

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS MALAYSIA, APRIL 2015

1. PRODUCTION

Production of natural rubber (NR) in April 2015 was recorded at **35,850** tonnes, dropped by **24,661** tonnes (**-40.8%**) as compared to March 2015. Year-on-year, production recorded a decrease of **1.4** per cent. The biggest contributor of Malaysia's NR is from the smallholding sector (**92.6%**), while the remaining is from the estate sector. Both of smallholding and estate sectors recorded a decrease in production at **41.6** per cent and **28.2** per cent for month-on-month respectively.

2. EXPORTS

In April 2015, exports of NR was **49,059** tonnes. Month-on-month and year-on-year comparison shows a decrease of **12,108** tonnes (**-19.8%**) and **15,465** tonnes (**-24.0%**) respectively. From the total of NR exports, **91.3** per cent was contributed by the Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R.) that comprised **50.8** per cent of S.M.R. 20.

The People's Rep. of China was the main destination for NR exports (**34.6**%), followed by Germany (**16.1**%), U.S.A. (**8.1**%), Brazil (**4.0**%), Rep. of Korea (**3.7**%), Islamic Rep. of Iran (**3.5**%), Finland (**3.1**%), Portugal (**2.6**%) and Turkey (**2.2**%).

3. IMPORTS

A total of **69,585** tonnes of NR was imported in April 2015. Month-on-month comparison shows the imports decreased by **8,538** tonnes (**-10.9%**), whereas year-on-year increased by **8,814** tonnes (**+14.5%**). The main type of NR imported for this month was Latex Concentrate (**33.5%**) and Standard Rubber (**32.4%**).

The NR mainly was imported from Thailand (46.1%) and Viet Nam (16.7%).

4. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

Domestic consumption of NR in April 2015 was recorded at **39,909** tonnes, went up by **1,579** tonnes (**+4.1%**) from March 2015. Compared to the same month in 2014, the domestic consumption also increased by **7.4** per cent.

The largest industry that has consumed NR was the rubber gloves industry with a total of **29,658** tonnes (**74.3**%), followed by tyre & tubes (**8.1**%) and rubber thread (**7.6**%). The total consumption from these three industries covered more than half of the overall NR domestic consumption with a total of **35,947** tonnes (**90.1**%).

5. STOCKS

The level of NR stocks held at the end of April 2015 was decreased by 14.8 per cent to 176,348 tonnes as

compared to the level of stocks in March 2015. For year-on-year comparison, an increase of 19.1 per cent of NR stock was recorded. Rubber Processors was the biggest contributor in the NR stock (89.6%).					

6. AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICE PER KILOGRAMME

(Noon Quotations - F.O.B.)

The average monthly price of latex concentrate was recorded at **411.31** sen per kilogramme in April 2015. Month-on-month comparison shows a reduction of **8.87** sen (**-2.1%**) whereas for year-on-year, the price dropped **63.23** sen (**-13.3%**).

The average monthly price of S.M.R. 20 was recorded at **500.33** sen per kilogramme, dropped by **12.6** sen (**-2.5%**) from March 2015 and **77.88** sen (**-13.5%**) from April 2014.

7. EMPLOYMENT

A total of **12,164** persons were engaged in the rubber estates at the end of April 2015, where **12,160** persons were paid employees with salaries & wages paid amounting to **RM12.7** million. The number of paid employees rose by **0.1** per cent from March 2015 whereas year-on-year, it was shrank by **3.0** per cent.

8. PRODUCTIVITY

The productivity of NR production on estates was **68.9** kilogramme per hectare in April 2015. Productivity of NR production shows a decrease as compared to month-on-month by **25.9** kilogramme per hectare (**-27.3%**), whereas year-on-year it increased by **8.4** kilogramme per hectare (**13.9%**).

9. PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Chart 1 below shows the monthly time series.

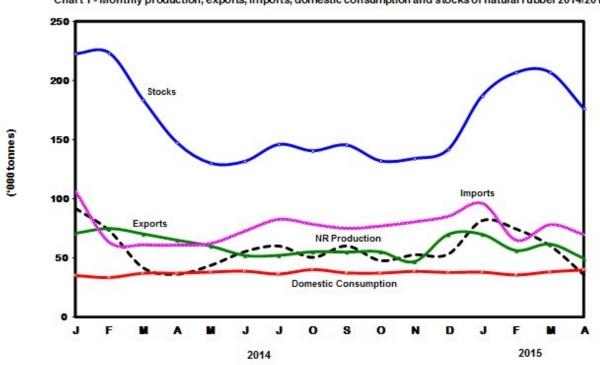


Chart 1 - Monthly production, exports, imports, domestic consumption and stocks of natural rubber 2014/2015

* Notes:

Data for April 2015 is **provisional**. The data will be updated based on the latest available figures and subsequently published in the May 2015 publication.

Released by:

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