



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - Public distribution

Date: 7/28/2008

GAIN Report Number: TH8119

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2008

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Report Highlights:

Export prices are mixed. Domestic prices declined by 2-4 percent as supplies of new second-crop harvest in major growing areas (central plain) are coming into market. New orders for white rice are quiet, but shipments of parboiled rice exports to Nigeria remain strong.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
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Indicative Prices (Week Ending Jul. 28):

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	870	-	-	-	900	850	-	873	880
WR 100 B	740	-	780	760	760	760	780	763	765
PB 5%	-	-	835	-	760	820	780	799	788
WR 5%	720	-	772	750	750	740	750	747	748
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	700	-	700	-
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A 1 SUP	530	-	-	-	550	550	550	545	548
A 1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 33.0 baht/U.S.\$

Market Tone

Export prices are mixed. Domestic prices declined by 2-4 percent as supplies of new second-crop harvest in major growing areas (central plain) are coming into market. Even though the current government intervention program is now fully implemented, the credit line is limited to 500,000 baht/farmer (\$15,150/farmer) which is approximately half of production capacity of farmers in the central plain. So far, the program bought 730,000 tons of paddy worth 9 billion baht (\$273 million). Farmgate prices of white rice paddy remain approximately 1,000 baht/ton (\$30/MT) lower than intervention prices. Meanwhile, new order demand for white rice is quiet. Also, there is a rumor of Iran buying Vietnamese rice as prices are reportedly to be cheaper by nearly \$100/MT. However, parboiled rice export prices continue to increase as Thai parboiled rice exporters are aggressively filling shipments to Nigeria.

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)	%
JUN 1	209,946	177,232	3,759	2,134	76.1
JUN 8	192,204	190,977	3,952	2,248	75.8
JUN 15	180,467	189,198	4,132	2,385	73.3
JUN 22	159,051	132,930	4,291	2,494	72.0
JUN 29	212,103	190,391	4,503	2,579	74.5
JUL 6	168,072	179,923	4,671	2,679	74.3
JUL 13	171,699	177,731	4,843	2,784	73.9
JUL 20	178,180	182,513	5,021	2,877	74.5
JUL 27	182,769	175,180	5,204	2,980	74.6

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 Jul 21-25, 2008 totaled 182,769 tons, up 4,590 tons from the previous week, and down 7,589 tons from the four-week moving average of 175,180 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Jul 27, 2008 totaled 5,203,912 tons, as compared with 2,980,244 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – July 16, 2008, amounted to 6,454,401 tons, up 47.1 percent from 4,388,076 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jul 7-11, Jul 14-18, and July 21-25, 2008 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jul 7-11	Jul. 14-18	Jul 21-25
Weekly sales	147,275	136,346	130,046
4 week sum	628,365	584,568	518,630
4 week mov. avg.	157,091	146,142	129,658
Total weekly sales	5,007,469	5,143,815	5,273,861

End of Report.