

Analysis of Natural Rubber Futures Market in the First Half of 2019 and Future Prospects

TONG Changzheng

(CITIC Futures Co., Ltd., Shanghai 200127, China)

Abstract: In the first half of 2019, there was an obvious difference in the price trend of natural rubber (NR) futures at home and abroad, showing a pattern of internal weakness and external strength. NR price in Shanghai rubber futures market experienced two ups and downs, extending the previous period of interval oscillation characteristics, while the NR price of Japanese rubber futures market increased significantly. In terms of demand, the rubber-related industries such as automobile industry, as well as the infrastructure and construction industry related to heavy truck tires, are unlikely to get better in the short term, and it is very difficult to maintain a certain high level. The influence of demand on NR price is still dragging effect. In terms of supply, NR production will increase seasonally in the second half of 2019, so it is difficult for NR prices to rise sharply without special events such as extreme weather. However, if the NR price continues to decline, more rubber farmers will abandon their rubber trees, and it would restrict the increase of NR production. Therefore, the space for decline in NR futures market is limited. The trend of NR futures market in the second half of 2019 will test the bottom line of the market.

Key words: natural rubber; futures market; supply; demand

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