



## Thai shrimp producers: EMS recovery expected by Q4

Production is down 50% year-on-year, but a recovery is in sight, say Thai shrimp stakeholders.

IntraFish Media

Published: 15 July 2013 01:18 PM Updated: 15 July 2013 02:07 PM

Stakeholders in the Thai shrimp supply chain expect a 40 percent lower export volume this year when compared to 2013 due to continuous problems with the early mortality syndrome (EMS) disease.

"If the EMS outbreak still remains unresolved, the shrimp export volume will continuously slow down and create a recession in Thai shrimp industry," they said in a joint statement.

Thailand's production was down 50 percent since late 2012, and from January to April this year shrimp export volume declined 29.27 percent while it declined 27.60 percent in value.

Consequently deliveries were delayed and "no orders can be accepted due to the material shortage and increasing price of raw material," the statement said, [an outcome of a meeting earlier this month](#).

The letter, signed by officials from the Thai Feed Mill Association, Thai Marine Shrimp Hatchery Association, Thai Eastern and Southern Shrimp Associations, and Thai Frozen Foods Association, said a recovery is expected in the second half of the year.

Shrimp farmers are showing more confidence in stocking their ponds and the positive trend of shrimp post larvae's survival rate is 50 to 60 percent.

"It appears that a big part of the solution has been from close cooperation among hatcheries, farms and concerned agencies," the stakeholders said.

Shrimp production could return to its normal state by the end of this year or the beginning of 2014, they said.

However, processing plants "need to slow down their orders because of lower shrimp supplies and higher raw material price."

Between January and April this year prices hiked 50 percent while processing plants could only run at 10 to 20 percent of their daily capacity.

Collaboration between hatcheries and farms, as well as programs including the 'STOP EMS Programme' are effective tools to combat the disease, the statement said.

"Thailand should reclaim and sustain its capacity as the major shrimp production and exporting country."

### Associated Articles

- Thai industry meets to combat EMS
- European shrimp buyers continue market struggle
- US shrimp imports continue downward slide
- Thai shrimp industry asks EU for tax break
- Camposol's shrimp rides EMS price wave; finds new market
- Thai Union slashes 2013 investment plans
- 150 million pounds could disappear from global shrimp supply this year