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## MONTHLY RUBBER STATISTICS, DECEMBER 2023

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Natural Rubber (NR) production decreased by 1.1 per cent in December 2023 (30,342 tonnes) as compared to November 2023 (30,669 tonnes). Year-on-year comparison showed that the production of NR decreased by 0.7 per cent (December 2022: 30,556 tonnes). Production of NR in December 2023 for Malaysia was mainly contributed by smallholders sector (88.0%) as compared to estates sector (12.0%).

Total stocks of NR in December 2023 increased by 11.0 per cent to 191,320 tonnes as compared to 172,307 tonnes in November 2023. Rubber processors factory contributed 91.1 per cent of the stocks followed by rubber consumers factory (8.9%) and rubber estates (0.1%).

Exports of Malaysia's NR amounted to 45,591 tonnes in December 2023, decreased 11.7 per cent as against November 2023 (51,643 tonnes). P.R. China remained as the main destination for NR exports which accounted 41.5 per cent of total exports in December 2023 followed by Germany (12.7%), Iran (3.9%), the United States of America (3.8%) and Pakistan (2.8%).

Analysis of the average monthly price showed that Concentrated Latex recorded a decrease of 2.2 per cent (December 2023: 537.63 sen per kg; November 2023: 549.67 sen per kg) while Scrap decreased by 3.4 per cent (December 2023: 542.89 sen per kg; November 2023: 562.24 sen per kg). Prices for all Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R) decreased between 2.1 per cent to 2.2 per cent.

The performance of the fourth quarter of 2023 showed natural rubber production increased by 1.5 per cent to 93,956 tonnes as compared to 92,599 tonnes in the third quarter of 2023. The annual performance of Malaysia's natural rubber production in the fourth quarter of 2023 recorded an increase of 3.9 per cent as compared to the fourth quarter 2022 (90,399 tonnes).

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