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Pakistan

Grain and Feed

Rice Update

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Report Highlights:

Pakistan's MY 2002/03 rice production forecast has been increased 350,000 MT to 3.85 million metric tons, based on higher than expected area and yields at least equivalent to last year's. The MY 2002/03 rice export forecast has been revised upward to 1.1 MMT. MY 2002/03 ending stocks are forecast to decline and are expected to consist largely of Basmati rice. MY 2001/02 export estimates have been increased, based on actual shipments and final production estimates of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL).

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Islamabad [PK1], PK

Table 1: Production, Supply and Demand of Rice

Country	Pakistan					
Commodity	Rice, Milled				(1000 HA)	(1000 MT)
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		11/2000		11/2001		11/2002
Area Harvested	2350	2350	2020	2115	2000	2100
Beginning Stocks	811	811	432	432	222	164
Milled Production	4700	4700	3740	3882	3500	3850
Rough Production	7051	7051	5611	5824	5251	5776
MILLING RATE (.9999)	6666	6666	6666	6666	6666	6666
TOTAL Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan-Dec Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan-Dec Import U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	5511	5511	4172	4314	3722	4014
TOTAL Exports	2429	2429	1250	1450	800	1100
Jan-Dec Exports	2417	2398	1250	1450	800	1100
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	2650	2650	2700	2700	2700	2700
Ending Stocks	432	432	222	164	222	214
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	5511	5511	4172	4314	3722	4014

Production

Pakistan's MY 2002/03 rice crop is forecast at 3.85 million metric tons (MMT), due mainly to a smaller than expected decrease in area. Based on information from Punjab and Sindh, MY 2002/03 area is forecast to be 2.1 million hectares--down only 15,000 hectares from last year. Even so, there has been a significant shift in production areas and varieties. In Sindh, acreage is down about 40,000 hectares--all IRRI. IRRI rice acreage decreased about 10,000 hectares in Punjab due to better returns from Basmati rice last year. However, in Punjab, rice planting increased about 40,000 hectares. This additional acreage was planted with Basmati rice and a non-aromatic long rice variety 386. Of the total MY 2002/03 rice area, about 65 percent is Basmati, 29 percent is IRRI and 6 percent consists of other varieties. Sources estimate that Basmati rice area increased about 4 percent and IRRI rice area declined by about 10 percent. In Sindh, farmers opted to plant less rice due to the lack of early-season irrigation supplies and better returns from sugarcane and cotton. In Punjab farmers switched some area from cotton to rice and sugarcane because of low returns on cotton compared to rice and sugarcane last year.

Rice planting times were similar to last year's due to the lack of irrigation at planting, which caused farmers to plant rice from 4-to-6 weeks late, particularly for IRRI rice planting in Sindh province, which accounts for more than 60 percent of the total IRRI acreage and is the main source of exportable IRRI. Farmers report that good monsoon rains, compared to last year's, may help to improve yields, although it did not compensate for the crop's late start. In general, late planting

results in yield losses. The late rice harvest in Sindh is expected to delay the sowing of other "rabi" crops, particularly wheat.

The MY 2001/02 crop production estimate has been increase 142,000 MT, based on final production estimates of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Government of Pakistan.

Trade

The MY 2002/03 export forecast has been revised upward by 300,000 MT to 1.1 MMT (about 600,000 MT of IRRI and 500,000 MT of Basmati), based on the forecast of higher production, limited carry-in stocks of IRRI rice, and decreased price competitiveness of IRRI in world markets due to the appreciation of the Pakistani rupee since September 11.

The MY 2001/02 export estimate has been revised upward, based on actual shipment of 1.38 MMT during November-August period (first 10 months of the MY 2001/02).

Stocks

MY 2002/03 ending stocks have been adjusted downward to account for the decline in carry-in stocks.