



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - Public distribution

**Date:** 2/5/2008

**GAIN Report Number:** TH8019

## 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:**

Domestic and export prices continued to increase, reaching a new ten-year record high, and are expected to increase through next week. Exporters with short supplies face sourcing rice from the domestic market at high prices or delaying outstanding shipments. Furthermore, no quotations for parboiled rice will be made until March.

---

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

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Feb. 4):**

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	750	-	800	-	750	-	720	755	700
WR 100 B	460	-	495	-	490	-	450	474	412
PB 5%	445	-	490	-	500	-	450	471	419
WR 5%	450	-	485	-	483	-	440	465	403
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	397
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	394
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	391
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	389
A 1 SUP	435	-	-	-	-	-	430	433	391
A 1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 32.7 baht/U.S.\$									

**Market Tone**

Domestic and export prices reached a new record high, increasing by 10-15 percent from the previous week as domestic supplies continue to tighten. Traders expect export prices to continue increasing, particularly for premium-grade white rice, which will likely be over \$500/MT by next week. Some exporters are refusing to offer quotations for all grades of rice due to rise-up in both domestic and export rice prices. In addition, regular quotations of parboiled rice are not expected until the middle of March, when new crop supplies come available. Some shipments have reportedly been delayed, particularly for exporters who have short supplies and are forced to source rice from the domestic market at relatively high prices. Exporters delaying shipments reportedly run the risk of bankruptcy as current domestic prices have increased by approximately \$100/MT since the contracts were concluded since last November.

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)	%
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
JAN 20	165,968	-	420	190	121.3
JAN 27	169,127	147,287	589	269	118.7
FEB 3	203,162	177,703	792	356	122.5

*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. 28 – Feb. 3, 2008 totaled 203,162 tons, up 34,035 tons from the previous week, and up 25,458 tons from the four-week moving average of 177,703 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Feb. 3, 2008 totaled 792,310 tons, as compared with 356,055 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – 22, 2008, amounted to 657,454 tons, up 64 percent from 400,409 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan. 14-18, Jan. 21-25, and Jan. 28 – Feb. 1, 2008 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 14-18	Jan. 21-25	Jan. 28 – Feb. 1
Weekly sales	203,927	327,047	175,050
4 week sum	-	717,874	849,845
4 week mov. avg.	-	179,469	212,461
Total weekly sales	390,827	717,874	892,924

End of Report.