

Title Trends in production and trade of tropical fruits in Asean countries

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Abstract

Production of major tropical fruits in Asean has increased by 45.5% from 19.7 million tonnes in 1996 to 28.7 million tonnes in 2005, accounting for about 10% of total world production. The major fruit produced are bananas, pineapples, and mangoes. In 2005, Asean accounted for 22% of the total world production of these three fruit types. About 77% of these fruits are produced by Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia. In 2005, 32.2% of world pineapple production was from Asean, with Thailand and Philippines being the leading producing countries. Asean countries are also major producers of minor fruits such as durians, rambutans, mangosteens, lychees and longans. In 2005, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia produced 1.2 million tonnes of durians and 1.5 million tonnes of rambutans. The major exporting countries in Asean are Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand. Major fruits exported included bananas, pineapples, watermelons, papaya and mangoes. Exports from Asean have expanded by 33.6%, increasing from 1.85 million tonnes in 1996 to 2.47 million tonnes in 2005. The total export of major tropical fruits in 2005 was valued at USD91.2 million, which was less than one percent market share of total world export. Asean countries are also the major exporter of fresh minor fruits. In 2005, Thailand exported a total of 542,000 tons of minor fruits (longans, durians, rambutans, mangosteens and lychees), valued at USD271.5 million. Asean is a major exporter of canned pineapple and pineapple juices. In 2005, total export value of these pineapple products was estimated at USD816 million, representing a market share of 62% of total world export. Asean is also a major exporter of dried tropical fruit products, valued at USD27.5 million in 2005.

Asean is a net exporter of fresh and processed tropical fruit products. With the exception of Singapore, there is minimal import of fresh tropical fruits by the other Asean countries. In 2005, the import value of fresh tropical fruits by Asean amounted to USD70.5 million, accounting for only 0.5% of total world import value. Another USD20 million of processed tropical fruit products were imported by Singapore in 2005.