



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 programs for farmers in the countries it works in. This ambition is laid down in the Nedspice - Farmers Partnership Program (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 ripening stage is commencing. First to enter this stage is the Indian variety, followed by the Vinh Linh variety (largest) and finally the Trung variety.
- The rainy season is about to end in the NFPP area. Overall, the amount of rain was higher than normal. Also the number of rainy days during the spike formation stage and the start of the berry setting stage were substantially above average. Data is being collected regarding the impact on yield.
- Recent bad weather has impacted pepper farms in some areas in Vietnam, especially three continuous storms, however the NFPP area in Binh Phuoc was not affected.

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

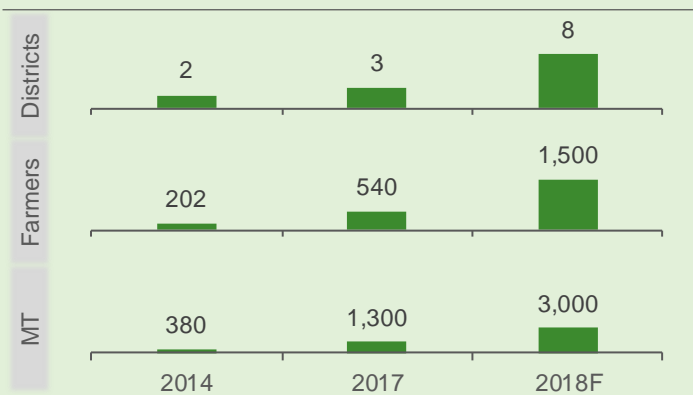
Stage	Period	☀️ °C	mm ☁️ days	📅	
Vegetative	May-Jun	(4%)	+7%	+0%	✓
Spike formation	Jun-Aug	(2%)	+12%	+44%	✗
Berry setting	Aug-Oct	+1%	(10%)	(12%)	✗
Berry ripening	Oct-Feb	+1%	(26%)	(36%)	
Harvesting	Feb-May				

Developments



- NFPP started in 2014 in 2 districts within the Binh Phuoc province, involving 202 farmers and delivering 380MT volume.
- Nedspice expanded the program to 540 farmers last season, almost quadrupling the volume.
- Since the 2017 crop, more than 1,000 new farmers in 5 new districts joined our training program, increasing our 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 our NFPP 2017-18 crop volume to over 3,000MT.

Program impact and evolution



Pepper damaged by storms



Frequent storms from September, October into November impacted some pepper farmers in provinces such as Gia Lai, Dak Lak and Dak Nong. The NFPP area Binh Phuoc was not affected.



NFPP area overview



¹ Stages are indicative for the Vinh Linh variety (largest variety). The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data till 31-Oct-17. Rainy days are defined as days with >15mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period. Disclaimer: This document is for information purposes only. The information contained herein does not constitute the provision of investment advice. It is not intended to be and should not be construed as a recommendation, offer or solicitation to purchase any product



- 25th October. We started a new pre-harvest quality improvement project in close cooperation with Eurofins and Assist (NGO):
 - Training on taking samples for testing, conducted by Eurofins.
 - Soil, water, berry, pepper leaf sample taking started (10 samples/farm).
 - The purpose of the research is to study the impact of environmental factors to pesticide residues later on at harvest time.
- 1th – 31th October. Rain Forest Alliance (RA) internal audit:
 - 100% of NFPP/RA farmer members were audited vv the RA standard.
 - Of all NFPP/RA member farms, the GPS coordinates (latitude, longitude point) were determined and registered.
 - After internal audit, a corrective action plan will be prepared and implemented.
 - Formal RA certification audit will be done in January 2018.

RA internal audit activities



Sample taking for project



What's next?



- Pre-harvesting activities:
 - The volume registration of 1,500 farmer members for coming harvest will be finalized in December 2017.
 - The pre-harvesting part of our training activities will be implemented in November – December 2017. During this training, the buying policies applied for the coming harvest will also be announced.
- Crop 2017 year end review:
 - Farm level crop performance in terms of volume and quality (pesticide residue) achievements will be reviewed by mid December.
 - These achievement reviews are the input for lessons-learned and applied on the respective farms or as a network in 2018.
- NFPP expansion model:
 - The experience gained from expanding our network in 2018 will be applied to other areas to further develop the NFPP capability of sourcing highest level compliant pepper from future crops.

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