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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2006**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices were offered higher in line with stronger Thai Baht and high domestic prices.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Jan. 23):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	428	-	420	-	430	412	410	420	417
WR 100 B	306	-	303	-	301	306	298	303	299
PB 5%	286	-	285	-	290	292	292	289	287
WR 5%	301	-	300	-	296	298	293	298	294
WR 10%	296	-	295	-	292	295	288	293	290
WR 15%	283	-	290	-	288	283	283	285	283
WR 25%	268	-	270	-	269	265	278	270	271
WR 35%	265	-	-	-	267	263	273	267	267
A 1 SUP	217	-	216	-	220	213	215	216	213
A 1 SPEC	215	-	214	-	217	-	213	215	211

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice surged to a record high, particularly for premium white rice prices, in line with continued strengthening of the Thai Baht. The quotations were based on around 39 baht/U.S.\$, as compared to the previous week's average of around 39.6 baht/U.S.\$. However, given these high offer prices, exporters are reportedly facing difficulties in sourcing rice domestically for pending shipments due to aggressive government intervention program. As of Jan. 21, 2006, the Government bought 4 million tons of paddy, of which 1.7 million tons were white rice paddy, and 1.9 million tons were fragrant rice paddy. In addition, trade sources expected that CY 2006 government export target of 7.5 million tons was too optimistic due to current high domestic prices, as compared to major competitors like Vietnam and India.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
DEC 4	89,714	76,085	4,678	7,423
DEC 11	82,201	81,303	4,760	7,553
DEC 18	97,813	85,488	4,858	7,665
DEC 25	80,754	87,620	4,939	7,772
DEC 31	63,125	80,973	5,002	7,863
JAN 8	69,443	-	69	119
JAN 15	105,420	-	175	275
JAN 22	82,797	-	258	408

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Jan. 16-22 totaled 82,797 tons, up 22,623 tons from the previous week's total. Exports during Jan. 1-22, 2006 totaled 257,659 tons, as compared with 408,257 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – 17, 2006, amounted to 295,514 tons, down 29 percent from 418,649 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan. 2-6, Jan. 9-13, and Jan. 16-20, 2006 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 2-6	Jan. 9-13	Jan. 16-20
weekly sales	88,771	124,042	100,915
4 week sum	-	-	-
4 week mov. avg.	-	-	-
Total weekly sales	88,771	212,813	313,728

End of Report.