



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - Public distribution

**Date:** 1/15/2008

**GAIN Report Number:** TH8008

## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

### 2008

**Approved by:**

Gary Meyer, Agricultural Counselor  
U.S. Embassy

**Prepared by:**

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

---

**Report Highlights:**

A strengthening Thai baht and speculative demand caused domestic and export prices to increase by 2-3 percent. Domestic supplies continue to tighten for low grade white and broken rice as feed mills are currently sourcing for feed production.

---

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

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Jan. 14):**

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	670	645	640	616	635	630	610	635	625
WR 100 B	380	387	375	370	368	381	370	376	372
PB 5%	380	398	390	381	380	391	395	388	383
WR 5%	373	382	370	364	360	371	365	369	364
WR 10%	370	377	365	358	356	369	360	365	360
WR 15%	368	375	360	355	352	367	355	362	356
WR 25%	365	372	350	352	350	-	-	358	352
WR 35%	362	-	-	349	-	-	-	356	349
A 1 SUP	359	-	-	340	347	-	352	350	343
A 1 SPEC	356	-	-	337	344	-	349	347	339

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 32.9 baht/U.S.\$

**Market Tone**

Export and domestic prices for all grades of rice surged by 2-3 percent in the past week. The increase was driven by the continued strengthening of the Thai baht (32.9 baht/\$ against 33.1 baht/\$ in the previous week) and strong speculative demand among local rice traders. Traders are reportedly holding stocks in an attempt to take greater advantage of increasing global commodities prices. In addition, new enquiries for 5% grade white rice to Iraq were concluded while fulfilling outstanding contracts. Exporters involved in last week's sales to Iraq will need to source new supplies to fulfill those 5% grade white rice contracts. Also, international trading houses reportedly concluded deals with some Thai rice exporters for low-grade white rice to African countries. Some exporters are not providing quotations for low-grade white and broken rice due to tight domestic supplies. Domestic supplies of broken rice are further strained by strong demand from feed mills, which are currently sourcing broken rice for feed production.

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)	%
NOV 25	204,239	201,626	5,660	4,400	28.6
DEC 2	210,399	205,060	5,870	4,481	31.0
DEC 9	146,624	191,129	6,017	4,567	31.7
DEC 16	189,887	187,787	6,207	4,650	33.5
DEC 23	204,027	187,734	6,411	4,734	34.3
DEC 30	186,048	181,646	6,597	4,804	37.3
JAN 6	81,497	-	81	33	145.0
JAN 13	172,556	-	254	102	149.0

*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 Jan. 7-13, 2008 totaled 172,556 tons, up 91,059 tons from the previous week. Exports during Jan. 1-13, 2008 totaled 254,054 tons, as compared with 102,167 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2007, amounted to 9,504,906 tons, up 28 percent from 7,415,519 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Dec. 24-28, 2007, Jan. 1-4, and Jan. 7-11, 2008 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Dec. 24-28	Jan. 1-4	Jan. 7-11
Weekly sales	139,961	43,079	143,821
4 week sum	644,044	-	-
4 week mov. avg.	161,011	-	-
Total weekly sales	6,880,047	43,079	186,900

End of Report.