

RICE REVIEW OCTOBER, 1938

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RICE



The downward trend of the market reported last month continued during the period under review as a result of the NARIC announcement of September 30th that it will reduce its price from ₱6.65 to

₱6.50 per cavan of 57 kilos, net, effective October 8th. The announcement is as follows:

"In view of the fact that the harvest is well under way in the southern provinces and new palay is already being sold in the market, and considering that practically all the stock of palay which is still in the hands of middlemen and dealers is no longer of the producers, and that, according to latest information there is no longer very much stock remaining of native rice of the old crop, the NARIC has decided to reduce its selling price to ₱6.50, or ₱0.15 lower, per cavan of 57 kilos, net, beginning October 8, 1938.

It is intended to lower the price further the latter part of October when the early crop of rice in Luzon will be harvested.

This notice is given ahead of time from the effectivity of the new price so as to allow dealers who have purchased stock at present prices a reasonable time within which to protect their interests."

Trading in the exchange became dull and purchases from the beginning of the month until the 8th, narrowed down to immediate consumption requirements. The sale of NARIC rice registered a sudden fall; then a sharp increase developed from the 8th when 13,511 sack were sold. NARIC sales averaged 9,097 sacks daily until the end of the month. In some instances, the NARIC had to limit the sales to its dealers because the mill output could not keep up with the demand of the public. The NARIC officials felt that since a shortage was inevitable, it was, therefore, imperative to send a representative to Saigon to canvass the market and to purchase a sufficient supply to meet the requirements necessary to stabilize prices. As a result, Saigon imported rice was sold to the public on October 13 at ₱6.50 per sack of 57 kilos, net. NARIC agencies in Aibay, Camarines Sur, Leyte, Samar, Cebu and Central Luzon provinces reported brisk sales. Whenever no NARIC agency exists, prices soared to

unreasonable levels. The NARIC, therefore, sought the cooperation of municipal and provincial officials to requisition rice thru their municipal treasurers to lower prices within the reach of the masses.

NARIC sales in Manila during the month amounted to 181,933 sacks with a money value of ₱1,202,198.11. Total arrivals during the month amounted to 155,370 sacks or a decrease of 81,757 sacks from the previous month. Comparative statistics may be gleaned from the following figures:

Months	1937 Monthly Total	1938 Monthly Total
January	184,758	194,586
February	171,115	191,100
March	186,530	166,453
April	176,831	107,882
May	150,383	123,954
June	158,499	125,092
July	203,269	176,599
August	143,276	169,677
September	132,115	237,127
October	122,348	155,370
TOTAL	1,629,124	1,647,840

Arrivals from the Cagayan Valley declined considerably from 31,186 sacks in August, 11,941 sacks in September to 6,992 sacks in October. This is a definite sign that supply in Cagayan and Isabela has greatly thinned. NARIC prices after October 8, were as follows:

	ex-bodega	f.o.b. Steamer or Railroad Car
	(Per sack of 57 kls., net)	
Macan No. 2	₱6.50	₱6.53
Saigon	₱6.50	₱6.53
Ramay No. 2	₱6.45	₱6.48

PALAY

There has been a very limited trading in palay during the month under review. Most mills in Central Luzon except where milling of NARIC palay was done have been practically at a standstill. Since the prices of rice were lowered to ₱6.45 and ₱6.50 for Ramay and Macan or Saigon, respectively, palay quotations dropped from 20¢ to 30¢ for all varieties.

Current quotations:

Macan No. 2 ... ₱3.00 to ₱3.15 per sack of 44 kilos.

BY-PRODUCTS

Prices of binlid, tiki-tiki and mata-mata have advanced considerably as private millers suspended their milling operations due to lack of palay. Since the NARIC has almost a monopoly of these by-products, it has fixed the prices as follows:

Binlid No. 1—	₱3.55 per sack of 50 kls., net.
Binlid No. 2—	3.15 " " " " " "
Tiki-tiki 1—	2.25 " " " " " "
Tiki-tiki 3—	1.25 " " " " " "
Mata-mata 1—	1.65 " " " " " "
Mata-mata 2—	1.30 " " " " " "

FOREIGN MARKETS

Latest reports from Saigon revealed a weaker undertone as prices ranged from piastres 7.13 to 7.17, or equivalent to ₱4.02-₱4.04 per sack of 57 kilos, net, f.o.b., Saigon. This will be about ₱7.26 per sack of 57 kilos, when we add ₱2.85 for customs duties, 28¢ for freight and insurance and 10¢ for handling and transportation expenses. Siam indicated a similar downward tendency. Comparative prices of Saigon rice for the last three months:

August—	₱4.21 per sack of 57 kilos, net, f.o.b., Saigon.
September—	₱4.26 per sack of 57 kilos, net, f.o.b., Saigon.
October—	₱4.03 per sack of 57 kilos, net, f.o.b., Saigon.

TOBACCO REVIEW OCTOBER, 1938

By P. A. MEYER



RAWLEAF: Purchase of the 1938 crop in Cagayan and Isabela has practically terminated. Comparative figures for shipments abroad are as follows:

Rawleaf, Stripped

	Tobacco and Stripped Kilos
Belgium	22,984
China	23,030
Guam	2,584
Holland	928
North Africa	112,760
Straits Settlements	1,490
United States	221,580
October, 1938	385,356
September, 1938	221,263
October, 1937	645,401
January-October, 1938	5,953,640
January-October, 1937	11,968,519

CIGARS: Shipments to the United States compared as follows:

	Cigars
October, 1938	16,640,055
September, 1938	18,810,242
October, 1937	20,428,920
January-October, 1938	157,484,122
January-October, 1937	151,116,093