

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** January 27,2021

**Report Number:** HO2021-0002

**Report Name:** Honduras Sets Rough Rice Shortage Import Quota for 2021

**Country:** Honduras

**Post:** Tegucigalpa

**Report Category:** Policy and Program Announcements, Grain and Feed

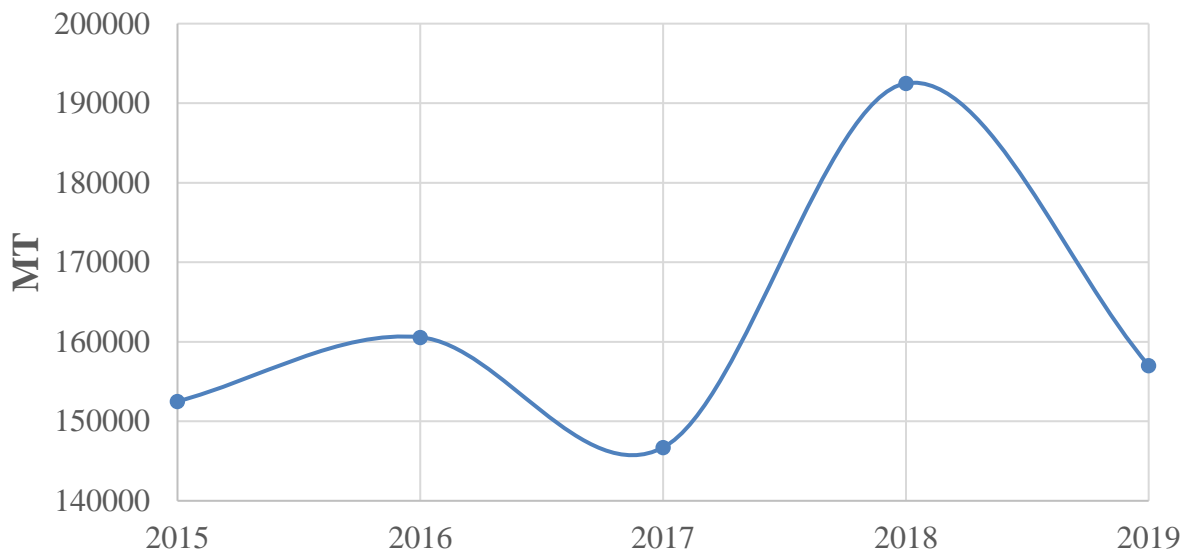
**Prepared By:** Francisco Bueso Ucles

**Approved By:** Andrew Hochhalter

**Report Highlights:**

Honduras Set a 118,800 MT Rough Rice Shortage Import Quota for 2021 after local production was severely hit by Hurricanes Eta and Iota. The Secretariat of Economic Development began issuing import licenses on January 4th which are valid until December 31st 2021. US rice exporters are advised to contact their local clients in Honduras to determine the amount every importer has been allocated based on local production purchases and to secure import licenses in a timely manner.

The Secretariat of Economic Development (SDE) began issuing rough rice (HS 1006.10.90) import licenses on January 4<sup>th</sup> that are valid until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The 2021 shortage import quota was set by the Multisector Rice Round Table at 118,800 MT of paddy rice, which is aligned with CAFTA-DR maximum Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for year 16. TRQs for rough rice will phase out on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Most of the quota is expected to be imported during the first quarter of 2021. Rough Rice imports represented 75% of total rice imports in 2019 (Figure 1).



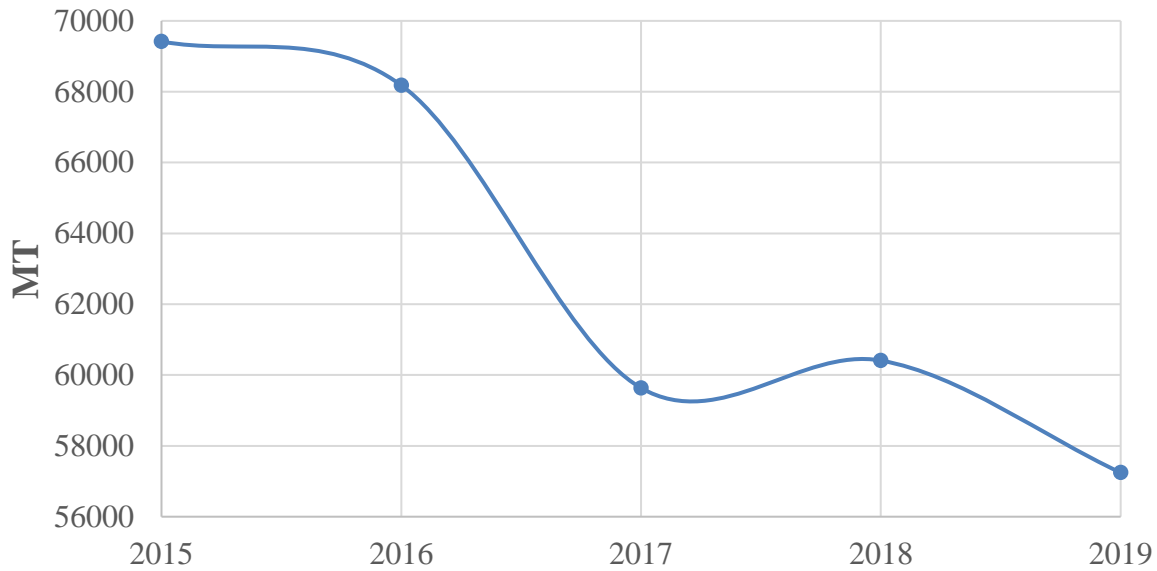
Source: Trade Data Monitor, BICO-Rice (2021)

**Figure 1. Total Honduras rice imports 2015-2019 in Metric Tons (MT).**

National 2020 production was 54,431 MT, continuing a downward trend from 2015 (Figure 2). National production dropped 26% compared to pre hurricane Iota and Eta and 5% compared to 2019 when a severe drought affected yields.

Rice importers must buy a percentage of local production in order to be able to obtain import licenses for a similar percentage of the annual shortage quota, as established in Presidential Decree PCM-007-2012 (in Spanish) which can be accessed using this link:

**<https://sde.gov.hn/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/DESABASTO-PCM007-2012.pdf>**



Source: FAO STAT (2021).

**Figure 2. Honduras rough rice 2015-2019 production in Metric Tons (MT).**

If you have questions regarding this report or need assistance exporting to Honduras, please contact the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Offices at the following addresses:

Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Embassy  
Avenida La Paz, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Phone: (504) 22385114, Ext. 4544, 4354  
Fax: (504) 22368342  
Email: [AgTegucigalpa@fas.usda.gov](mailto:AgTegucigalpa@fas.usda.gov)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.