

Seafood production in Vietnam to grow 1.4% in the third quarter

Vietnam is expected to produce 2.26 million metric tons (MT) of seafood in the third quarter, up 1.4 percent from a year earlier, according to recently released data from the Vietnam General Bureau of Statistics (GSO).

Total aquaculture production for the quarter is estimated at 1.24 million metric tons, up 0.9% from last year. The segment is expected to produce 815,400 tons of fish, down 1.2 percent, and 293,600 tons of shrimp, up 6.1 percent from the previous year.

Wildlife production from July to September is estimated at 1.02 million metric tons, up 2 percent from the same period last year.

Vietnam is expected to produce 6.13 million tonnes of seafood from January to September this year, up 1.6 percent over the same period last year, including 4.42 million tonnes of fish, up 0.9 percent; 769 400 tons of shrimp, which is 5 percent more than last year; and other types of 938,200 tons, which is 2.6 percent more than last year.

Aquaculture production in the first nine months is estimated to grow 1.4 percent over the same period last year to 3.22 million tonnes, including 2.23 million tonnes of fish (-0.4 percent) and 640,900 tonnes of shrimp (+5.8 percent). Production of farmed pangasius fell 6.1% year-on-year to 1.03 million tonnes from January to September.

The GSO said it was difficult for pangasius exporters to increase supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic. Material prices were low, ranging from 17,500 to 18,500 VND (0.75 to 0.8 USD, 0.65 to 0.68 euros) per kilogram, resulting in a loss of about 4000 VND (0.17 United States, € 0.15) per kilogram for local farmers.

The cultivation of shrimp was also affected by unfavorable weather conditions, drought and increased salt levels in the water bodies. It was estimated that 36,600 hectares of shrimp-growing areas in Vietnam were damaged in the first eight months of this year, 2.1 times more than in the same period last year. However, production of both tiger shrimp and white-footed shrimp increased in the first nine months as exports rose in recent months.

Vietnam is expected to produce 204,700 tonnes of tiger prawns from January to September, up 0.6 percent from last year, and 398,200 tonnes of white-footed shrimp, up 7.8 percent from a year earlier.

The country's wild catch increased 1.9 percent year on year to 2.91 million tonnes between January and September, including 2.2 million tonnes of fish, up 2.2 percent from last year; 128,500 tons of shrimp (+1.3 percent).

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