

# Spot rubber turns weak on global cues

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Physical rubber prices turned weak on Monday. The market ruled better during early trades but lost ground following decline in the domestic and international futures. According to sources, there were no fresh enquiries from major consuming industries and prices slipped mainly on buyer resistance though there was no selling pressure from dealers. Volumes were comparatively low.

On the spot, sheet rubber moved down to Rs 233.50 (237) a kg, according to traders. The grade slipped to Rs 234.50 (236) a kg both at Kottayam and Kochi, as reported by the Rubber Board.

The May futures weakened to Rs 231.40 (235.32), June to Rs 235.50 (239.41), July to Rs 237.90 (240.96), August to Rs 2320 (235.61) and September to Rs 228.50 (230.20) a kg for RSS 4 on the National Multi Commodity Exchange.

The key TOCOM rubber futures fell around 3 per cent as Yen's strengthened and a fall in oil prices prompted investors to book profits in the midst of Japan's Golden Week holidays.

RSS 3 declined at its May futures to ¥427 (Rs 232.26) from ¥439 a kg during the day session but then remained inactive in the night session on the Tokyo Commodity Exchange. The grade (spot) closed weak at Rs 245.80 (248.94) a kg at Bangkok.

Spot rates were (Rs/kg): RSS-4: 233.50 (237); RSS-5: 231.50 (234); ungraded: 227 (230); ISNR 20: 225 (231.50) and latex 60 per cent: 144 (145).