



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - Public distribution

Date: 11/6/2007

GAIN Report Number: TH7155

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2007

Approved by:

Gary Meyer, Agricultural Counselor
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Export prices decelerated due to government stock release. Meanwhile, foreign demand remains strong. Thailand could move a million tons into the export market between now and the end of this calendar year.

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

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Nov. 5):

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	608	587	565	558	590	575	570	579	576
WR 100 B	338	338	338	342	346	344	335	340	340
PB 5%	342	347	337	353	348	357	335	346	344
WR 5%	332	335	335	335	340	335	325	334	334
WR 10%	329	330	330	326	337	332	320	329	329
WR 15%	326	325	320	323	333	329	315	324	324
WR 25%	320	317	313	320	320	323	-	319	319
WR 35%	317	-	-	317	-	319	-	318	317
A 1 SUP	302	-	-	307	-	304	295	302	302
A 1 SPEC	299	-	-	304	-	-	292	298	298

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 33.9 baht/U.S.\$

Market Tone

Export prices decelerated as the Government announced plans to release more intervention stocks. In addition to the fragrant rice stock release discussed in last week's report, the Government also held a tender of 642,366 tons of white rice from 2004/05 – 2005/06 intervention stocks. Of this tender, 370,137 tons were for export sales. The bidding prices were up to 9,720 baht/ton (\$286/MT) for 2005/06 main-crop intervention stocks, reflecting strong foreign demand.

On November 1, The Government announced intervention prices for this year's program, which began Nov. 1, 2007 and ends on Feb. 29, 2008. The intervention prices were set around 300 baht/ton (\$9/MT) higher than last year. However, the program continues to be less aggressive as market prices remain more attractive following limited exportable supplies from competitors Vietnam and India. Thai rice exports reached a record 1.1 million tons exported in October, following the Indian rice export ban. In addition, Thai rice exporters expect monthly exports of around one million ton for the rest of the year as India and Vietnam maintain their rice export bans.

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)	%
SEP 16	149,864	119,596	3,750	3,383	10.9
SEP 23	151,993	133,565	3,902	3,494	11.7
SEP 30	191,059	158,682	4,093	3,577	14.4
OCT 7	180,214	168,282	4,273	3,663	16.6
OCT 14	179,792	175,765	4,453	3,762	18.3
OCT 21	196,139	186,801	4,649	3,886	19.6
OCT 28	203,834	189,995	4,853	3,995	21.5
NOV 4	196,667	194,108	5,050	4,139	22.0

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 Oct. 29 – Nov. 4, 2007 totaled 196,667 tons, down 7,167 tons from the previous week's total, and up 2,559 tons from the four-week moving average of 194,108 tons. Export during Jan. 1 – Nov. 4, 2007 totaled 5,050,025 tons, as compared with 4,139,189 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Oct. 31, 2007, amounted to 7,268,066 tons, up 18.8 percent from 6,118,207 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Oct. 15-19, Oct. 22-26, and Oct. 29 – Nov. 2, 2007 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Oct. 15-21	Oct. 22-26	Oct. 29 – Nov. 2
Weekly sales	219,624	163,203	225,996
4 week sum	848,969	803,414	827,358
4 week mov. avg.	212,242	200,854	206,840
Total weekly sales	5,055,464	5,218,667	5,444,663

End of Report.