



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

**Date:** 5/30/2006

**GAIN Report Number:** TH6054

## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2006**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices were higher due to a surge in domestic prices. Also, price quotations will likely be higher when there is a rumor that Iranian buyers return to source Thai rice.

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

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending May 29):**

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	482	-	472	495	495	470	500	486	485
WR 100 B	322	315	319	315	320	318	315	318	316
PB 5%	300	298	305	309	306	306	305	304	303
WR 5%	317	310	312	310	312	311	310	312	310
WR 10%	309	303	307	307	308	307	305	307	305
WR 15%	301	297	295	305	297	292	295	297	297
WR 25%	277	277	275	292	275	274	280	279	279
WR 35%	275	-	-	286	-	272	-	278	275
A 1 SUP	219	218	213	215	220	216	210	216	214
A 1 SPEC	217	216	211	203	218	-	208	214	213

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice increased by U.S.\$ 1-2/MT in response to the surge in domestic prices. White rice domestic prices continued to increase due to tighter white paddy rice supplies, following the current aggressive government intervention program. The millers who participated in the second-crop intervention program reportedly have more space to stockpile second-crop white paddy rice because they have recently been allowed to mill paddy stocks (2005/06 main crop) for delivery to government warehouses. In addition, the current second-crop paddy has a higher percentage of chalky kernels than normal due to unfavorable weather conditions, leading to additional cost to exporters, as chalky kernel content cannot exceed 6 percent (Thai Rice Export Standard). Meanwhile, foreign demand remained quiet due to current high Thai rice prices. Also, there is a rumor that Iranian buyers are renegotiating with Thai exporters to buy 100B% B grade white rice after they failed to source rice from Vietnam. Trade sources also reported that the Thai exporters are quoting prices of U.S.\$ 330/MT for 100% B grade white rice to Iranian buyers, as compared to the U.S.\$ 310-320/MT quotations on the previous negotiation three weeks ago.

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

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	%
APR 9	76,558	80,007	1,220	1,527	-20.1
APR 16	66,847	77,725	1,287	1,598	-19.4
APR 23	103,185	82,068	1,390	1,721	-19.2
APR 30	105,690	88,070	1,496	1,847	-19.0
MAY 7	111,369	96,773	1,607	1,947	-17.4
MAY 14	100,083	105,082	1,707	2,042	-16.4
MAY 21	121,879	109,755	1,829	2,131	-14.1
MAY 28	70,293	100,906	1,900	2,205	-13.8

*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 May 22-28, 2006 totaled 70,293 tons, down 51,586 tons from the previous week's total, and down 30,613 tons from the four-week moving average of 100,906 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – May 28, 2006 totaled 1,899,712 tons, as compared with 2,204,645 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – May 17, 2006, amounted to 2,772,266 tons, down 4 percent from 2,886,738 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of May 8-12, May 15-19, and May 22-26, 2006 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	May 8-12 (revised)	May 15-19	May 22-26
weekly sales	94,733	78,560	129,953
4 week sum	508,952	514,250	441,503
4 week mov. avg.	127,238	128,563	110,376
Total weekly sales	2,325,487	2,404,047	2,534,000

End of Report.