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## MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS MALAYSIA, MARCH 2015

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### 1. PRODUCTION

In March 2015, the total production of natural rubber (NR) was recorded at **60,918** tonnes, decreased by **13,551** tonnes **(-18.2%)** from the previous month. However, this month's production is **18,952** tonnes **(+45.2%)** higher than March 2014. The smallholding sector contributes **94.0** per cent of the total NR production while the remaining is from the estate sector. Both of smallholding and estate sectors recorded a decrease in production at **17.0** per cent and **33.5** per cent for month-on-month respectively.

### 2. EXPORTS

A total of **61,167** tonnes of NR was exported in March 2015. Exports increased by **5,362** tonnes **(+9.6%)** from the previous month but decreased by **8,591** tonnes **(-12.3%)** from March 2014. Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R.) contributed **92.1** per cent from the total exports of NR with **57.7** per cent comprised of S.M.R. 20.

NR was mainly exported to the People's Rep. of China **(41.1%)**, followed by Germany **(10.4%)**, Islamic Rep. of Iran **(7.3%)**, U.S.A. **(5.3%)**, Finland **(3.1%)**, Brazil **(3.1%)**, Taiwan **(3.1%)**, Turkey **(2.1%)** and Rep. of Korea **(1.7%)**.

### 3. IMPORTS

Total imports of NR in March 2015 was **78,123** tonnes, went up by **13,179** tonnes **(+20.3%)** as compared to the previous month. For year-on-year, the imports also increased by **17,123** tonnes **(+28.1%)**. A total of **37.1** per cent of the overall imports comprised of latex concentrate.

NR was imported mainly from Thailand at **59.8** per cent and Philippines **(9.5%)**.

### 4. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

Total domestic consumption of NR was recorded at **38,326** tonnes in March 2015. Comparing to February 2015, domestic consumption went up by **2,762** tonnes **(+7.8%)**. Year-on-year comparison also shows an increase of **1,183** tonnes **(+3.2%)**.

The rubber gloves industry was the largest consumer of NR at **27,585** tonnes **(72.0%)**, followed by rubber thread **(8.7%)** and tyre & tubes **(8.4%)**. These three industries together consumed **34,116** tonnes **(89.0%)** of this month's total NR.

### 5. STOCKS

The level of stocks in March 2015 was recorded at **209,772** tonnes. Month-on-month and year-on-year comparison shows an increase in the level of NR stocks at **2,934** tonnes **(+1.4%)** and **25,506** tonnes **(+13.8%)** respectively.

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

Overall, the average monthly price of NR in March 2015 has shown an increase. The average price of latex concentrate was recorded at **420.18** sen, increased by **36.85** sen (**+9.6%**) compared to February 2015 but has dropped by **70.32** sen (**-14.3%**) when compared to March 2014.

The average price of S.M.R. 20 was **512.93** sen in March 2015, that is **13.13** sen (**+2.6%**) higher than the previous month whereas for year-on-year, the price dropped **110.62** sen (**-17.7%**).

## 7. EMPLOYMENT

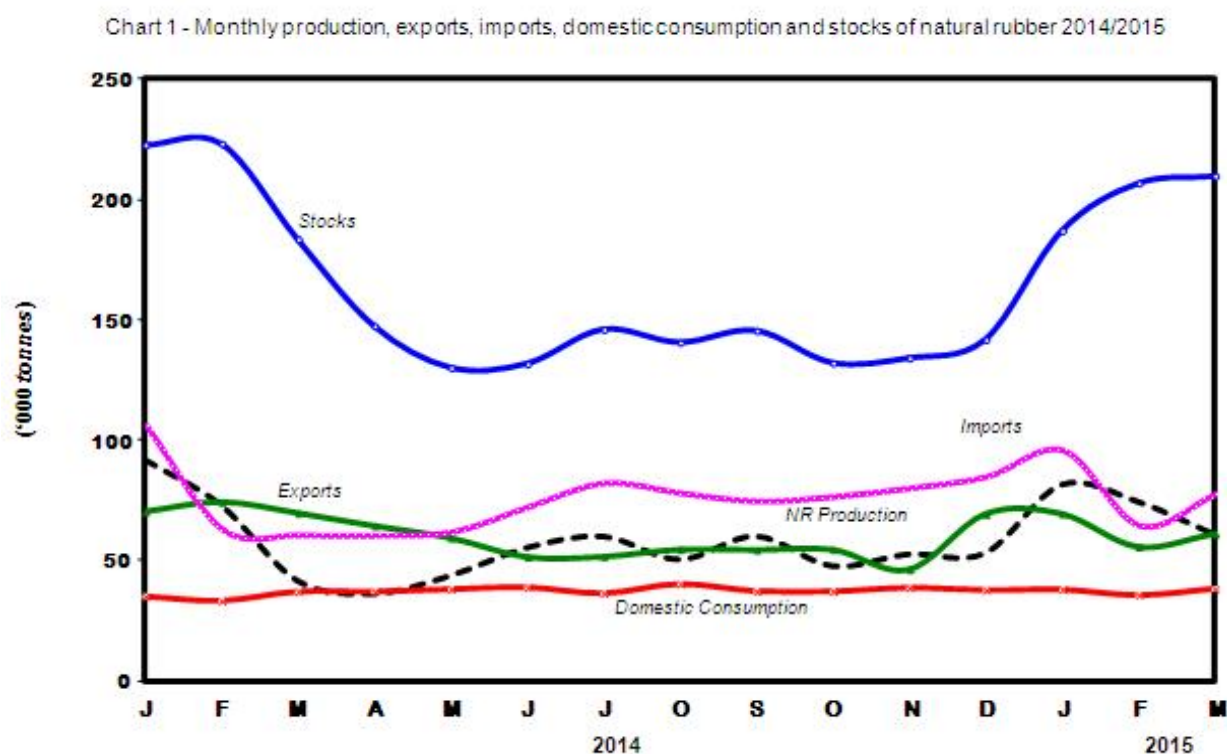
A total of **12,158** persons were engaged in the rubber estate in March 2015 of which **12,154** were paid employees. Total salaries & wages paid amounting to **RM13.6 million**. The number of paid employees dropped by **1.2** per cent for month-on-month and **4.1** per cent for year-on-year.

## 8. PRODUCTIVITY

The productivity of NR production on estates was recorded at **95.0** kilogramme per hectare in March 2015, dropped by **45.4** kilogramme per hectare (**-32.3%**) from the previous month but increased **21.7** kilogramme per hectare (**+29.6%**) from March 2014.

## 9. PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Chart 1 below shows the monthly time series.



### \* Notes:

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

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**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, MALAYSIA  
#myHariBulan# #myBulan# #myTahun#**

**Contact person:**

Norrita binti Amran  
Public Relation Officer  
Corporate and User Services Division  
Department of Statistics, Malaysia

**Tel :** +603-8885 7942

**Fax :** +603-8888 9248

**Email :** norrita.amran@stats.gov.my

**Contact person:**

Baharudin Mohamad  
Public Relation Officer  
Strategic Communication and International Division  
Department of Statistics Malaysia

**Tel :** +603-8090 4681

**Fax :** +603-8888 9248

**Email :** baharudin[at]dosm.gov.my

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