

Date 4/28/2025

Re: April Market Update – Portunus pelagicus and Monomia haanii

Blue Swimming Crab / Portunus pelagicus (SE Asia)

Production in Indonesia continues at a steady pace as processors scramble to fill strong container demand. The attempt to build inventory to support summer demand, combined with a slow start to the season, has fueled this production push. The imposition of tariffs has created additional uncertainty as importers assess their impact upon market pricing and ultimately, consumer demand. Because of the slow season start and high container demand, prices have continued to climb across all blue grades. Unless recent events curtail demand, expect prices to continue to firm as importers plan out for late summer/fall demand.

Red Swimming Crab / Monomia haanii (Vietnam, China)

Production in Vietnam is at a trickle right now. Normally, the fishery improves with the rainy season. However, this year, the weather isn't cooperating and conditions remain very hot and dry. As such, fishing is not underway. Expectations are that the rainy season is fast approaching which means fishing and processing could commence in mid to late May. Availability in-country is extremely tight on most grades. Lump remains somewhat available, but that varies by importer.

China is not exporting anything to speak of, and with the recent 125% tariff, future exports are seriously in doubt. As always, China goes into conservation May 1st and won't be back online until late August. Best case scenario, new production wouldn't hit US ports until October. Between now and then, Vietnam is your only game for new production. Should the Vietnam season kick in, we expect to see new containers arrive in June/July. Until then, pricing will remain high and is likely to continue to climb on limited supplies.



Supply Chain Update

Diesel pricing has dropped -11% since March, down almost \$0.50/gallon. Tanking crude oil prices have helped fuel this slide, and expectations are that it may continue into the summer. Supply and demand dynamics are driving this, with OPEC increasing production over the next 16 months. Increased production for an uncertain consumer base means continued softening prices.

Another concern related to US government tariffs is the potential for container shortages. With less product going West to East, the number of available containers could become an issue for importers trying to build shipments. Container costs will most certainly rise.

