

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Taiwan Confident in Food Stocks as COVID-19 Disrupts
International Trade

Country: Taiwan

Post: Taipei

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News, Grain and Feed, Livestock and
Products, Oilseeds and Products, Vegetables, Fresh Deciduous Fruit, Fishery Products

Prepared By: Troy Lai and Lucas Blaustein

Approved By: Lucas Blaustein

Report Highlights:

Taiwan authorities are confident that food and agricultural commodity stocks and supply will last for up to 6-months in the event of further deterioration in international agricultural trade due to COVID-19.

In 2018, Taiwan was dependent on imports for 66.4 percent of its annual caloric intake according to Taiwan's Council of Agriculture (COA). Taiwan authorities manage stocks of key food staples to ameliorate the threat of food price inflation and provide enough supply in the event of a disruption in world trade.

COVID-19 continues to have a deleterious impact on international agricultural trade. In response to ongoing concerns over food security, COA reviewed stocks and near-term production levels, determining that Taiwan has enough food on hand to cover needs for the next 6-months. According to COA, stock and supply levels of key agricultural products are as follows:

Rice: Current publicly held stocks are 900,000 metric tons (MT), enough for 9-months. The first rice crop of marketing year 2020 will be harvested starting in late April and will add another 1.2 million MT (MMT) to Taiwan's rice balance sheet. The second crop of 2020 will be harvested starting in November and will add an additional 800,000 MT to supply. At the end of 2020, the total volume of rice in Taiwan will be sufficient for 30-months. COA has supplied 25,000 MT of rice to the Taiwan Tobacco and Liquor Corporation to produce sanitizing alcohol and exported 30,000 MT of rice abroad.

Wheat: Stocks plus shipments in transit are sufficient for the next 6-months.

Wheat Seeds: If needed, Taiwan has 30,000 MT of wheat seed available for domestic cultivation.

Sweet Potato Seedlings: Sufficient supply is available to be scaled up if needed.

Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, and Other Row Crops: Inventory is available for up to 6-months, with an estimated 3 MMT of anticipated supply.

Vegetables: Total supply is anticipated to reach 1.44 MMT over the next 6-months, over what Taiwan authorities consider to be the necessary safety threshold.

Fruits: Total supply will reach 1.55 MMT over the next 6-months, also over the safety threshold.

Livestock Products: Sufficient supply is available for the next 6-months. Short-term production estimates are: 400,000 MT of pork; 360,000 MT of poultry; 200,000 MT of milk; and, roughly 20 million eggs per day.

Fishery Products: Sufficient supply exists for the next 6-months, estimated at 480,000 MT.

Fertilizers: Domestic fertilizer production for the next 6-months is estimated at 750,000 MT, versus 430,000 MT of demand for the first 6-months of 2019.

Other Items: Seeds/seedlings for planting, pesticides, etc. are all sufficient to meet the next 6-months of demand.

Sources (in Chinese):

[Council of Agriculture News Bulletin on March 28, 2020](#)

[Council of Agriculture News Bulletin on April 6, 2020](#)

[AgriHarvest Blog on April 7, 2020](#)
