GAIN Report

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European Union

Grain and Feed

Weekly rice report, Brussels, December 14, 1999 1999

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Report Highlights:

This weekly report contains data on rice prices in the U.S., Thailand and the EU. It also lists current import duties and export subsidies in the EU. All information will be published as such in the weekly USDA publication "Rice Market News".

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Weekly rice report - BRUSSELS, December 14, 1999

(1) MARKET SUMMARY

U.S. export prices for regular rice, both brown and milled, have decreased slightly from last week for lack of any substantial export business. Most export programs have now been executed and, apart from the TRQ tender for the EU, no new business is being scheduled. The quietness in the market is expected to last until the holiday season is over.

In Thailand also, the holiday season has its effect on the rice market. Domestic prices remained constant from last week, while export quotes varied primarily with the fluctuations in the Thai currency.

On December 11, the European Commission published Regulation 2624/1999, which opens an additional tranche of 11,049 MT of rice (brown rice equivalent) to be imported from OCT (overseas countries and territories). On a yearly basis, 35,000 MT of OCT rice can be imported duty-free into the EU. The applications for licenses submitted in January 1999 related to a quantity far exceeding that available. As a result of withdrawals of applications for licenses by operators after the fixing of a percentage reduction, licenses have in fact only been issued for a substantially reduced quantity. Consequently, the European Commission has now opened an additional tranche for 1999, with applications for import licenses due by December 14. Rice prices in the EU did not change from last week. The domestic market remains quiet, a situation which is expected to last until the year-end holidays are over.

COMMISSION AWARDS UNDER OPEN MARKET EXPORT TENDERS, GRAIN MANAGEMENT MEETING December 9, 1999

- 1) Wholly milled rice to Zones I to VI (excl. Turkey) and Zone VIII (excluding Guyana, Madagascar and Surinam), Comm. Reg.2176/1999: 1,500 MT of bids, licenses awarded for 650 MT at a maximum export subsidy of EUR 242/MT.
- 2) Husked long grain rice to Reunion, Comm. Reg. 2177/1999: 2,500 MT of bids, no licenses awarded.
- 3) Wholly milled MG and LG A rice to Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia, Comm. Reg 2178/1999: 450 MT of bids, licenses awarded for 450 MT at a maximum export subsidy of EUR 150/MT.
- 4) Wholly milled MG and LG A rice to Zones I to VI (excl. East Europe) and Zone VIII (excluding Guyana, Madagascar and Surinam), Comm. Reg.2179/1999: 2,467 MT of bids, licenses awarded for 1,347 MT at a maximum export subsidy of EUR 137/MT.
- 5) Wholly milled RG rice to Zones I to VI (excl. Turkey) and Zone VIII (excluding Guyana, Madagascar and Surinam), Comm. Reg.2180/1999: 1,624 MT of bids, licenses awarded for 924 MT at a maximum export subsidy of EUR 124/MT.

| (2) LOWEST OFFERING PRICES BASIS C&F ARAG (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED) |
|---|
| (A) WHOLE LONG-GRAIN |
| |

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| | US\$/MT | US\$/100 LBS | |
|--|---------|--------------|--|
| | Bulk | Bulk | |
| UNITED STATES: | | | |
| 2 Milled 4 pct * | 275.56 | 12.50 | |
| 2 Brown 4/73 pct | 256.82 | 11.65 | |
| 1 Brown parb 4/88 ** October shipment | 358.23 | 16.25 | |
| Medium Milled 2/4 * | 264.54 | 12.00 | |

^{*} F.A.S. basis

^{**} While nominal price quotes are for 1 BROWN PARB 4/88, these quotes in reality refer to rice that meets all U.S. No.1 requirements except for one or two categories. Current and historical trade practice is for rice shipped to the EU to be graded only as No.2 and to be further processed upon arrival.

| | US\$/MT | US\$/100 LBS |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| | Bulk | Bulk |
| SURINAM: | | |
| Brown 4/72 Pct Grade A * | N.Q. | N.Q. |
| Brown 6/70 Pct Grade B ** | N.Q. | N.Q. |
| | | |
| GUYANA: | | |
| Brown 6/70 Pct Grade B ** | N.Q. | N.Q. |
| | | |
| SURINAM/GUYANA Semi-Milled: | | |
| 70-75 Pct Guyana | N.Q. | N.Q. |
| 70-75 Pct Surinam | N.Q. | N.Q. |

^{*} C&F Liner out Rotterdam

^{**} C&F F/O Rotterdam

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| | US\$/MT | US\$/100 LBS |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Bulk-Rotterdam | Bulk |
| THAILAND: | | |
| TWR 100% B | 285.00 C&F | 12.93 |
| Parb LZ 4-88% | 330.00 C&F | 14.97 |
| Loonzain 100% B | 275.00 C&F | 12.47 |
| A1 Super | 210.00 C&F | 9.53 |
| Fragrant WR 100% | 530.00 C&F | 24.04 |
| Fragrant LZ Super | 430.00 C&F | 19.51 |
| Fragrant LZ Supreme | 450.00 C&F | 20.41 |

| | Lira/kg | US\$/MT | US\$/100 LBS |
|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------|
| | Bulk | Bulk | Bulk |
| EUROPEAN UNION *: | | | |
| Milled LG 5 Pct ** | 930 | 486.31 | 22.06 |
| Milled parb LG ** | 1040 | 543.83 | 24.67 |

(B) WHOLE RMG

| | Lira/kg | US\$/MT | US\$/100 LBS |
|----------------------|---------|---------|--------------|
| | Bulk | Bulk | Bulk |
| | | | |
| ITALY*: | | | |
| Milled Medium *** | 910 | 475.85 | 21.58 |
| Camolino 5 Pct (FOB) | N/A | 450.00 | 20.41 |

^{*}U.S / Lira exchange 12/14/99 \$1= 1912.37

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(3) IMPORT LEVIES ARE CHANGED SINCE 12/09/99

| | EUR/MT | EUR/MT | US\$/MT | US\$/MT |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| | General | ACP | General | ACP |
| Brown RG+MG Regul + Parb | 267.90 | 89.43 | 271.33 | 90.57 |
| Brown LG Regul + Parb | 208.76 | 68.72 | 211.43 | 69.60 |
| Milled RG Regul + Parb | 455.00 | 146.86 | 460.82 | 148.74 |
| Milled MG + LG Regul + Parb | 455.00 | 146.86 | 460.82 | 148.74 |
| Brokens | 140.00 | 45.38 | 141.79 | 45.96 |

EURO/US\$ exchange rate 12/14/99

1.0128

(4) EXPORT SUBSIDIES ON RICE, effective 12/01/99

| | EUR/MT | US\$/MT |
|---|--------|---------|
| Brown RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb, to Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Livigno and Campione d'Italia (1) | 101.00 | 102.29 |
| Semi-milled RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb to Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Livigno and Campione d'Italia (1) | 101.00 | 102.29 |
| Milled RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb, to Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Livigno and Campione d'Italia (1) | 127.00 | 128.63 |
| Milled RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb, to Zones I, II, III, VI excluding Turkey (2) | 121.00 | 122.55 |
| Milled RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb, to Zones IV, V, VII (C), Canada, Zone VIII, with the exception of Surinam, Guyana and Madagascar (3) | 126.00 | 127.61 |
| Wholly milled rice RG+MG+LG, to Ceuta and Melilla (4) | 121.00 | 122.55 |
| Milled RG+MG+LG Reg, RG+MG+LG Parb, to destinations mentioned in Art. 34 of amended Comm. Reg. 3665/87 (=Supplies to internat. organiz. established in the EU, supplies to armed forces etc.) (5) | 121.00 | 122.55 |

^{(1):} in respect of a total quantity of 2,923 MT of wholly milled rice equivalent

^{**} Domestic prices, converted into \$ from quotations in ITL/kg

^{***} export prices, FOT basis

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- (2) and (3): in respect of a total quantity of 1,734 MT
- (4): in respect of a total quantity of 714 MT
- (5): in respect of a total quantity of 1,000 MT.