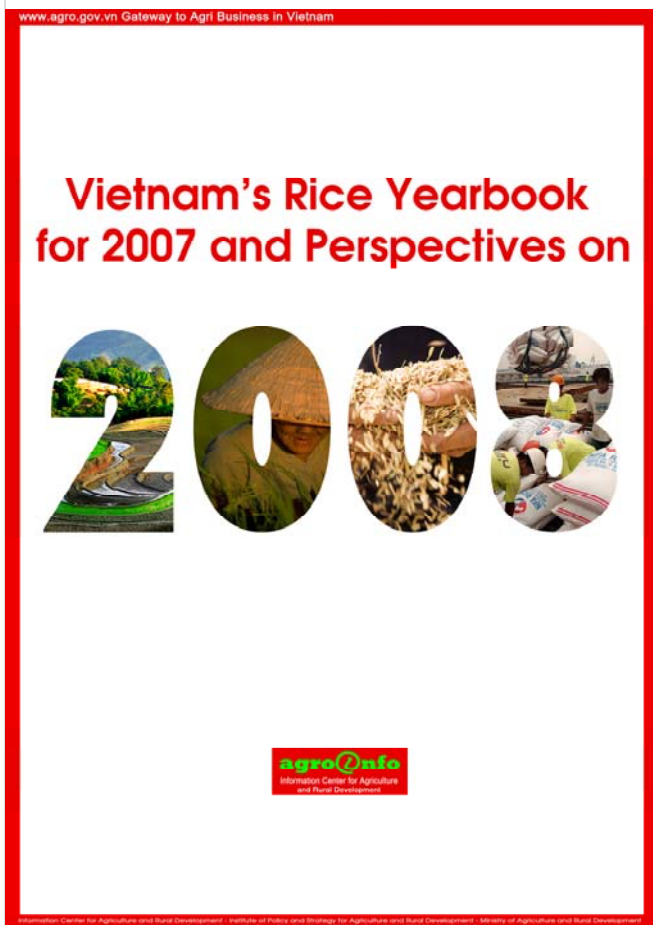


VIETNAM'S RICE YEARBOOK FOR 2007 AND PERSPECTIVES ON 2008



Publication date: March, 2008

The first Yearbook on Vietnam's rice market developed and published by the Information Center of the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD).

Strong points of the Yearbook

The Yearbook will present:

- Situation on rice supply and demand, rice production and consumption, rice export and import and rice stock
- Overall analysis and most updated information on:
 - Rice production, consumption, market and export
 - Enterprises and localities taking lead in investing in and renovation of rice processing technology

The Yearbook is an important document for central and local policy makers, rice trade enterprises, international organizations and others.

The Yearbook has 100 pages with 60 presenting analyses and 40 presenting data.

Price: 40 USD

To register for buying the Yearbook, please contact:

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FOREWORD

This is the first Yearbook on Vietnam's rice market developed and published by the Information Center of the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (AGROINFO/IPSARD). Also for the first time, this yearbook produces a supply and demand balance built on data of rice production, import-export, marketing, and stocks.

The yearbook has been prepared by a group of commodity analysts of AGROINFO through implementing a study process: learning techniques in analyzing and forecasting agricultural market from international organizations, organizing field trips to exchange view with different stakeholders along rice value chain in Vietnam, developing and writing reports and reviewing the content of the Yearbook with national and international experts before its publication.

In 2006 and 2007, AGROINFO's commodity analysts team joined two study tours to the Economic Research Service- the United State Department of Agriculture (ERS/USDA) to learn ERS's techniques in agricultural market analyzing and forecasting. ERS is presently world renowned as an agricultural commodity and market analyzing and forecasting organization. AGROINFO's experts learnt and accumulated experience about rice market from the trip. Since March of 2007, Information Center for Agriculture and Rural Development has been regularly publishing "Weekly News of Vietnam Rice Market" (VietRice weekly) in both Vietnamese and English edition. The bulletin attracted an increasing number of readers who are from food related companies as well as rice market related organizations (Industrial and Commercial Bank of Vietnam, Agriculture Bank of Vietnam), domestic and international organizations of information communications (Radio the Voice of Vietnam, Dow Jones in Vietnam), and other international organizations (Representative office of Foreign Agriculture Service/ United states Department of Agriculture).

In 2007, AGROINFO commodity analysts group visited China's National Grain and Vegetable Oils Information Center (CNGOIC) to learn their lesson in applying ERS technique in analyzing and forecasting food and oil in China.

In August 2007, a commodity analysts team of ERS/USDA and AGROINFO organized and joined a series of field trips to exchange view with provincial food companies and provincial Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) in Thai Binh and Ha Tay (in the North) and Can Tho, An Giang, Vinh Long, Long An, Kien Giang (in the South), as well as worked with Ho Chi Minh Food and Foodstuff Association, Vietnam Food Association in Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam's Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Can Tho office. During the visit, the expert team had opportunity to discuss and exchange information on business environment and results of business operation of these units. The visit updated the mission with valuable information on current rice market.

When designing the analyzing framework yearbook, AGROINFO's commodity analysts consulted with ERS/USDA on ways to satisfy information demands raised by businesses and enterprises as well as ministerial managers.

With advantages in communication and information dissemination function, AGROINFO' commodity analysts could access and participate in important meetings and workshops organized by MARD to obtain key information and data to be used in the yearbook.

To enhance quality, the draft of the yearbook was submitted to well-known national and international experts for comments and consultancy.

Vietnam's Rice Yearbook for 2007 and Perspectives on 2008 will be a valuable document for policy makers at both central and local levels, for international organizations, donors and businesses. The yearbook will provide important information for decision making relating to investment, business running and business projection.

The yearbook contains comprehensive and updated information on rice production, consumption, exportation, and marketing as well as changes in rice trade with the seven following chapters:

Chapter I: Rice production in Vietnam, analyzes factors affecting domestic rice supplies in the various crop seasons and ecological regions (2000-2007); summarizes policies on developing rice production; and analyses how cost, profit and technology trends affect Vietnam's rice production.

Chapter II: Rice prices and trading, analyzes domestic and export prices, sums up rice exporting activities from Vietnam to large markets, as well as the rice trading policies in Vietnam and some other countries.

Chapter III: Developments in rice businesses and markets, introduces changes in investment in financial markets, export activities, and brand-building by domestic rice businesses in 2007.

Chapter IV: Rice consumption in Vietnam and Asian countries, analyzes the changing trend in rice consumption per capita in a number of Asian countries and households in different regions of Vietnam using quantitative methods and data from the household living standard survey conducted in three years: 1998, 2002 and 2004.

Chapter V: The rice supply-demand balance of Vietnam in 2007, analyzes the current situation of rice supply and demand in Vietnam.

Chapter VI: Perspectives of rice market in 2008, analyzes and forecasts possible changes in rice prices, trading, and supplies in Vietnam and other countries.

Chapter VII: Data and statistics, comprises about 60 tables presenting key data and figures over time (from 5 to 30 years), including secondary data and statistics.

Annexes: introduce supplemental information, such as the plan and important tasks in 2008 of the Crop Department of MARD; contents and addresses of important websites on rice in Vietnam and the world; and contact lists of food associations in Vietnam and other countries, etc.

The yearbook is published in Vietnamese and English editions which act as a key channel for introducing Vietnam's rice sector to the world market and providing timely information to domestic and international businesses who have interest in Vietnam's rice.

On this occasion, we would especially like to acknowledge the support of the Economic Research Service, the United States Department of Agriculture for assisting AGROINFO staffs with study tours in The United States in two years 2006 and 2007 and in Vietnam in 2007.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Professor Dr. C.Peter Timmer - Visiting Professor, Program on Food Security and Environment, Stanford University, U.S; Dr. Chu Thai Hoanh, senior specialist of International Irrigation Research Institute; Professor. Dr., Nguyen Tri Khiem, head of Economic Department of An Giang University; Dr. Nguyen Thi Hang, deputy head of Food Crop Division of Crop Department of MARD for their valuable comments to the preparation and the draft of this yearbook. We would like to the express grateful thanks to Dr. Nathan Childs, Rice specialist- ERS/USDA for his discussion on the content and structure of the yearbook as well the world rice prospects for the future;

In addition, we would like to say special thanks to Mr. John Dyck, Manager of Emerging Markets Program, Market Analysis and Capacity Building in South-East Asia, ERS/USDA for his valuable comments and advice given to the draft of the yearbook and his editing to the English version of this publication.

Particularly, we would like to send our thankfulness to Dr. Dang Kim Son, General Director of IPSARD, who always supported our work.

As this is the first publication, some limitations on content and analysis are difficult to avoid. We welcome your comments to help improve the quality of the report in an effort to satisfy the demand for information from individuals, organizations and readers in general.

TABLE OF CONTENT

INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

APPROACH

PART I. RICE PRODUCTION

1. Rice area, yield and output
- 1.1. Rice area, yield and output by crops (1977-2007).....
- 1.2. Rice area, yield and output by regions (2002-2006)
- 1.3. Rice area, yield and output of the 2007 winter-spring crop
- 1.4. Rice area, yield and output of the 2007 summer-autumn crop
- 1.5. Rice area, yield and output of the 2007 winter crop
- 1.6. Paddy production by type.....
- 1.6.1. Ordinary rice
- 1.6.2. High quality rice, special rice
- 1.6.3. Aromatic rice
- 1.6.4. Sticky rice
- 1.6.5. Hybrid rice
- 1.6.6. Rice cultivated for foreign contract
2. Rice production system and rice profits
- 2.1. Rice production system
- 2.2. Rice farming mechanization
- 2.2. Rice production cost
- 2.3. Incomes from rice production and cultivation on rice land.....
2. Rice losses, rice technology and rice output
- 2.1. Harvested and actual rough rice output
- 2.2. Rice processing technology
- 2.3. Rice output Milled rice.....
- 2.4. Rice associated products.....
- 2.4.1. Rice husk
- 2.4.2. Rice bran
- 2.4.3. Rice bran oil
4. Rice commodity development policies of Vietnam and other countries.. ..
- 4.1. Vietnam
- 4.2. Thailand
- 4.3. Indonesia.....
- 4.4. Philippines
- 4.5. Cambodia.....
- 4.6. India

PART II. Rice prices and rice trade

1. Domestic and export rice prices.....
2. Export.....

2.1.	Rice export by volume and turnover	
2.2.	Rice export by destinations (1990-2006).....	
	Philippines.....	
	Indonesia.....	
	Malaysia.....	
	Japan	
	Singapore	
	Iran	
	Cuba	
	Russian Federation.....	
	Africa	
2.3.	Rice export by volume, categories and markets (2007)	
2.4.	Motion of Vietnam's rice processing enterprises in 2007	
2.4.1.	<i>Technology and Quality</i>	
	<i>GENTRACO Corporation</i>	
	<i>Song Hau Food Company (SOHAFOOD)</i>	
	<i>Vinh Long Cereal and Food Import-Export Company (VINHLONG FOOD)</i>	
	<i>VIET DUC Company Limited</i>	
	<i>Tien Giang Food Company (TIGIFOOD)</i>	
2.4.2.	<i>Investment</i>	
	<i>Vinh Long Import-Export Company (IMEX CUULONG)</i>	
	<i>An Giang Import-Export Company (ANGIMEX)</i>	
	<i>SAFOCO Foodstuff Joint Stock Company</i>	
	<i>Food Packing Enterprise</i>	
	<i>Vietnam Southern Food Corporation (VINAFOOD II)</i>	
	<i>Food and Foodstuff Industries Joint Stock Company (FOODINCO)</i>	
	<i>DAM PHU MY Enterprise</i>	
2.4.3.	<i>Export</i>	
	<i>An Giang Tourimex</i>	
	<i>GENTRACO Corporation</i>	
	<i>An Giang Import-Export Company (ANGIMEX)</i>	
	<i>Dong Thap Foods - Agriculture Company (DARGIMEX)</i>	
	<i>Vietnam Southern Food Corporation (VINAFOOD II)</i>	
	<i>Kien Giang Import & Export Co.,Ltd (KIGIMEX)</i>	
	<i>MINH CAT TAN Co.,Ltd</i>	
	<i>Hanoi's Food and Foodstuff Export and Import Joint Stock Company</i>	
	<i>VIET DUC Company Limited</i>	
	<i>DANG NGOC Co., Ltd</i>	
	<i>Mechanizes Corporation and Foodstuff Joint Stock Company</i>	
3.	Vietnam's rice trade policy	

- 3.1. Vietnam’s commodity policy on rice
- 3.2. Vietnam’s rice trade policy with other countries.....
- 4. World rice trade
- 4.1. International rice trade.....
- 4.2. Thailand’s rice trade with other countries

PART III. Domestic rice consumption quantitative analysis

- 1. Domestic rice consumption tendency (1990-2007)
- 2. Household rice consumption tendency (1998-2004)

PART IV. Vietnam’s rice demand-supply balance in 2007.....

- 1. Vietnam’s rice demand-supply balance of FAS/USDA
- 2. Vietnam’s rice demand-supply balance following the “reservation approach” ..
- 3. Other calculation of rice demand-supply balances
- 4. Vietnam’s rice reserve policies.....

PART V. Rice market outlook in 2008.....

PART VI. Datasheets

- Table 1: Output value of agriculture at current prices (2001 - 2007)
- Table 2: Output value of agriculture at constant prices (2001 - 2007)
- Table 3: Foreign direct investment on agriculture (2001 - 2007)
- Table 4: Investment at current prices by kind of economic activity (2001 - 2007)
- Table 5: State investment at current prices by kind of economic activity (2001- 2007)
- Table 6: Consumer price, food and foodstuff index in 2007
- Table 7: Import turnover of agriculture input
- Table 8: Planted area and production of paddy (1977 - 2007)
- Table 9: Planted area and production of paddy by crop (1977-2007)
- Table 10: Planted area of paddy in 2007 compared to the average (1997 -2007)
- Table 11: Annual average yield by crops (1977-2007)
- Table 12: Vietnam’s production of paddy by crops (2001 - 2007)
- Table 13: Planted area and yield of paddy in the Red River Delta (2000 - 2007)
- Table 14: Planted area and yield of paddy in the North Central Coast by crops (2000 - 2007)
- Table 15: 10 most popular varieties grown in the Red River Delta, 2004
- Table 16: Planted area and yield of paddy in the Mekong River Delta (2000 - 2007)
- Table 17: Planted area and yield of paddy in the Southeast (2000 - 2007)
- Table 18: Southeast’s yield of paddy in comparison with other regions in 2007
- Table 19: Planted area and yield of paddy in the North Central Coast (2000 - 2007)
- Table 20: Planted area and yield of paddy in the South Central Coast (2000 - 2007)
- Table 21. Planted area and yield of paddy in the Central Highlands (2000 - 2006)
- Table 22: Production of paddy in the Mekong River Delta, 2000 - 2007
- Table 23. Production of paddy in the Red River Delta and the North Central Coast (2000 – 2007)
- Table 24: Production of paddy in the Red River Delta (2000 - 2007)
- Table 25: Production of the North Central Coast (2000 - 2007)

Table 26: Production of paddy in the Southeast (2000 - 2007)

Table 27: Production of paddy in the Northeast and the Northwest (2000 - 2007)

Table 28: Production of paddy in the Central Highlands (2000 - 2007)

Table 29: Rice production expenditures in the winter-spring crop, An Giang (2006/07)

Table 30: Rice production expenditures in the winter-spring crop of Hai Duong (2007)

Table 31: Price of Urea fertilizer in several localities (4/2006-9/2007)

Table 32: Price of DAP fertilizer in several localities (4/2006-9/2007)

Table 33: Production of harvested rice and net-production of rice (1990 - 2007)

Table 34: Production of milled rice (1975-2007)

Table 35: Production of rice by-products, 2005

Table 36. Volume and value of imported refined rice bran, Quarter 1/ 2007

Table 37: Vietnam's per capita rice consumption by province (1998-2004)

Table 38: Per capita rice consumption in rural and urban households (2001-2004)

Table 39: Per capita rice consumption and expenditure in Vietnam by region (2002-2004)

Table 40: Per capita rice consumption in Vietnam by income group (1992-2004)

Table 41: The ratio of rice expenditure to total income by income group (1998-2004)

Table 42: Rice consumption structure of Vietnamese households (2004)

Table 43: Rice consumption for food and sale of Vietnamese farm households by region (2004)

Table 44: Rice storage of Vietnamese farm households by region (2004)

Table 45: Rice consumption for seed and feed (2004)

Table 46: Post – harvested paddy loss

Table 47: Rice production per person (1990-2007)

Table 48: Vietnam's rice balance sheet (Demand - Supply) in 2007

Table 49: Rice production, export and consumption in Thailand (2000 - 2007)

Table 50: Rice production, export and consumption in India (2000 - 2007)

Table 51: Rice production, export and consumption in China (2000 - 2007)

Table 52: Rice production, export and consumption in United States (2000 - 2007)

Table 53: Rice production, export and consumption in Pakistan (2000 - 2007)

Table 54: Import and consumption in East Asian (2000 - 2007)

Table 55: Import and consumption in Saharan (Africa) (2000 - 2007)

Table 56: Import and consumption in Middle East (2000 - 2007)

Table 57: Import and consumption in North-American (2000 - 2007)

Table 58: Import and consumption in East Asian (2000 - 2007)

REFERENCE

WEBSITE ADDRESS REFERENCE

APPENDIX (11 Appendix)

