



News

Punjab plans to cut pesticides use in basmati rice (Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>)

Basmati grown in Punjab this year is likely to witness a major reduction in use of pesticides and fungicides that lead to rejection of export consignments from India. Alarmed by hurdles in export of rice from India, the state government is reaching out to farmers through Gurugwaras, public meetings and social media to dissuade use of Acephate, Carbendazim, Thiamethoxam, Tricyclazole and Triazophos, chemicals responsible for higher residue level in rice. An exhaustive awareness campaign is underway by joining hand with pesticide dealers, commission agents farmers and rice industry.

Punjab Agriculture University has already recommended alternatives to these five pesticides and fungicides. This season, Punjab, is expected to harvest a record output of rice. But stricter pesticide residue norms in global markets are posing hurdles to rice from the country.

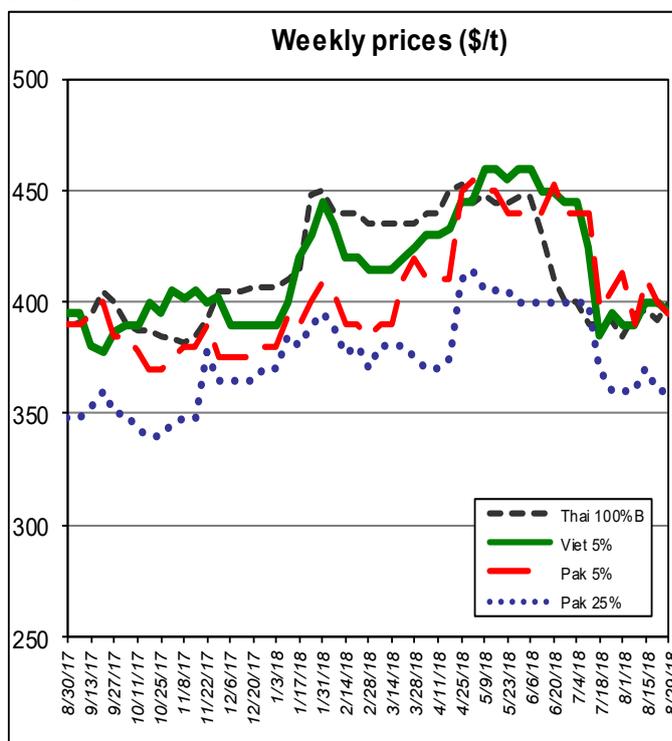
As per study of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), over 400 refusals have been recorded of exports from India owing to presence of higher than approved level of pesticides residue. Banning these chemicals is beyond the purview of state government as they are registered with the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee.

Dealers meetings are being held at district level as well as block level to dissuade them from selling these chemicals. Posters are dotting dealers markets across rice growing districts to aware farmers of harm caused by these chemicals.

A nodal officer has been appointed for each district to monitor the awareness campaign. Rice exporters and millers have also recruited people to push the drive in rural areas.

International Markets

Milled rice international FOB quotes		
Exchange rate 1 € = 1.660		
Asian Markets	\$/t	€/t
Thai 100%B	399	342
Vietnam 5%	395	339
India 5%	390	334
Pakistan 5%	395	339
Pakistan 25%	360	309
Cambodia 5%	452	388
Myanmar 5%	425	364
India Basmati trad.	1,450	1,244
Other Markets	\$/t	€/t
Uruguay 5%	522	448
Argentina 5%	520	446
Paraguay 5%	N.A.	N.A.
USA LG 2/5% sacked	550	472
California MG 1/4% Med	900	772



Food Safety

Rapid Alert System (Source: EFSA)

An information for follow-up notification was sent by Poland concerning unauthorised substance tricyclazole (0.073 mg/kg - ppm) in wholegrain rice from Spain.

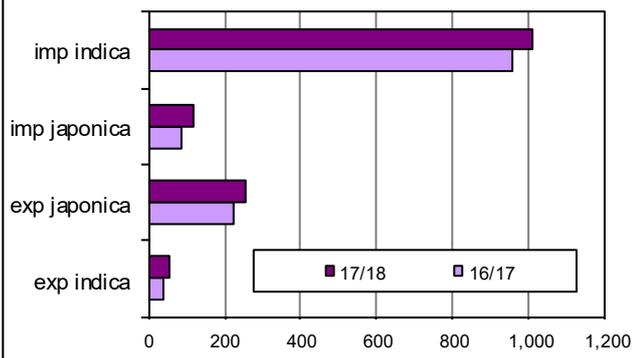
An information for attention was sent by Poland concerning unauthorised substance tricyclazole (0.073 mg/kg - ppm) in wholegrain rice from Thailand.

A border rejection notification was sent by the United Kingdom concerning unauthorised genetically modified (positive for 35S promoter of the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus) organic brown rice noodles from China.

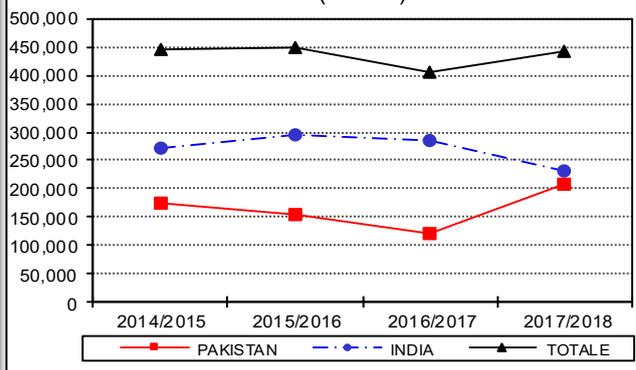
A border rejection notification was sent by the United Kingdom concerning unauthorised genetically modified (positive for 35S promoter of the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus) organic black rice noodles from China.

European Market

Import Export EU ('000 tonnes milled rice equivalent)



Basmati husked rice imports (tonnes)



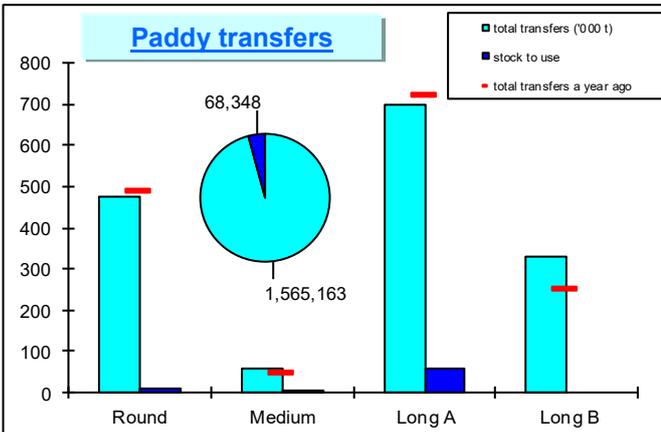
In focus

EU imports updated to 19 August amount to 1,256,567 tonnes, in milled equivalent, 46,168 tonnes (+4%) more than the previous campaign. Brown rice, including Basmati, and milled rice imports increased by 10% and 4% respectively, whereas paddy rice imports decreased by 75%.

EU exports, amount to 294,432 tonnes, in milled equivalent, 4% more than last year. Japonica rice exports increased by 8%, but Indica rice exports decreased by 15%.

Italian Market

Paddy transfers



Grain	Area (hectares)			
	2018 (estimated)	2017	y/y change hectares	y/y change %
Round	56,100	64,384	-8,284	-12.9
Medium	10,050	10,508	-458	-4.4
Long A	101,350	108,889	-7,539	-6.9
Long B	51,800	45,766	+6,034	+13.2
TOTAL	219,300	229,547	-10,247	-4.5

In focus

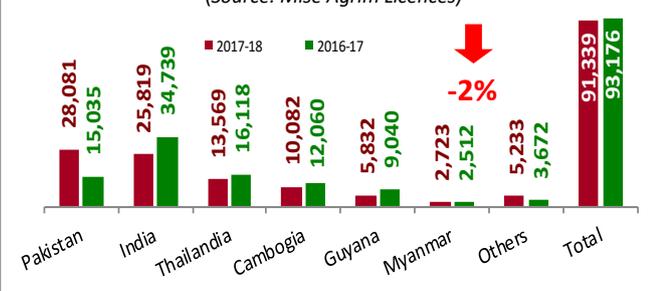
In the last week paddy transfers by farmers reached 8,892 tonnes. The total transfers, amounting to 1,565,163 tonnes, increased by 51,045 tonnes (+3%) compared to last year. Long B and medium grain increased by 77,292 tonnes and 7,963 tonnes, respectively, whereas long A and round grain decreased by 20,888 tonnes and 13,322 tonnes.

The table above shows the cultivated rice area in 2018 estimated and based on data submitted by rice growers up to 27 August 2018.

According to Agrim licences, Italian imports amount to 91,339 tonnes, 1,837 tonnes (-2%) less than last year, but according to customs declarations, there is a contraction of 26%, mainly due to lower paddy rice imports. Italian exports amount to 129,676 tonnes, 2,197 tonnes (+2%) more than last year.

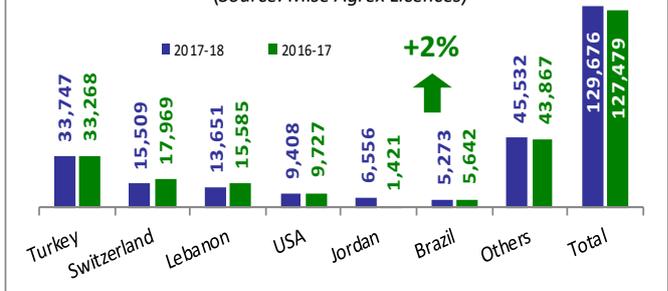
Import: husked + milled - till 24/8/2018

(tonnes in milled rice equivalent)
(Source: Mise Agrim Licences)



Export: husked + milled - till 24/8/2018

(tonnes in milled rice equivalent)
(Source: Mise Agrim Licences)



Italian imports till 19/8/2018 - Customs declarations - Source: DG Agri (tonnes in milled rice equivalent)

Campaing	Paddy			Brown rice			Semi-milled / Milled rice			TOTAL		
	Indica	Japonica	Total	Indica	Japonica	Total	Indica	Japonica	Total	Indica	Japonica	TOTAL
2017/2018	4,837	-	4,837	39,210	443	39,653	40,943	2,310	43,253	84,990	2,753	87,743
2016/2017	27,697	-	27,697	44,449	1,497	45,946	42,316	2,345	44,661	114,462	3,842	118,304