RAPIDE GROUP
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MARKET RESEARCH
FOOD & STAPLES · ISSUE 2

RICE · STAPLES · MALAYSIA

Malaysia Rice & Staples Monitor

Malaysia is working toward 80% rice self-sufficiency by 2030 while sourcing from a broad set of suppliers. This report tracks self-sufficiency, imports, stocks and Asian export prices, with a focus on where Malaysia's rice comes from.

THE MARKET AT A GLANCE

54.3% **RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY, 2025** Up from 52.9% in 2024; target 80% by 2030	**1.416m t** **RICE IMPORTS, 2025** Worth RM2.953bn (Ministry of Agriculture)	**46%** **THAI SHARE OF H1 2026 IMPORTS** 327,995 of 710,656 t (BERNAS)
1.237m t **PHYSICAL RICE STOCK** August 2026; 200,000 t is national buffer	**US$505–510/t** **THAI 5% BROKEN, 19 NOV 2026** Highest since December 2024	**+1.6%** **FAO ALL RICE PRICE INDEX** October 2026, after +1.4% in September

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Published by Rapide Group (OTC: RAPI), which has business interests in this sector.

01 · SUMMARY

Key takeaways

Malaysia is working toward 80% self-sufficiency while buying from a broad set of suppliers. The six findings below frame this report.

01

Self-sufficiency is rising toward 80%

Malaysia grew enough rice for 54.3% of domestic needs in 2025, up from 52.9% in 2024, and has set a target of 80% by 2030. (Ministry via Business Today, 24 Oct 2026; The Star, 5 Feb 2026.)

02

A large, steady import market

Imports were 1.416 million tonnes, worth RM2.953 billion, in 2025, and the FAO projects about 1.7 million tonnes in 2026. (Ministry via Malay Mail, 2 Oct 2026; Business Today, 24 Oct 2026.)

03

The supplier base is broad

In the first half of 2026 Thailand supplied 46% of 710,656 tonnes imported, with Vietnam at 232,416 tonnes, India at 62,115 and Cambodia at 57,602. (BERNAS figures via Nation Thailand.)

04

Stocks are comfortable

Physical rice stock stood at 1.237 million tonnes in August 2026: 200,000 tonnes of national buffer and 1.037 million tonnes of commercial reserves. (NST, Aug 2026.)

05

Export markets are firm

The FAO All Rice Price Index rose 1.4% in September and 1.6% in October 2026. Thai 5% broken rice reached US$505–510 per tonne on 19 Nov 2026, its highest since December 2024. (FAO; Reuters via Business Recorder.)

06

Government is investing in output

The minister said on 6 Nov 2026 that yields of eight to nine tonnes are achievable at Mada, with RM2.6 billion in padi subsidies and a modernisation drive. The government is preparing ahead for El Niño. (Bernama.)

OUR VIEW

Malaysia's rice import need is expected to stay large, with the FAO projecting 1.7 million tonnes in 2026, and stock buffers are in place. That keeps sourcing relationships and supply-chain partners at the centre of the market.

WHAT TO WATCH

The FAO's next rice price update on 4 December 2026, the ministry's stock figures, and how Thailand's lead among suppliers develops through the second half.

02 · DATA

Market dashboard

The indicators we track: the latest reading, how it has moved and where the figure comes from.

RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY, 2025
54.3%
Up from 52.9% in 2024

RICE IMPORTS, 2025
1.416m t
RM2.953bn

PHYSICAL STOCK, AUG 2026
1.237m t
200,000 t national buffer

FAO ALL RICE INDEX, OCT
+1.6%
After +1.4% in September

INDICATOR	LATEST	CHANGE AND CONTEXT	SOURCE, DATE
PRICES			
FAO All Rice Price Index	+1.6% m/m	Oct 2026; +1.4% in Sep 2026	FAO via Global Agriculture, 11 Nov 2026
Thai 5% broken, export	US$505–510/t	Highest since Dec 2024	Reuters, 19 Nov 2026
Vietnam 5% broken, export	US$475–485/t	19 Nov 2026	Reuters, 19 Nov 2026
India 5% parboiled, export	US$394–398/t	19-month high; white rice US$395–400	Reuters, 19 Nov 2026
STOCKS AND SUPPLY			
Physical rice stock	1.237m t	200,000 t buffer plus 1.037m t commercial	NST, Aug 2026
Rice imports, 2025	1.416m t	RM2.953bn in 2025	Ministry via Malay Mail, 2 Oct 2026
Rice imports, H1 2026	710,656 t	Thailand 327,995; Vietnam 232,416; India 62,115	BERNAS via Nation Thailand
FAO forecast, Malaysia 2026	Imports 1.7m t	Paddy crop 2.1m t	Business Today, 24 Oct 2026
World rice output, 2026	552m t	FAO estimate	Global Agriculture, 11 Nov 2026
Rice available per person	77.1 kg/yr	2025	DOSM, Sep 2026
MACRO AND POLICY			
Rice self-sufficiency	54.3%	52.9% in 2024; target 80% by 2030	Business Today; The Star
Padi subsidies	RM2.6bn	Minister urges faster modernisation	Bernama, 6 Nov 2026
El Niño preparations	Under way	Planting schedules and reservoirs	Bernama, 20 Nov 2026

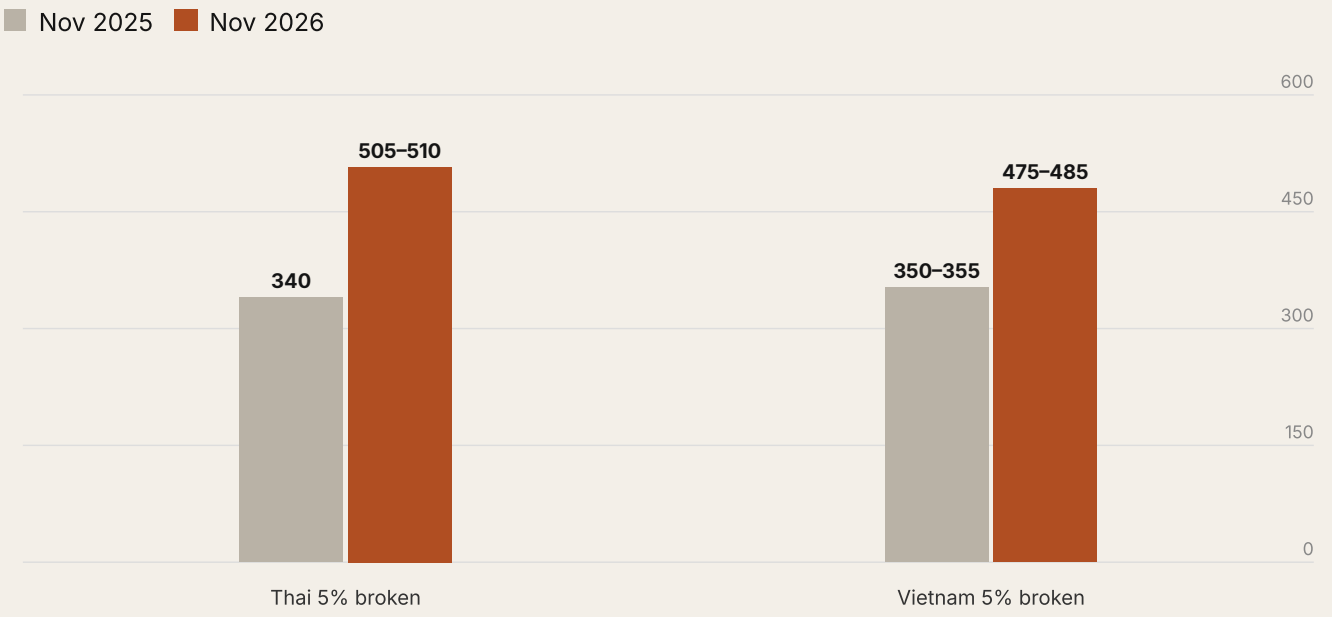
Data are as of the dates shown. Export prices are weekly trade quotes in US dollars per tonne; shares and percentage changes marked in the text are our arithmetic.

03 · PRICES

Asian export prices are firm

Export quotes from the main suppliers to Malaysia are firm, and Thai prices are at a two-year high.

Figure 1. Export price, 5% broken white rice, November 2025 vs November 2026 (US$ per tonne)



Source: Reuters via Business Recorder (19 Nov 2026); Financial Express (21 Nov 2025); Business Recorder (Nov 2025). Bars show the midpoint of the quoted range.

Index and quotes

The FAO All Rice Price Index rose 1.4% in September and 1.6% in October 2026.

On 19 November 2026, Thai 5% broken rice was quoted at US$505–510 per tonne, its highest since December 2024, against US$340 on 20 November 2025. Vietnam was quoted at US$475–485 against US$350–355 a year ago, and Indian 5% parboiled reached US$394–398, a 19-month high. Using midpoints, Thai rice is up about 49% and Vietnamese rice about 36% (our arithmetic).

A deep global market

Rice is traded in a deep global market. In November 2026 the FAO put world rice production at 552 million tonnes for 2026, and USDA's August estimate was 537.3 million tonnes (milled). The two measures differ.

THAI 5% BROKEN, VS A YEAR AGO

+49%

Midpoint US$507.5 per tonne on 19 Nov 2026 against US$340 on 20 Nov 2025. Our arithmetic on the quoted figures.

04 · ORIGIN WATCH

Where Malaysia's rice comes from

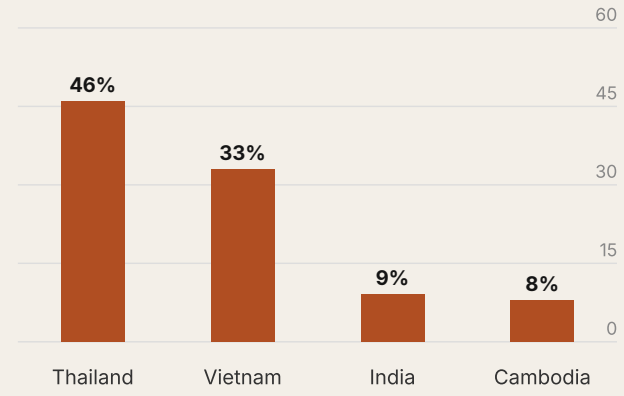
BERNAS is the sole authorised importer. Its first-half 2026 figures show Thailand leading a broad supplier base.

The import mix

Malaysia imported 710,656 tonnes of rice in the first half of 2026 from four main origins. Thailand supplied 327,995 tonnes (46%), more than its full-year 2025 volume of 264,605 tonnes. Vietnam supplied 232,416 tonnes, India 62,115 and Cambodia 57,602.

Nation Thailand reports a full-year forecast for Thai shipments to Malaysia above 700,000 tonnes in 2026.

Figure 2. Share of Malaysia's rice imports, H1 2026 (%)



Source: BERNAS figures via Nation Thailand. Shares are our arithmetic on reported tonnages; the four origins total 96%.

Local production and policy

The FAO forecasts the 2026 paddy crop at 2.1 million tonnes. The government's target is 80% self-sufficiency by 2030, up from 54.3% in 2025.

On 6 November 2026 the agriculture minister said yields of eight to nine tonnes are achievable at Mada and called for faster modernisation, backed by RM2.6 billion in padi subsidies. On 20 November the government said it was preparing ahead for El Niño, including coordinating planting schedules.

54.3%

WHY THIS MATTERS

Self-sufficiency rose from 52.9% in 2024 to 54.3% in 2025, with a target of 80% by 2030. Closing that gap is a large opportunity for local growers and suppliers, and imports keep supply steady in the meantime.

05 · OUTLOOK

Outlook and watch-list

Firm export prices abroad and a modernisation drive at home.

NEXT THREE MONTHS

Export prices are the number to watch

The FAO's 4 December update is the next read on the All Rice Price Index, which rose in September and October. Stocks of 1.237 million tonnes keep supply comfortable.

INTO 2027

Output and modernisation

The target is 80% self-sufficiency by 2030. Yields of eight to nine tonnes are achievable at Mada, and the ministry is pressing modernisation, backed by RM2.6 billion in padi subsidies.

Key dates

4 Dec 2026 FAO Rice Price Update	**Monthly** FAO Food Price Index	**Periodic** Ministry rice stock figures	**Ongoing** Padi modernisation drive	**Next issue** Staples beyond rice

What we are watching

INDICATOR	WHY IT MATTERS	FREQUENCY
FAO All Rice Price Index	Sets the direction of export prices	Monthly, FAO
Thai, Vietnam, India 5% quotes	The prices BERNAS buys against	Weekly
Physical rice stock	Buffer for steady supply	Periodic, ministry
Imports by origin	Shows breadth of supply	Periodic, BERNAS
Paddy-area gazetting	Protects the land that grows local rice	As announced
BERNAS warehouse price	Passes world prices to buyers	As announced

COMING FEATURES

Staples beyond rice (flour, cooking oil, sugar) · Import data by origin · Local farm-gate and retail prices

06 · REFERENCES

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