



## About NFPP



Nedspice believes that backward integration and sustainability are some of the main challenges for the food industry in the years ahead. To ensure that spice farming remains financially attractive and offers a sustainable livelihood for farmers Nedspice has initiated the development of backward integration programmes for farmers in the countries it works in. This ambition is laid down in the Nedspice - Farmers Partnership Programme (NFPP) which defines the approach, key principles as well as the expected results. In this update you will find information about the latest NFPP activities for pepper in Vietnam.

## Crop stage



- The current crop is at the end of the berry setting stage. From here on the berries will need to ripen before harvesting.
- In terms of weather, the area is still in the midst of the rainy season, which should end beginning of November.
- The rainfall and the frequency of rainy days has been above average so far. These weather conditions are not only impacting the yield, as mentioned in the last issue, but are possibly also causing foot rot due to inefficient drainage.
- The potential impact of foot rot and / or other diseases will be clarified more in future updates.

Climate development in NFPP area (2017/18 season)<sup>1</sup>

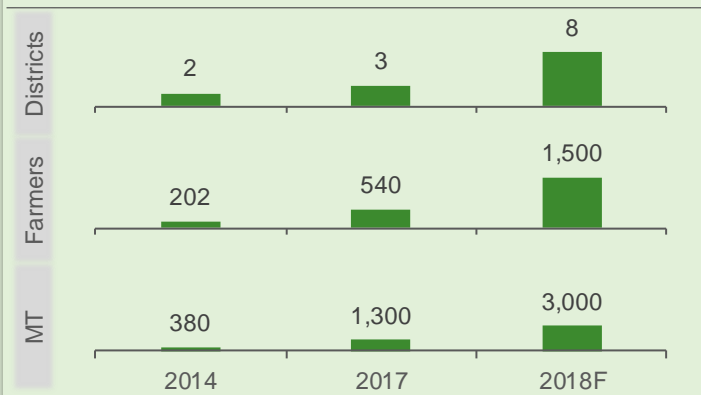
Stage	Period	☀		☁		📊
Vegetative	May-Jun	33°C	-4%	579mm	+7%	✓
Spike formation	Jun-Aug	32°C	-2%	1,048mm	+12%	✗
Berry setting	Aug-Oct	33°C	+1%	703mm	-1%	~
Berry ripening	Oct-Feb					
Harvesting	Feb-May					

## Developments



- The NFPP started in 2014 in 2 districts within the Binh Phuoc province, with 202 farmers and 380MT volume.
- Nedspice expanded the programme to 540 farmers last season, almost quadrupling the volume.
- Since last season, more than 1,000 new farmers in 5 new districts joined the training programme, increasing the coverage to the whole Binh Phuoc province.
- The total number of NFPP farmers is expected to reach 1,500 this season.
- This expansion will be the basis to grow the NFPP 2017-18 crop volume to 3,000MT.

Programme impact evolution



## Spike formation in Binh Phuoc



Heavy rainfall impacted the spike formation. The Vinh Linh variety (left) is affected most. This is the most commonly used variety. The Tieu Trung variety (right) is affected less.



## NFPP area overview



<sup>1</sup> Stages are indicative for the Vinh Linh variety, which is the largest variety. The temperature shown is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period. The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data till 29-Sep. Source: Nedspice research



- 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017: NFPP App training in Vietnam:
  - The NFPP App is the mobile application developed specifically for the Nedspice NFPP to capture and manage all field activities timely. This App was implemented for the NFPP in India last year and is now introduced to the NFPP in Vietnam. The plan is to go live in October-November 2017.
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017: Farmer club management training for new farmer club leaders:
  - To support and manage the farmer members in the NFPP, the farmer members are organized into farmer clubs based on proximity. Each farmer club selects their leader who will liaise between the company and farmer members to deploy ground activities and to support the farmer members to align farming practices with the programme requirements.
  - Farmer club leaders were trained on management skills, and educated on the scope of work and responsibilities as club leader. The Rainforest Alliance Internal Control System (ICS) principle was also explained in this session. Altogether, this session should allow new farmer club leaders to perform their tasks in the future, helping to expand the partnership programme that Nedspice has set up.

## Farmer club management training



## NFPP App training



## What's next?



- Pepper quality improvement project between Nedspice, Eurofins and ASSIST (NGO)
  - This project, to be launched in October, aims to research and study the impact of farmer practices to the environment and product quality, with emphasis on the use of pesticides.
- Internal audit for Rainforest Alliance (RA) farmer members in October – November
  - This is a critical internal activity in preparation of the annual audit process of RA.
  - The official RA audit will come in December 2017 or early 2018.
- Cambodia NFPP farmer training
  - First farmer training sessions in Cambodia are to commence in October – November.
  - During these first sessions, the farmers will be educated on pepper cultivation techniques, proper use of pesticides, compliance with market requirements, etc..

### Nedspice

Netherlands: +31 10 2801 380

United States: +1 843 443 4007

Vietnam: +84 274 37 18 005

India: +91 484 22 23 286

spices@nedspice.com

<http://www.nedspice.com/>

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