



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 6/16/2003

GAIN Report #EG3014

## **Egypt**

### **Grain and Feed**

### **Rice Report**

## **2003**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Egyptian rice exports increased substantially during the first three months of 2003.**

**Based on an optimistic forecast for the new crop, rough rice prices are expected to be down.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Cairo [EG1], EG

Since the beginning of CY 2003, (Jan, 2003) Egypt exported 178,553 MT of rice, up from 98,125 MT during the same period of CY 2002. There are two reasons for this substantial increase in rice exports during the first three months of the CY 2003. First, the devaluation of the Egyptian pound made Egyptian rice export prices more competitive, and second, less exportable surplus of U.S rice. According to Egyptian rice traders, current export price for short grain varieties is \$ 240 per MT /FOB and \$350 per MT/FOB for medium grain varieties, compared to about \$ 430 per MT/ FOB for U.S rice. Based on the optimistic forecast for the new crop, rough rice prices are expected to be down compared to last year.

Country of destination for rice exported from January through March 2003 are as follows:

<b>Month</b>	<b>Quantity MT</b>
<b>January, 2003</b>	
Turkey	21,604
Syria	13,090
Jordan	6,070
Sudan	4,269
Romania	2,900
Libya	2,850
Total	50783
Others	10569
G.Total	61,352
<b>February, 2003</b>	
Libya	12,600
Syria	9,923
Romania	6,700
Turkey	5,843
Sudan	4,607
Jordan	3,329
Saudi-Arabia	2,432
Bulgaria	1,190
Total	46624
Others	8521
G. Total	55,145
<b>March, 2003</b>	
Syria	14,954
Libya	8,200
Turkey	7,859
Jordan	6,840
Romania	4,760
Sudan	4,585
Lebanon	2,434

U.K	2,274
Belgium	1,598
Bulgaria	1,330
Total	54834
Other	7222
G.Total	62,056