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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2007

Approved by:

Corey Pickelsimer, Agricultural Attaché
U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

Prepared by:

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Export and domestic prices declined slightly as the government proposed their plan to release 650,000 tons of intervention stocks. This intervention stock release will be primarily comprised of primarily white rice recently acquired from a bankrupt exporter holding one million tons of three-year old rice.

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

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Aug. 27):

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	558	565	-	553	580	535	550	557	559
WR 100 B	328	335	-	333	332	331	332	332	333
PB 5%	323	343	-	332	328	330	325	330	331
WR 5%	322	330	-	328	325	322	327	326	327
WR 10%	317	325	-	322	320	318	322	321	321
WR 15%	310	320	-	316	315	312	317	315	316
WR 25%	299	300	-	313	310	300	312	306	306
WR 35%	296	-	-	-	-	295	-	296	296
A 1 SUP	267	-	-	263	265	266	265	265	265
A 1 SPEC	264	-	-	260	262	-	262	262	262

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 34.2 baht/U.S.\$

Market Tone

Export and domestic prices declined slightly by \$1/MT, particularly for premium grade white rice and fragrant rice as exporters were less aggressive in securing rice supplies for outstanding contracts. Domestic prices decreased as the Government proposed to release 650,000 tons of intervention stocks within the next couple of months before 2007/08 main crop harvest. Intervention stocks have recently jumped up to around 4 million tons, of which one million tons was recently acquired from a bankrupt exporter who had won a tender of old-crop intervention stocks of around 1.8 million tons three years ago. Around 70-80 percent of this unsold rice is white rice, with the balance being fragrant rice. The Government will re-tender a portion of this stock of around 100,000 – 200,000 tons early next month with anticipated \$2-3/MT drop in market prices.

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)	%
JUL 8	91,843	101,972	2,693	2,534	6.3
JUL 15	110,982	100,872	2,804	2,613	7.3
JUL 22	97,823	98,194	2,902	2,713	7.0
JUL 29	93,085	98,433	2,995	2,800	7.0
AUG 5	84,102	96,498	3,079	2,859	7.7
AUG 12	100,989	94,000	3,180	2,913	9.2
AUG 19	91,788	92,491	3,272	2,993	9.3
AUG 26	96,115	93,248	3,368	3,095	8.8

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 Aug. 20-26, 2007 totaled 96,115 tons, up 4,327 tons from the previous week's total, and up 2,867 tons from the four-week moving average of 93,248 tons. Export during Jan. 1 – Aug. 26, 2007 totaled 3,368,057 tons, as compared with 3,094,776 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Aug. 16, 2007, amounted to 5,044,418 tons, up 12.2 percent from 4,497,495 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Aug. 6-10, Aug. 13-17, and Aug. 20-24, 2007 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Aug. 6-10	Aug. 13-17	Aug. 20-24
Weekly sales	96,312	82,578	53,072
4 week sum	331,843	307,750	285,380
4 week mov. avg.	82,843	76,938	71,345
Total weekly sales	3,406,933	3,489,511	3,542,583

End of Report.