

Supply and Disappearance of Malaysian Palm Oil: A Review

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Malaysian palm oil production increased from 10.553 million tonnes in 1999 to 10.842 million tonnes in 2000, *i.e.* by about 2.7% (*Table 1*). This increase was brought about by an expansion in the mature area, as well as higher yields that boosted production, especially in Sabah and Sarawak. The rainfall was also favourable, while the oil extraction rate increased from 18.93% in March 2000 to 19.19% in March 2001.

The Malaysian palm oil production in January 2001 of 1 063 034 t was higher than that of the previous month (December 2000) by 13%. For the first three months of 2001, the total palm oil production was 2 836 493 t compared to a production of 2 225 413 t in the corresponding period of the previous year - an increase of 611 080 t (27.45%). The total area planted with oil palm had increased from 3.313 million hectares in 1999 to 3.376 million hectares in 2000. Approximately 2.942 million hectares or 87% of the total oil palm planted area are mature palms. A total of 85 090 ha of additional oil palm area entered maturity in 2000. It is forecast that production of palm oil in 2001 would reach 11.2 million tonnes, an increase of 3.7% over production in the previous year.

Beginning stocks of palm oil in 2000 was 1 175 693 t and together with the year's production, made the total palm oil available for trade by Malaysia at 12 million tonnes. Compared with the previous year, this represented an increase of 5.3% or 0.6 million tonnes. Malaysia exported 9.08 million tonnes of palm oil in 2000, an increase of 0.17 million tonnes (1.2%) over the past year. The month with the highest exports was October 2000 when more than one million tonnes of palm oil were exported by the country. With the large availability of palm oil for trade in 2000, ending stocks of palm oil had increased and reached

1.42 million tonnes by the end of the year. Considering the much higher production of palm oil anticipated in 2001 and the high ending stocks, the trade availability is expected at 12.6 million tonnes. This is about 5% higher than that available for trade in the year 2000.

India with imports of 381 825 t was the largest importer of Malaysian palm products during January - February 2001 (*Table 2*). This was an increase of 43.46% over the 266 159 t imported during the same period in 2000. India's imports comprised mainly 232 117 t of refined, bleached and deodorized (RBD) palm olein, 121 176 t of crude palm oil (CPO) and 16 235 t RBD palm oil (*Table 3*). The other palm products imported included crude palm olein, palm fatty acid distillate

(PFAD) and palm acid oil (PAO). As illustrated in *Table 3*, imports of CPO had increased from 4986 t in 1999 to 215 100 t in 2000. For the first two months of 2001, 121 176 t of CPO were imported, accounting for 42% of the total palm oil imports during the period. This amount was already 56% of the total CPO imported during the whole of year 2000. The move towards increasing imports of CPO was due to the lower import duty for CPO as compared to that other types of oils. The import duty for CPO for vanaspati ranges from 25% to 55% while that of other crude and refined oils ranges from 35% to 65%.

The European Union (EU) was the second largest importer of Malaysian palm products during this period. Imports totalled 287 083 t, an increase of 156 547 t or more than double over imports during the first two months of 2000 (*Table 2*). Among the EU countries, the Netherlands on its own is the fourth largest importer of Malaysian palm oil. The Netherlands imported 202 633 t of Malaysian palm oil during January-February 2001 and contributed to 70.6% of the total imports of the EU. The increase in imports of Malaysian palm oil among others, was the result of the declining prices of palm products. Imports by the EU during this period comprised mainly 85 473 t of CPO, 65 393 t RBD palm oil, 42 407 t RBD palm olein and 52 748 t RBD palm stearin. The other palm products

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TABLE 1. MALAYSIAN PALM OIL - SUPPLY AND DISAPPEARANCE BY MONTH (t)

Year	SUPPLY			DISAPPEARANCE			Ending stock
	Beginning Stock	Production	Total	Adjusting balance	Exports	Total	
1990	1 059 915	6 094 622	7 154 537	707 991	5 727 451	6 435 442	719 095
1991	719 095	6 141 353	6 860 448	599 804	5 573 223	6 173 027	687 421
1992	687 421	6 373 461	7 060 882	835 311	5 565 032	6 400 343	660 539
1993	660 539	7 403 498	8 064 037	775 994	6 117 171	6 893 165	1 170 872
1994	1 170 872	7 220 631	8 391 503	986 979	6 654 802	7 641 781	749 722
1995	749 722	7 810 546	8 560 268	1 187 424	6 512 956	7 700 380	859 888
1996	859 888	8 385 886	9 245 774	1 239 411	7 211 909	8 451 320	794 454
1997	794 454	9 068 728	9 863 182	1 410 731	7 489 969	8 900 700	962 482
1998	962 482	8 319 682	9 282 164	1 032 617	7 424 732	8 457 349	824 815
1999	824 815	10 553 097	11 377 912	1 288 711	8 913 508	10 202 219	1 175 693
Jan-00	1 175 693	769 321	1 945 014	105 338	645 629	750 967	1 194 047
Feb	1 194 047	712 662	1 906 709	116 007	646 772	762 779	1 143 930
Mar	1 143 930	743 430	1 887 360	166 976	778 250	945 226	942 134
Apr	942 134	779 333	1 721 467	124 832	637 264	755 712	968 741
May	968 741	818 900	1 787 641	75 357	634 811	710 168	1 077 473
Jun	1 077 473	817 414	1 894 887	116 161	742 729	858 890	1 035 997
Jul	1 035 997	847 145	1 883 142	112 211	695 929	808 140	1 075 002
Aug	1 075 002	952 195	2 027 197	137 275	696 109	833 384	1 193 813
Sep	1 193 813	1 110 724	2 304 537	145 337	791 134	936 471	1 368 066
Oct	1 368 066	1 183 210	2 551 276	137 207	1 005 326	1 142 533	1 408 743
Nov	1 408 743	1 165 051	2 573 794	151 027	897 594	1 048 621	1 525 173
Dec	1 525 173	942 711	2 467 884	138 927	909 948	1 048 875	1 419 009
Total ^a		10 842 096			9 081 495		
Jan/Mar		2 225 413			2 070 651		
Jan-01	1 419 009	1 063 034	2 482 043	127 724	833 896	961 620	1 520 423
Feb	1 520 423	888 446	2 408 869	91 578	821 742	913 320	1 495 549
Mar ^b	1 495 549	885 013	2 380 562	158 087	974 076	1 132 163	1 248 399
Apr	1 248 399	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jan/Mar ^b		2 836 493			2 629 714		

Notes: ^a summation of the month's totals do not always equate to the total for the year because adjustments made to the latter are not incorporated into the former.

^b preliminary. NA - not available.

imported are shown in *Table 3*.

During the first two months of 2001, Pakistan was the third largest importer of palm products from Malaysia. Import during this period totalled 218 579 t, an increase of 22.08% against imports in the corresponding period of 2000 which totalled 179 049 t (*Table 2*). Amongst the major palm products imported were 180 168 t RBD palm oil, 30 967 t RBD palm olein, 3195 t RBD palm stearin and 3000 t PFAD (*Table 3*). Imports of RBD palm oil from Malaysia in 2000 was 1.04 million tonnes which accounted for 95% of the

total Malaysian palm oil products imported by Pakistan. Duties on imports of most palm products continued to be high when compared to competing oils and fats. Imports could be greater if the duties were to be comparable.

The fourth largest importer of Malaysian palm oil in this period was China PR, with imports totalling 120 094 t - a decline of 14 031 t or by 10.5% over imports in the previous year (*Table 2*). A major reason for the large decline in imports of palm oil by China PR was the large increase in production and imports of oilseeds by the

country. Of the Malaysian palm products imported by the country, the major ones were RBD palm olein which totalled 94 108 t, RBD palm oil at 20 790 t, RBD palm stearin at 4136 t and hydrogenated palm oil at 538 t. The other palm oil products that were imported are as shown in *Table 3* and included hydrogenated palm stearin and double fractionated palm olein.

Japan with imports of 67 986 t was the fifth largest importer of Malaysian palm products during the period. Imports had increased by 70% when compared to the

TABLE 2. MALAYSIA - EXPORTS OF PALM OIL TO MAJOR DESTINATIONS (t)

Countries	1999	2000	Jan - Feb 2000	Jan - Feb 2001
India	2 376 955	2 034 683	266 159	381 825
EU (15)	1 099 056	1 037 994	130 536	287 083
Netherlands	(634 302)	(578 430)	(549 99)	(202 633)
Italy	(107 283)	(98 900)	(124 86)	(18 459)
Spain	(53 934)	(19 606)	(147 44)	(17 379)
Pakistan	1 020 845	1 102 305	179 049	218 579
China PR	800 135	1 021 976	134 125	120 094
Japan	373 165	348 447	39 976	67 986
Singapore	431 863	335 636	56 559	61 175
Vietnam	107 836	118 700	21 166	44 094
S. Korea	192 724	209 279	41 772	33 425
Bangladesh	55 471	96 941	11 842	32 580
Turkey	154 034	137 895	17 186	30 871
S. Arabia	140 816	157 626	26 671	30 247
Egypt	487 331	434 986	45 697	27 988
UAE	154 996	189 072	30 051	26 071
S. Africa	132 461	145 673	24 469	24 158
USA	132 647	181 849	39 351	21 717
Myanmar	139 800	123 878	11 757	21 234
Australia	89 109	105 475	23 406	19 707
Jordan	106 825	154 903	21 853	16 753
Yemen	123 832	73 749	8 314	12 585
Hong Kong PR	85 521	207 072	29 296	9 756
Indonesia	419	4 428	241	327
Rest of the World	707 670	858 930	132 926	167 382
Total	8 913 508	9 081 495	1 292 401	1 655 638

Note: # figures in brackets denote sub-totals for EEC.

39 976 t imported in the same period the previous year (*Table 2*). The country's imports during this period in 2001 comprised 30 080 t RBD palm oil, 25 940 t RBD palm olein, and 4663 t RBD palm stearin (*Table 3*). A total of 3016 t of CPO was also imported during the period.

The sixth largest importer of Malaysian palm products was Singapore. Total imports during the first two months of 2001 was 61 175 t (*Table 2*). Imports by the country in 2000 totalled 335 635 t, a decline of 22.3% when compared to imports in 1999 which were 431 863 t (*Table 2*). The major palm products imported were RBD palm olein (40 668 t) and RBD palm oil, which together contributed to 85.6% of the Malaysian palm products imported by the country. The other palm products that were imported in January - February 2001 are shown in *Table 3*.

Vietnam was the seventh largest importer of Malaysian palm products in the first two months of 2001. Imports by the country during this period was 44 094 t, an increase of more than 100% when compared to that of 2000 (*Table 2*). Total yearly imports of palm oil

TABLE 3. MALAYSIAN EXPORTS OF PALM OIL PRODUCTS TO MAJOR DESTINATIONS (t)

Countries	1999	2000	Jan - Feb 2000	Jan - Feb 2001
INDIA	2 376 955.29	2 034 683.00	266 158.72	381 825.31
CPO	4 986.93	215 100.61	-	121 175.57
CPOs	23 390.84	16 140.01	2 478.67	-
CPOo	7 023.88	16 536.02	515.65	6 898.87
RBDPO	26 885.79	37 926.06	7 649.23	16 235.29
RBDPOs	27 064.75	5 942.78	60.00	18.62
RBDPOo	2 195 516.32	1 665 696.47	24 2821.4	232 116.81
PAO	1 498.79	10 487.78	532.29	1 037.29
PFAD	85 487.14	62 099.68	9 322.41	3 976.03
PMF	-	20.50	-	-
CO	3 379.40	3 376.21	2 762.57	40.83
HFAD	-	49.50	16.50	-
HPO	-	41.50	-	-
HPOs	198.00	511.50	-	326.00

TABLE 3. Continued

HPOo	-	20.00	-	-
RBDHPOo	-	10.28	-	-
RBDHPOs	1 523.45	724.10	-	-
E U	1 099 055.86	1 037 994.03	130 536.34	287 082.96
CPO	174 757.38	116 460.51	4 597.69	85 473.46
CPOs	7 769.31	8 880.83	598.30	999.72
CPOo	15.40	899.98	-	-
NPO	11.84	39.60	5.29	4.50
RPO	-	31.50	31.50	-
NPOo	140.69	359.04	58.09	57.57
BPOo	20.27	-	-	-
NBDPO	3 398.72	-	-	-
NBDPOo	1 003.37	-	-	-
RBDPO	401 412.84	242 686.39	31 445.89	65 393.39
RBDPOs	192 484.58	222 075.76	26 682.27	52 748.05
RBDPOo	215 303.06	276 781.98	39 706.79	42 406.80
PAO	5 084.76	6 729.37	2 965.63	2 017.64
PFAD	67 561.42	105 740.22	15 675.12	30 433.90
PMF	24 845.58	38 958.19	6 535.12	5 398.25
CO	43.54	29.83	1.01	516.40
HPO	666.71	265.52	-	20.00
HPFAD	4 360.03	4 943.48	1 504.11	539.42
HPOs	141.00	274.09	128.34	52.00
HPOo	20.00	267.95	101.69	-
DFPL	-	12 426.79	499.50	1 001.86
RBDHPO	15.36	-	-	20.00
RBDHPOs	-	130.00	-	-
RBDHPFS	-	13.00	-	-
PAKISTAN	1 020 844.79	1 102 305.31	179 049.45	218 579.12
CPO	8 487.75	1 996.45	-	-
CPOs	16.00	-	-	-
RBDPO	947 616.99	1 044 573.58	169 510.48	180 167.77
RBDPOs	7 091.78	1 098.35	-	3 194.62
RBDPOo	15 802.75	12 676.59	2 520.00	30 966.66
PAO	11 450.04	6 837.82	997.53	1 250.24
PFAD	29 911.06	35 084.72	6 011.14	2 999.83
HPOo	-	10.30	10.30	-
HPFAD	-	10.00	-	-
CO	421.44	-	-	-
HPO	28.74	17.5	-	-
RBDHPO	18.24	-	-	-
CHINA PR	800 134.96	1 021 976.29	134 124.53	120 093.55
CPO	12 321.37	-	-	-
CPOs	472.00	20	-	-
CPOo	2 924.08	7 319.36	89.04	-
RBDPO	205 504.96	228 882.86	35 140.89	20 790.89
RBDPOs	76 548.20	66 860.79	10 675.22	4 136.23
RBDPOo	474 272.77	705 052.86	87 742.34	94 108.86
PFAD	19 637.99	9 964.58	17.76	-

TABLE 3. Continued

PMF	-	314.5	-	-
CO	7 069.81	368.1	264.78	-
HPO	760.89	74.43	-	538.67
HPOs	119.00	33.5	-	220.52
HPOo	503.89	194.52	194.50	-
DFPL	-	-	-	298.38
HPFAD	-	165	-	-
RBDHPOo	-	1 108.17	-	-
RBDHPO	-	1 601.12	-	-
RBDHPOs	-	16.5	-	-
JAPAN	373 164.59	348 446.83	39 975.91	67 986.38
CPO	10 012.07	19 745.04	1 501.94	3016.4
CPOs	99.00	-	-	32
NPO	773.56	-	-	-
NPOo	298.34	258.68	39.34	60.41
RBDPO	169 882.45	157 118.58	20 694.72	30 079.8
NBDPO	-	18.4	-	-
NBDPOs	-	167.57	167.57	-
RBDPOs	39 292.36	29 344.94	2 108.56	4 663.49
NBDPOo	36.80	291.33	254.53	18.4
RBDPOo	138 026.24	107 434.82	10 383.11	25 939.90
PFAD	1 595.84	587.15	14.8	-
PMF	11 505.41	13 445.33	1 921.23	1 598.22
CO	214.44	557.93	235.82	336.60
RBDHPOo	101.14	385.25	-	-
RBDHPSF	-	20	-	-
RBDHPO	-	1 099.52	-	-
RBDHPOs	-	200	40.00	-
HPOs	120.00	56.5	-	40
HPOo	99.38	103.1	-	-
HPO	105.16	-	-	-
DFPL	-	15 802.21	2 614.29	2 201.16
NBIL	656.20	1 224.63	-	-
NBIS	346.20	585.85	-	-
SINGAPORE	431 863.18	335 635.83	56 559.40	61 175.41
CPO	7 992.22	9 016.52	7 500.00	-
CPOs	24 415.81	5 135.60	699.43	-
CPOo	8 124.39	674.48	17.74	5 501.05
RPO	-	40.91	-	-
RPOs	-	798.20	-	-
RBPOs	170.69	-	-	-
RPOo	-	16.00	-	-
NBDPO	150.12	174.54	37.18	-
RBDPO	57 118.82	27 791.23	6 179.02	3 019.67
RBDPOs	36 927.70	13 782.15	2 040.57	2 581.54
NBDPOo	2.72	80.88	80.88	-
RBDPOo	228 389.79	218 304.08	29 495.22	40 667.95
PAO	201.90	119.70	-	163.16
PFAD	43 000.62	39 481.97	7 155.30	5 749.06

TABLE 3. Continued

PMF	4 744.88	4 050.87	886.56	1 153.63
CO	8 533.27	8 808.24	1 571.17	1 972.41
HPO	527.09	598.28	74.22	43.44
HPOs	589.89	1 119.44	59.66	244.11
HPOo	66.00	60.00	-	-
RBDHPOo	27.60	-	-	-
RBDHPO	20.00	33.56	-	-
RBDHPSF	-	35.00	-	8.70
RBDHPOs	59.90	109.59	13.29	-
DFPL	9 786.06	5 404.59	749.16	58.61
OTHERS	1 013.71	-	-	12.08
VIETNAM	107 835.51	118 699.67	21 165.83	44 094.22
CPO	4 0294.6	3 2814.4	8 499.85	5 999.61
CPOs	13 280.65	22 435.24	3 098.11	6 129.24
CPOo	5 097.40	4 944.45	228.05	1 723.51
RPOs	-	100.00	100.00	-
RBDPO	2 688.98	17 181.58	2 999.68	1899.6
RBDPOs	7 401.52	3 643.62	100.00	200.00
RBDPOo	38 710.45	37 277.49	5 972.58	28 022.26
CO	121.91	248.89	152.56	-
RBDHPO	-	6.00	-	20.00
HPOs	240.00	33.00	-	100.00
HPOo	-	15.00	15.00	-
S. KOREA	192 723.78	20 9279.26	41 771.84	33 424.76
CPOs	2 722.82	953.48	-	-
CPOo	-	9.88	-	-
NPO	501.02	-	-	-
RPO	14.40	-	-	-
RBDPO	80 842.60	105 746.22	20 903.65	1 6196.13
RBDPOs	35 427.80	37 832.39	9 326.21	7 116.11
RBDPOo	65 769.93	54 730.74	10 039.97	8 576.55
PFAD	1 833.61	1 910.85	60.45	32.10
PMF	2 712.74	4 802.94	829.10	835.08
CO	2 383.68	34.35	14.40	-
HPFAD	-	180.00	20.00	35.75
RBDHPOo	-	16.50	-	-
RBDHPOs	181.80	198.00	16.50	33.00
HPO	46.40	-	-	-
HPOs	207.50	207.5	59.00	99.00
DFPL	-	2 656.41	502.56	300.33
RBDHPO	79.48	-	-	200.71
TURKEY	154 033.75	137 895.31	17 185.65	30 870.80
CPOs	486.50	24.00	-	54.00
NBDPO	-	749.99	-	-
RBDPO	65 775.61	60 222.52	4 001.87	16 738.36
RBDPOs	22 283.08	4 684.4	20.32	2 994.60
RBDPOo	63 416.70	70 425.20	12 139	9 868.50
PFAD	1 495.65	1 053.24	999.96	1 198.83
PMF	-	35.88	-	-

TABLE 3. Continued

HPS	125.50	57.50	24.50	16.51
HPO	20.00	289.29	-	-
RBDHPSF	231.00	49.50	-	-
RBDHPS	-	264.01	-	-
HPL	199.71	-	-	-
OTHERS	-	39.78	-	-
S. ARABIA	140 816.04	157 625.64	26 671.40	30 246.77
RBDPO	4 339.54	17 855.4	7 001.12	2 020.53
NBDPOs	-	509.28	509.28	-
RBDPOs	842.81	983.11	19.50	40.00
RBDPOo	125 166.98	122 200.15	16 287.34	25 630.03
PMF	-	783.68	38.40	57.60
PFAD	711.83	-	-	-
CO	7 218.97	12 096.95	1 860.66	1 989.51
HPO	869.90	691.10	197.50	113.90
RBDHPO	-	144.39	15.20	-
HPFAD	662.81	560.00	560.00	-
RBDHPOo	425.60	446.60	-	106.40
HPL	577.60	1 259.98	182.40	288.80
RBDHPO	-	106.39	-	-
OTHERS	-	95.00	-	-
E G Y P T	487 331.34	434 986.15	45 696.95	27 988.34
CPOs	10 552.66	13 260.68	1 976.51	-
RBDPO	388 479.21	345 220.22	36 152.75	20 554.31
RBDPOs	53 423.74	44 717.57	3 994.35	6 525.38
RBDPOo	30 874.22	28 833.89	2 995.34	501.67
PFAD	2 500.00	117.00	75.00	-
CO	-	-	-	6.98
HPO	1 003.00	1 721.00	440.00	400.00
PMF	498.51	38.40	-	-
RBDHPOs	-	63.00	63.00	-
HPS	-	16.50	-	-
DFPL	-	997.89	-	-
U A E	154 995.53	189 071.61	30 050.72	26 070.88
RBDPO	38 594.20	53 260.82	5 147.16	4 149.78
RBDPOs	1 403.38	3 677.67	299.80	299.23
RBDPOo	107 692.00	118 470.63	21 192.41	19 788.76
PFAD	-	2 650.55	1 249.80	-
PMF	-	556.46	-	-
CO	6 761.52	10 314.34	2 145.05	1 833.11
NBDPOo	50.41	-	-	-
HPFAD	-	16.50	16.50	-
HPO	89.89	-	-	-
RBDHPO	106.40	-	-	-
RBDHPOo	228.97	-	-	-
HPOs	68.76	18.24	-	-
HPOo	-	106.40	-	-

TABLE 3. Continued

S. AFRICA	132 460.58	145 672.75	24 468.58	24 158.47
CPOs	79.50	-	-	132.00
CPOo	-	-	-	496.84
NBDPO	36.48	-	-	-
RBDPO	6 921.58	4 029.10	414.57	206.33
RBDPOs	55 388.76	55 175.65	12 088.59	7 137.02
RBDPOo	45 036.46	49 173.24	6 439.45	12 533.16
PAO	-	100.62	-	-
PFAD	20 638.74	28 361.07	4 404.88	2 948.61
PMF	-	198.32	1.8	-
CO	1 280.66	1 875.56	222.12	4.00
HPO	2 218.72	5 785.38	559.85	564.00
RPO	34.20	-	-	-
RBDHPO	528.48	600.00	240.00	-
HPFAD	82.50	33.00	-	16.51
RBDHPOo	-	10.00	-	120.00
RBDHPo	-	79.99	-	-
HPOs	214.50	57.32	4.32	-
HPOo	-	193.50	93.00	-

Notes:

BPOo	Bleached palm oil	RBDHPFS	Refined bleached deodorized hydrogenated palm flakes stearin
CPO	Crude palm oil	HPOo	Hydrogenated palm olein
CPOo	Crude palm olein	PAO	Palm acid oil
CPOs	Crude palm stearin	PFAD	Palm fatty acid distillate
NPO	Neutralized palm oil	RBDHPO	Refined bleached deodorized hydrogenated palm oil
NPOo	Neutralized palm olein	RBDHPOo	Refined bleached deodorized hydrogenated palm olein
NPOs	Neutralized palm stearin	RBDHPOs	Refined bleached deodorized hydrogenated palm stearin
NBDPO	Neutralized bleached deodorized palm oil	RBDPO	Refined bleached deodorized palm oil
NBDPOo	Neutralized bleached deodorized palm olein	RBDPOo	Refined bleached deodorized palm olein
NBDPOs	Neutralized bleached deodorized palm stearin	RBDPOs	Refined bleached deodorized palm stearin
CO	Cooking oil/double olein	HPFAD	Hydrogenated palm fatty acid distillate
NBDPOo	Neutralized bleached deodorized palm olein	HPOs	Hydrogenated palm stearin
RBDPOo	Refined bleached deodorized palm oil	RPOs	Refined palm stearin
RBDPOs	Neutralized bleached deodorized palm stearin	HPO	Hydrogenated palm oil
NBIPOo	Neutralized bleached interesterified palm olein	HPOo	Hydrogenated palm olein
NBIPOs	Neutralized bleached interesterified palm stearin	PMF	Palm mid fraction
RBPO	Refined bleached palm oil	DFPO	Double fractionated palm olein
RBDPO	Refined bleached deodorized palm oil		Source: MPOB

from 1999 to 2000 had been above 100 000 t and accounted for 69% of the total oils and fats imported which averaged 145 000 t yearly. RBD palm olein was the major product imported and with a total of 28 022 t imported in 2000, it accounted for 64% of the total

Malaysian palm oil imported by the country. Total consumption of oils and fats for the 76 million population of the country in 2000 was 315 000 t, giving a per capita consumption of 4.1 kg yr⁻¹. Demand is expected to continue to increase with the setting up of joint

venture companies in oils and fats in Vietnam.

Imports of Malaysian palm oil by other major importing countries are shown in *Table 2* while the palm products that are exported are shown in *Table 3*.