Rice situation in Southern Spain

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This paper describes the rice productive structure in Andalusia including farms, its production costs, industry and some ideas about rice consumption.

In summary it is a large productive area (36,000 has, representing 40% of national acreage and 8% of E.U. one), with modern large farms (20-25 has/farm in average), that allows high yields (8,200 kg/ha average). Half of the total rice surface is cultivated under Integrated Production methods. Farmers are associated in co-operatives for drying and selling paddy rice (65% of total paddy rice). On the other hand milling is carried out, almost completely, by only one company. The industry is very modern and efficient (265,000 tm/year) with facilities for parboiling.

Main constrains affecting the rice sector are: water shortage and the probable fall in prices due to the consequences of the new rice O.M.C.
Rice area evolution in Spain (1987-1999)

National average cost per hectare
Income: $8,000\,\text{kg/ha} \times 52\,\text{pts/kg} = 416,000\,\text{pts/ha}$

Cost: $245,000\,\text{pts/ha}$

Benefit: $171,000\,\text{pts/ha}$

1 dólar $= 160\,\text{pts}$

Farm structure in Southern Spain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Has</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 25 has.</td>
<td>8,705</td>
<td>24,9</td>
<td>11,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-60 has</td>
<td>5,589</td>
<td>16,0</td>
<td>38,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 - 150 has</td>
<td>5,752</td>
<td>16,5</td>
<td>89,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 150 has</td>
<td>14,867</td>
<td>42,6</td>
<td>402,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>34,913</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>34,4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International market preference

- The Spanish total rice area is limited to 104,973 ha by the common market organization of the EU. Water availability will be the main determining factor of the surface cultivated each year.

- There is a tradition favouring medium wide grain with central pearl.

- There is also a market for medium translucent grain, as Lido or Thainato, but the long grain, indica type, is basically for export. Parboiled rice is also of limited importance in the domestic market.
Rice consumption in Spain
6,6 kg / person / year

Main constraints
- Importations with low customs tariff.
- Water shortage
- Others: Weeds
  - *Echinocloa spp*
  - *Cyperaceae*
- Pest
  - *Chilo suppressalis*
  - *Eusarcoris inconspicuus*
- Diseases
  - *Pyricularia oryzae*
  - *Helmintosporium spp*
- Soil salinity

Import - Export

**IMPORT**
- 90,000 Ton.
  - 40,000 Ton. EU (Italy)
  - 50,000 Ton. USA
  - 30,000 Ton. Middel East

**EXPORT**
- 120,000 Ton. EU
- 30,000 Ton. Middle East