



MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS MALAYSIA, DECEMBER 2014

1. PRODUCTION

The production of Natural rubber shrank by **1.1** per cent to **52,004** tonnes in December 2014 when compared to the previous month. Production was also lower than December 2013 by **24,478** tonnes (**-32.0%**). The main contributor of NR production was from the smallholding sector at **91.2** per cent while the estate sector only contributed **8.8** per cent. Month-on-month, both smallholding and estate sectors recorded a decrease in production at **0.5** per cent and **6.7** per cent respectively.

2. EXPORTS

In December 2014, a total of **69,438** tonnes of NR was exported. Exports increased by **23,013** tonnes (**+49.6%**) from November 2014 but dropped by **13,898** tonnes (**-16.7%**) from December 2013. Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R.) contributed **95.5** per cent of the total NR exports with **65.3** per cent comprised of S.M.R. 20.

NR was mainly exported to People's Rep. of China (**48.3%**), followed by Islamic Rep. of Iran (**12.9%**), Germany (**9.7%**), U.S.A. (**5.0%**), Rep. of Korea (**2.1%**), Finland (**1.7%**), Portugal (**1.7%**), Turkey (**1.7%**) and Brazil (**1.6%**). The total exports to these countries represents more than half of the overall NR exports.

3. IMPORTS

A total of **85,193** tonnes of NR was imported in December 2014, increased by **4,736** tonnes (**+5.9%**) from November 2014. Imports reduced by **27.1** per cent when compared to a year ago. Standard Rubber and Latex Concentrate were the main types of NR imported, at **35.7** per cent and **30.5** per cent respectively.

The main suppliers of NR were Thailand (**57.8%**) and Viet Nam (**20.3%**). These two countries accounted for **78.1** per cent of the total imports of NR.

4. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

In December 2014, the total domestic consumption of NR was recorded at **37,710** tonnes. Domestic consumption of NR shows a decrease of **983** tonnes (**-2.5%**) when compared month-on-month. Nevertheless, for year-on-year, domestic consumption increased by **3,612** tonnes (**+10.6%**).

The rubber gloves industry was the highest consuming industry of NR at **26,821** tonnes (**71.1%**), followed by rubber thread (**9.1%**) and tyre & tubes (**5.6%**). The total consumption of these three industries constituted **85.8** per cent of the overall domestic consumption of NR.

5. STOCKS

A total of **137,990** tonnes of NR stocks was recorded in December 2014, rose by **3,868** tonnes (**+2.9%**) compared to the previous month. Nevertheless, the level of NR stocks shows a decrease of **29,942** tonnes (**-17.8%**) when compared to the level of stocks in December 2013.

6. AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICE PER KILOGRAMME (Noon Quotations - F.O.B.)

In December 2014, the average monthly price of latex concentrate was recorded at **362.23** sen per kilogramme. The average price of latex concentrate dropped **34.90** sen (**-8.8%**) from the previous month and **173.65** sen (**-32.4%**) from the previous year.

The average monthly price of S.M.R. 20 was recorded at **505.27** sen per kilogramme, a small increase of **1.72** sen (**+0.3%**) when compared to month-on-month but decreased by **237.47** sen (**-32.0%**) for year-on-year.

7. EMPLOYMENT

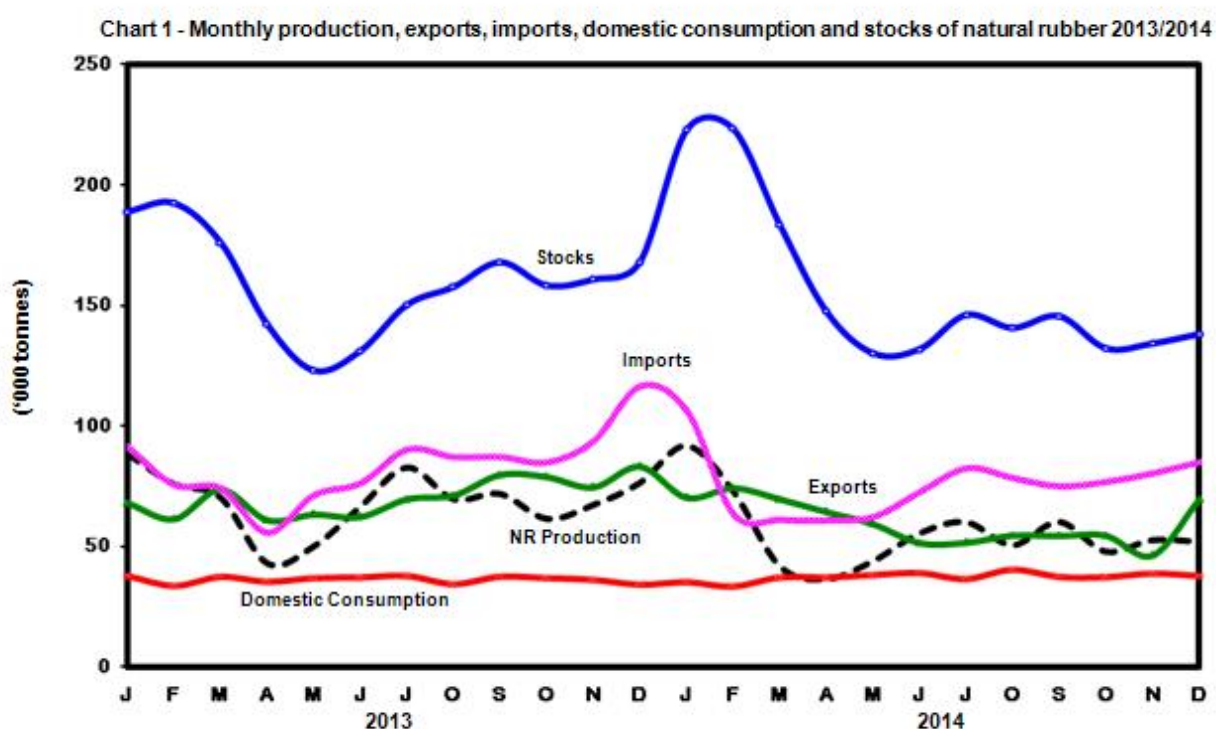
The total number of workers engaged in rubber estates in December 2014 was **12,377** persons, with number of paid employees was **12,373** persons and total salaries & wages paid amounting to **RM17.7** million. Month-on-month, the total number of paid employees increased by **22** persons (**+0.2%**), whilst year-on-year, went up by **327** persons (**+2.7%**).

8. PRODUCTIVITY

The productivity of NR production in estates dropped by **5.8** per cent to **116.2** kilogram per hectare in December 2014 when compared to November 2014. Year-on-year also shows a reduction in productivity by **14.6** kilogramme per hectare (**-11.2%**).

9. PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Chart 1 below shows the monthly time series.



* Notes:

Data for December 2014 is **provisional**. The data will be updated based on the latest available figures and subsequently published in the January 2015 publication.

Released by:

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