



MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS MALAYSIA, DECEMBER 2015

1. PRODUCTION

Production of natural rubber (NR) in December 2015 was recorded at **73,571** tonnes, increased by **22,631** tonnes (**+44.4%**) when compared to November 2015. Year-on-year, production also recorded an increase of **38.3** per cent. Production of NR by the smallholdings sector contributes **91.8** per cent whilst the remaining is from the estate sector. Smallholding and estate sectors showed an increase of NR production of **44.0** per cent and **49.3** per cent respectively as compared to the previous month.

2. EXPORTS

Exports of Malaysian NR in December 2015 increased by **19.7** per cent to **54,154** tonnes when compared with November 2015. Nevertheless, exports reduced by **22.0** per cent compared to December 2014. Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R.) contributed **95.1** per cent of the total NR exports that comprised **60.3** per cent of S.M.R. 20.

NR was mainly exported to the People's Rep. of China (**41.3%**), followed by Germany (**14.8%**), Islamic Rep. of Iran (**8.0%**), U.S.A. (**6.6%**), Turkey (**4.0%**), Finland (**2.2%**), Rep. of Korea (**2.0%**), Taiwan (**1.9%**) and Portugal (**1.9%**).

3. IMPORTS

In December 2015, imports of NR was recorded at **108,656** tonnes. Imports went up when compared month-on-month and year-on-year at **17,545** tonnes (**+19.3%**) and **23,463** tonnes (**+27.5%**) respectively. The main type of NR imported was Standard Rubber (**37.3%**) and Latex Concentrate (**26.0%**).

NR was imported mainly from Thailand (**50.8%**) and Viet Nam (**17.7%**).

4. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

In December 2015, domestic consumption of NR was recorded at **41,305** tonnes, increased by **1,838** tonnes (**+4.7%**) when compared to November 2015. Year-on-year comparison also shows an increase of **3,596** tonnes (**+9.5%**).

Rubber gloves industry is the largest consumer of NR at **30,563** tonnes (**74.0%**), followed by rubber thread (**8.6%**) and tyre & tubes (**7.5%**). These three industries consumed **37,218** tonnes (**90.1%**) of NR.

5. STOCKS

The level of stocks of NR held at the end of December 2015 rose by **21.3** per cent to **175,241** tonnes compared to the level of stocks of the previous month. For year-on-year comparison, an increase of **23.5** per cent was recorded. The biggest portion of the stocks was held by Rubber Processors (**89.2%**).

6. AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICE PER KILOGRAMME

(Noon Quotations - F.O.B.)

The overall average monthly price of NR in December 2015 is lower compared to the previous months. The average monthly price of latex concentrate decrease **4.5** per cent to **358.67** sen in November 2015. The price of latex concentrate also dropped by **3.56** sen (**-1.0%**) from December 2014.

The average monthly price of S.M.R. 20 was recorded at **491.88** sen per kilogramme in December 2015, dropped **8.27** sen (**-1.7%**) for month-on-month and **13.39** sen (**-2.7%**) for year-on-year.

7. EMPLOYMENT

A total of **11,640** persons were engaged in rubber estates at the end of December 2015 where **11,636** were paid employees with salaries & wages paid amounting to **RM19.9** million. The number of paid employees decline **0.9** per cent for month-on-month and **5.9** per cent for year-on-year.

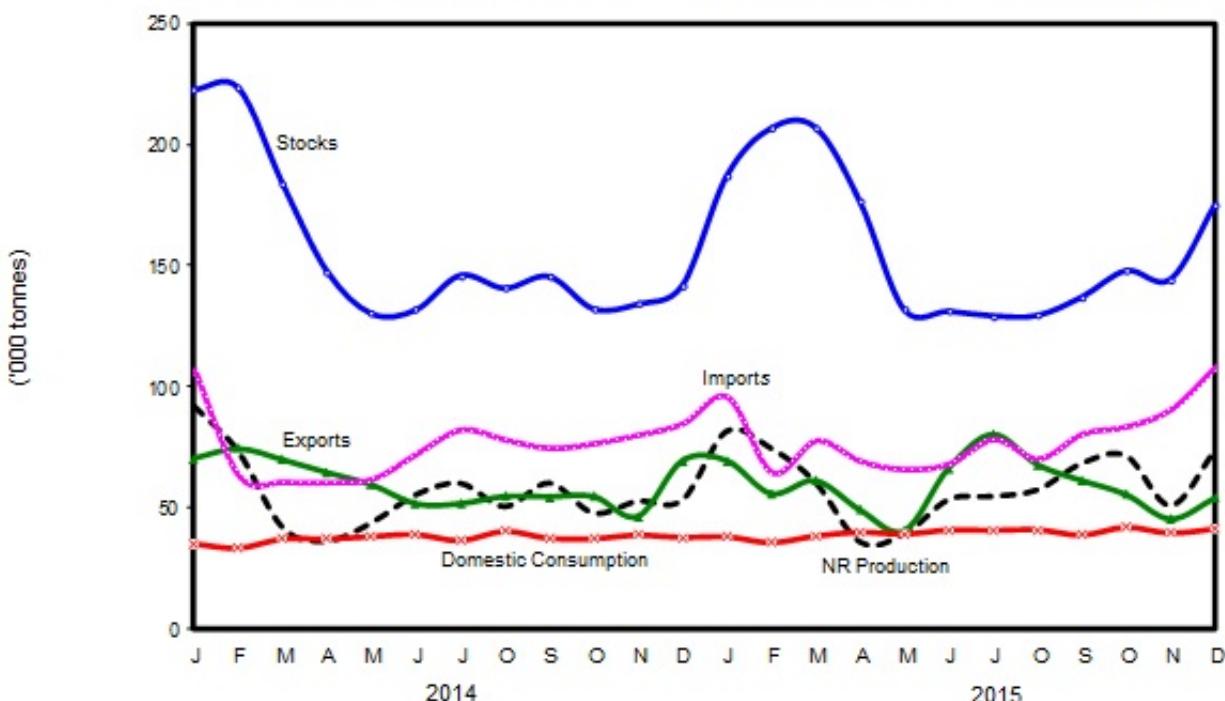
8. PRODUCTIVITY

The productivity of NR production on estates was recorded at **155.8** kilogramme per hectare in December 2015. The productivity of NR production went up by **51.2** kilogramme per hectare (**+48.9%**) when compared to month-on-month. Year-on-year also shows an increase in productivity by **39.6** kilogramme per hectare (**+34.1%**).

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

December 2015 is **provisional**. The data will be updated based on the latest available figures and subsequently published in the January 2016 publication.

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