



MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS MALAYSIA, MAY 2015

1. PRODUCTION

In May 2015, a total of **38,923** tonnes of natural rubber (NR) was produced, went up by **3,073** tonnes (**+8.6%**) from April 2015. However, this month's NR production is **4,976** tonnes (**-11.3%**) lower compared to a year ago. The main contributor of NR was from the smallholding sector at **91.2** per cent, while the remaining is from the estate sector. For month-on-month, both of smallholding and estate sectors recorded an increase in production at **7.0** per cent and **27.8** per cent respectively.

2. EXPORTS

Total exports of NR in May 2015 was **40,513** tonnes, decreased by **8,546** tonnes (**-17.4%**) from the previous month. Total exports also declined by **31.9** per cent compared to May 2014. The Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R.) contributed **92.1** per cent of the total NR exports with **50.8** per cent comprised of S.M.R 20.

The main destinations for NR exports were the People's Rep. of China (**36.2%**), followed by Germany (**16.3%**), U.S.A. (**5.7%**), Islamic Rep. of Iran (**4.3%**), Brazil (**3.4%**), Portugal (**3.2%**), Rep. of Korea (**2.5%**), Turkey (**2.5%**) and Finland (**2.3%**).

3. IMPORTS

Total imports of NR in May 2015 was recorded at **66,230** tonnes, dropped by **3,355** tonnes (**-4.8%**) from the previous month. Imports showed an increase of **6.4** per cent as compared to a year ago. The main type of NR imported was Latex Concentrate (**39.0%**) and Standard Rubber (**33.5%**).

The NR was mainly imported from Thailand (**53.3%**) and Viet Nam (**14.3%**).

4. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

Total domestic consumption of NR was recorded at **38,860** tonnes in May 2015. Comparing to April 2015, the domestic consumption dropped by **1,049** tonnes (**-2.6%**). Year-on-year comparison shows an increase of **753** tonnes (**+2.0%**).

The major NR consuming industries for May 2015 were rubber gloves (**74.1%**), rubber thread (**7.8%**) and tyre & tubes (**7.6%**). These three industries covered more than half of the overall NR domestic consumption with a total of **34,813** tonnes (**89.5%**).

5. STOCKS

The level of NR stocks held at the end of May 2015 was recorded at **132,925** tonnes, a decrease of **43,440** tonnes (**-24.6%**) from the level of stocks in April 2015. Nevertheless, the level of stocks registered an increase of **1.8** per cent when compared to a year ago. The biggest portion of the stocks was held by Rubber Processors (**86.4%**).

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

In May 2015, the average monthly price of latex concentrate was recorded at **447.58** sen per kilogramme, increased by **36.27** sen (+8.8%) from the previous month but decreased by **10.20** sen (-2.2%) when compared to May 2014.

The average monthly price of S.M.R. 20 was recorded at **540.50** sen per kilogramme, increased by **40.17** sen (+8.0%) from April 2015, whereas for year on year dropped by **3.63** sen (-0.7%).

7. EMPLOYMENT

In May 2015, the total number of workers engaged in the rubber estates was **12,199** persons, with the number of paid employees totalling of **2,195** persons and total salaries & wages paid amounting to **RM13.4** million. The number of paid employees went up by **0.7** per cent from the previous month but shrank by **3.3** per cent from a year ago.

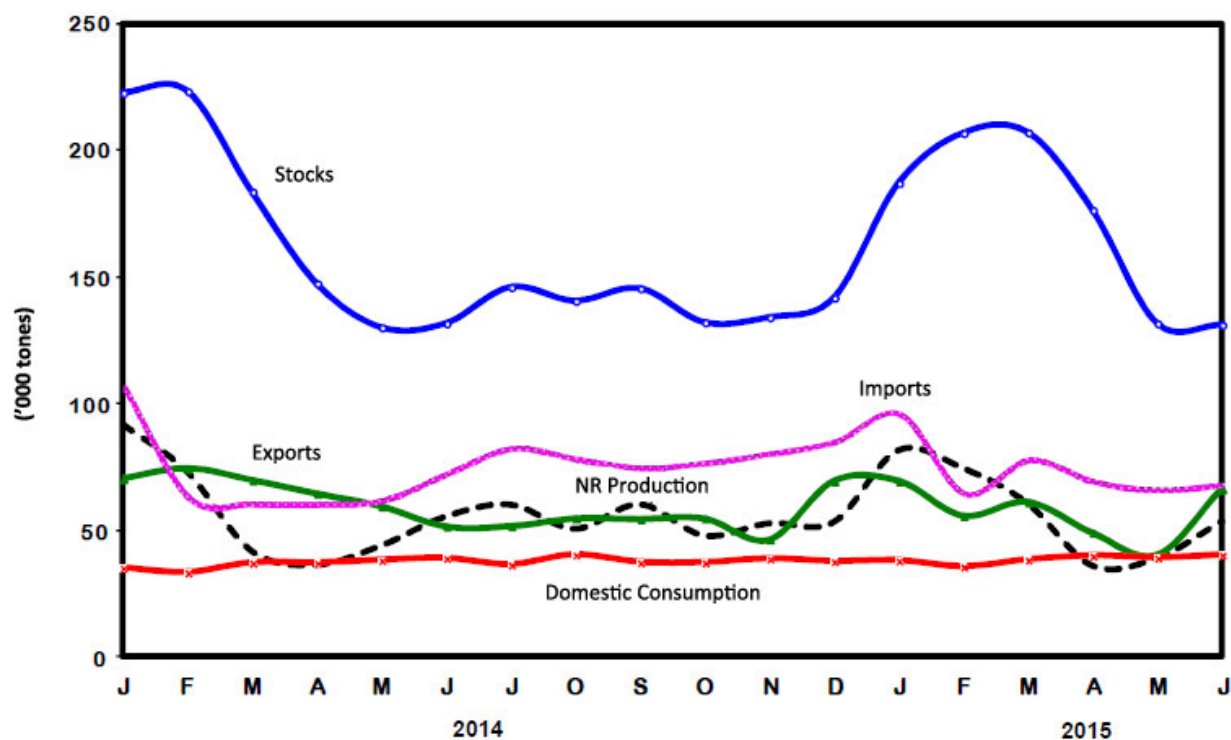
8. PRODUCTIVITY

In May 2015, the productivity of NR production in estates increased by **28.0** per cent to **88.2** kilogramme per hectare when compared to a month ago. Year-on-year shows a drop in the productivity by **2.5** kilogramme per hectare (-2.7%).

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

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