

Trends in production and trade of tropical fruits in ASEAN countries

I. Ahmad, P.C. Chua

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Abstract

The major tropical fruit producing countries in the ASEAN region are the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. During the period 1996-2005, production of major tropical fruits in the ASEAN region has increased by 45.5% to 28.7 million tonnes, accounting for about 10% of total world production. The major fruits produced are banana, pineapple, and mango. In 2005, ASEAN countries accounted for 22% of the total world production of these three fruit types. About 87% of these fruits are produced by the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia. In 2005, 32.2% of world pineapple production was from the ASEAN region, with Thailand and the Philippines being the leading producing countries. ASEAN countries are also the major producers of minor fruits such as durian, rambutan, mangosteen, lychee and longan. In 2005, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia collectively produced 1.7 million tonnes of durians and 1.3 million tonnes of rambutans. The major exporting countries in the ASEAN region are the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand. Major fruits exported included banana, pineapple, watermelon, papaya and mango. During 1996-2005, exports from the ASEAN region have expanded by 33.6% to 2.47 million tonnes. The total export of major tropical fruits in 2005 was valued at USD 674.9 million, which was about 6% market share of total world exports. ASEAN countries are also the major exporters of fresh minor fruits. In 2005, Thailand exported a total of 471,076 tonnes of minor fruits (longans, durians, rambutans, mangosteens and lychees), valued at USD 271 million. The ASEAN region is the major exporter of canned pineapple and pineapple juices. In 2005, total export value of these pineapple products was estimated at USD 816 million, representing a market share of 62% of total world export of these products. The ASEAN region is also a major exporter of dried tropical fruit products, valued at USD 27.5 million in 2005. The ASEAN region is a net exporter of fresh and processed tropical fruit products. With the exception of Singapore, there is minimal import of

fresh and processed tropical fruit products. In 2005, the import value of fresh tropical fruits amounted to USD 70.5 million, accounting for only 0.5% of total world import value. Another USD 28 million of processed tropical fruit products were imported by the region, mainly by Singapore.