

Thailand is the third largest rice exporter to Peru, after Uruguay and Brazil

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Agrodata Perú, website on agricultural and livestock trade statistics of Peru, revealed that during the first eight months of this year Peru has imported 177,039,677 kilograms of rice from foreign countries, with a total value of 101,650,649 USD (CIF price), decreased from the same period last year at 179,049,969 kilograms, with a total value of 105,842,803 USD.

According to the website, Uruguay continues as the largest rice exporter country to Peru during January - August 2019, with a value of 58,424,120 USD or 57% of the total rice imported to Peru, followed by Brazil (37,683,281 USD), Thailand (2,479,782 USD) and Paraguay (1,660,627 USD).

The largest rice importer companies are Costeño Alimentos SAC (26,525,000 USD), Comercial Isabelita (10,261,000 USD), IC Alejandrina SAC (7,468,000 USD), Pacific Foods Trading SAC (7,201,000 USD), Grupo Parcker's SAC (6,002,000 USD) and Importadora Misti SAC (2,596,000 USD).

During the visit to Lima in August, the Thailand Office of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles, had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Jorge Alfaro Bravo, general manager of Costeño Alimentos SAC, Peru's largest rice importer, and learnt from him that Peruvians prefer using hard and crumbly rice to cook rather than soft and wet rice. Therefore, most of the rice imported from Thailand is not jasmine rice, but the B grade rice. And because the price of domestically produced rice is high, due to the lack of expertise in rice cultivation, most importers therefore buy cheaper rice from Thailand to mix with Peruvian rice to reduce costs. He also suggested that Thailand would be successful if able to use the knowledge and expertise in rice cultivation to invest in Peru more than just selling jasmine rice to the country.

Source: <https://agraria.pe/noticias/importaciones-de-arroz-llegan-a-valores-de-us-101-6-millones-19795>

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