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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Post: Rangoon

Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report February 2011

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

Burma exported 87,418 metric tons of beans and pulses in February, a decrease of 30 percent from the same period in 2009, with 58 percent going to India or 50,577 MT. Additionally, 11 percent or 9,242 metric tons of mung beans (green gram) and 93 metric tons of Matpe were traded with China, all of it through border trade.

Trade

Burma's beans and pulses exports in February 2011 totaled 87,418 MT, down 30 percent from 125,428 MT in February 2010. Mung bean (green gram) accounted for 41 percent of the total exports, followed by Matpe (black gram) 30 percent and toor whole (pigeon pea) 24 percent. India and China were the largest buyers accounting for 50,577 MT or 58 percent and 9,335 MT or 11 percent of total exports respectively.

Only 5,200 MT of Matpe ready cargo (RC) and 700 MT of Matpe Special RC were traded in Bayint Naung wholesale market

Table 1. Beans and Pulses Exports by Types and Destination in February, 2011 (MT)

Country	Butter	Matpe	Mung	Toor	Whole	Other	Total
India		21,026	8,622		20,929		50,577
China		93	9,242				9,335
Indonesia		2,356	6,640				8,996
Japan		1,577	5,983				7,560
Philippines			5,310				5,310
Thailand						2,005	2,005
South Korea		1,323					1,323
Singapore						1,300	1,300
Malaysia						1,012	1,012
Total		26,375	35,797		20,929	4,317	87,418

Table 2. Monthly Export of Pulses and Beans for 2009-2010

Months	2010		2011	
	Monthly	Cumulative Total	Monthly	Cumulative Total
January	64,576	64,576	81,145	81,145
February	125,428	190,004	87,418	168,563
March	133,315	323,319		
April	57,379	380,698		
May	69,025	449,723		
June	79,447	529,170		
July	72,910	602,080		
August	72,791	674,871		
September	70,381	745,252		
October	63,587	808,839		
November	46,277	855,116		
December	117,453	972,569		
Total	972,569		168,563	

Average exchange rate in January: one US\$= Kyat 807

Export prospects

Burmese beans and pulses are facing several challenges which are affecting their competitiveness in the global market. The salient factors are an appreciating kyat which has appreciated 5 percent year-to-date, high fuel costs and new restrictions on trucks loads which have pushed-up transportation costs and a less-than-expected production due to unusual rain during January that affected the flowering stage of beans and pulses in the delta areas of Yangon, Ayerwaddy and Pago. These factors contributed to an increase in prices for mapte, mung bean and toor whole by 16 percent, 3 percent and 27 percent respectively compared to last month. As such, a slowdown in exports is expected for 2011.

End of report