor LLC

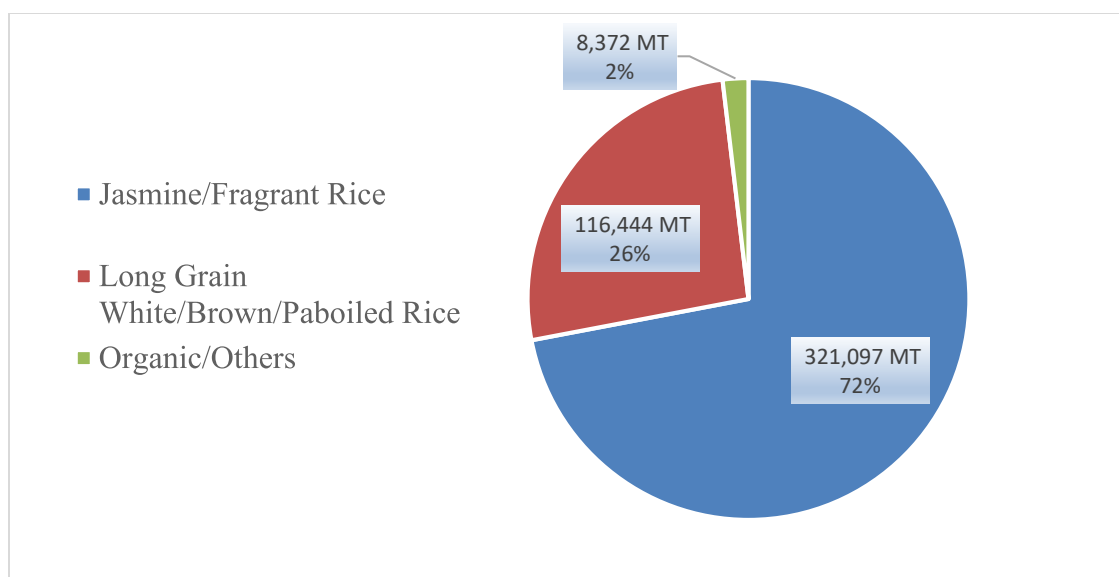
Note: TMT: thousand metric tons

Table 2: Monthly Rice Exports 2021-2024 in TMT

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	313	314	324	504
Feb	416	495	729	802
Mar	657	759	783	838
Apr	342	306	474	338
May	119	103	170	99
Jun	135	77	149	114
Jul	368	286	367	239
Aug	414	326	472	481
Sep	175	149	218	564
Oct	243	169	320	
Nov	522	581	684	
Dec	498	611	564	
Grand Total (TMT)	4,202	4,176	5,254	3,979

Source: Post Calculations, Trade Data Monitor LLC

Figure 5: Official Milled Rice Export Grade, January to September 2024



Source: Cambodia Rice Federation

Policy

Cambodia and Indonesia [agreed](#) last year to revise their Memorandum of Understanding to increase the export of Cambodian rice to this Southeast Asian nation at a rate of 250,000 metric tons per year for the next four years.

In Mid-October, Electricité du Cambodge (EDC) announced a reduction in electricity costs for rice millers, lowering the rate from 13.7 cents per kilowatt-hour to 12 cents per kilowatt-hour, which should alleviate milling costs.

Stocks

Cambodian storage capacity is both limited and costly for farmers which generally constrains Cambodian stock levels.

Attachments:

No Attachments