

BLACK PEPPER**Fundamentals:****Today's Update:**

- Steady to weak sentiment witnessed in Black pepper spot market on Monday.
- Vietnam pepper price as on 20th February increase from the end of last week by 500-1,000 VND/kg, currently to about 63,500 - 66,500 VND/kg. Records show that key provinces in the country are purchasing pepper in the range of 63,500 - 66,500 VND/kg. In which, Gia Lai increased by 1,000 VND/kg to 63,500 VND/kg. Next is Dong Nai with 64,000 VND/kg, an increase of 500 VND/kg. After increasing by 1,000 VND/kg, the two provinces of Dak Lak and Dak Nong are now purchasing pepper at the same price of 65,000 VND/kg. Similarly, pepper prices today in Binh Phuoc and Ba Ria - Vung Tau increased by 500 VND/kg, to 65,500 VND/kg and 66,500 VND/kg respectively.
- According to preliminary data from the General Department of Vietnam Customs, in the first 15 days of February, Vietnam exported 14,156 tons of pepper. Progress from the beginning of the year to February 15, 2023, Vietnam exported 26,637 tons.
- This year's pepper production in Sri Lanka is expected to be at 19,500 tonnes, lower than last year's 20,400 tonnes. The reason is that the prolonged rainy season adversely affects the pepper crop. There are also fuel shortages and problems arising from increased fertilizer prices and transportation costs. It is expected that the low quality pepper in Sri Lanka will be harvested in the period of March - April, while the higher quality pepper will be harvested in the period of May - June.

Previous Update:

- According to statistics from the General Department of Customs, Vietnam's pepper exports in January 2023 reached 12.55 thousand tons, down 38.6% in volume compared to December 2022, compared with January 2022, down 20.5% in volume. It is forecasted that Vietnam's pepper exports will be more active in the remaining months of the first quarter of 2023 because Vietnam has just finished the harvest season with abundant output. By the third and fourth quarters of 2023, customers will look to producing countries such as Brazil and Indonesia because this is the time to harvest the pepper of these two countries.
- In January 2023, the average export price of Vietnam's pepper reached US\$3,442/ton, down 4.3% compared to December 2022 and 26.8% lower than January 2022. In which, the average export price of pepper to most of the main export markets decreased compared to the previous month and over the same period in 2022. Notably, the average export price of Vietnam's pepper to the Philippines and Japan increased by 30.3% and 30% respectively compared to December 2022. In terms of market structure, in January 2023, pepper exports to many key markets decreased compared to December 2022, except for India, Egypt, Japan and Senegal. Compared to January 2022, pepper exports to the US, India, Philippines, Japan, UK decreased, but exports to Egypt, Thailand and Senegal increased.
- As per current situation, AgriWatch expects India's pepper production for 2022-23 likely to be around 52,000 to 53,000 MT. Last year production was 57,000 to 58,000 MT.

Black Pepper Spot Market Prices (Loose): (Rs/Qtl)					
State	Centre	Grade	20-Feb-23	18-Feb-23	Change
Kerala	Kochi Benchmark market	Ungarbled	49100	Closed	-
		Garbled	51100	Closed	-
Karnataka	Chikmagalur	Ungarbled	49500	Closed	-
Delhi	New Delhi	Unpolished	55000	Closed	-
		550 GL	54500	Closed	-
		Number 11.5	58500	Closed	-
	Arrivals & Off-take in Tons				
State	Centre	Parameter	20-Feb-23	18-Feb-23	Change
Kerala	Kochi	Arrivals	62.5	Closed	-
		Off-take	62.5	Closed	-

Black Pepper FOB Prices (USD/MT)						
Date	Brazil ASTA 570	ex Kochi (India) ASTA	Lampung (Indonesia) ASTA 570	Kuching (Sarawak, Malaysia) ASTA	Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam) 500g/l	Ho Chi Minh 550g/l
13-02-23	2900	6140	3531	4900	3250	3350
14-02-23	2900	6140	3542	4900	3250	3350
15-02-23	2900	6140	3536	4900	3250	3350
16-02-23	2900	6140	3540	4900	3250	3350
17-02-23	2900	6140	3535	4900	3250	3350
20-02-23	2900	6140	3617	4900	3250	3350

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