

Note: Key data/information in this sample page is hidden, while in the report it is not.

1 Overall supply & demand situation of L-Cysteine in China

China is one of the largest L-Cysteine product suppliers in the world. In the 1990s, the production scale was small and the supply fell short of demand due to inefficient production technology and insufficient raw material—L-Cystine. At that time, most of China's L-Cystine was exported (up to ■ tonnes in 2000), mainly processed into L-Cysteine products abroad for many purposes.

During 2006-2008, the supply of L-Cysteine products presented an uptrend in China, which was attributed to the increasing global demand for the products.

However, the prosperity was seriously attacked by the global economic crisis broken out in the latter half of 2008. China's L-Cysteine products are export-oriented with ■-■% of national total output exported in recent years. The shrunken global demand in 2009 led to a limited production and then a falling supply in China.

2 L-Cysteine production situation in China

At present, the production scale of L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate is the largest, with capacity of ■ t/a in 2010. L-Cysteine hydrochloride anhydrous comes next with ■ t/a capacity in 2010. The capacity of other three kinds (L-Cysteine base, N-Acetyl-L-Cysteine and S-Carboxymethyl-L-Cysteine) is all lower than ■ t/a in 2010.

3.1 Production (by product types), 2006-2010

3.1.1 Current top three producers' situation

✓ L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate

Table 3.1.1-2 Production situation of top three producers of L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate in China, 2006-2010

| No. | Company | Capacity, t/a | | | | | Output, tonne | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------|------|------|------|------|---------------|------|------|
| | | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 |
| 1 | Shine Star | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 2 | Wuhan Grand Hoyo | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 3 | Ningbo Haide | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

Source: CCM International

3.1 L-Cysteine market price situation

3.1.1 L-Cysteine market price trend, 2006-2011

✓ L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate

During 2006-2008, the market price of L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate in China took on a downtrend. Some reasons can explain that. Firstly, the sufficient supply of direct raw material, L-Cystine, is beneficial for producers of L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate who don't self-produce L-Cystine. During 2006-2008, L-Cystine's supply increased from ■ tonnes to ■ tonnes, providing enough raw materials for L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate production. Secondly, some producers of L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate expanded capacity during those years. As a result, the fast increasing supply but slowly rising demand made the product's market price decline slightly.

3.2 Major applications in China

In China, L-Cysteine products are mainly used in foods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and so on. Its total consumption reaches ■ tonnes in 2010. However, the volume is still lower than that in 2008.

L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate constitutes the largest part of the consumption in 2010. Meanwhile, it has the largest market size counted by value with USD ■ million in 2010. L-Cysteine hydrochloride anhydrous comes next with USD ■ million, much less than L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate due to the less demand for the former.