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Government reviews prices and types of rice

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

The Bolivarian Government of Venezuela recently reviewed white rice prices and released a new classification system based on the percentage of broken grains.

General Information:

Government reviews prices and types of rice

A new classification system for white rice was recently established based on the percentage of broken grains. The number of rice types has been reduced from seven to just three categories, namely:

Type I: between 1 and 10% broken grains

Type II: between 10 and 18% broken grains

Type III: between 18 and 25 % broken grains

The Minister of Trade, Eduardo Saman, said that with this new typology distortions in the

production and marketing chain will be avoided.

The Minister pointed out that a study completed by the State Research Center for Experimental Agribusiness Production determined that there is no difference between the so-called rice with one percent, three percent, or five percent broken grains. "For the purpose of use, 1 percent or 10 percent broken grains are the same. When it is cooked there is no evident change, therefore, there is no reason why it should cost differently."

The Minister considers that with the previous white rice classification system, processors with more technology benefit over the smaller firms. He added that anyone who wants to produce one percent broken rice can do it, but at the regulated price.

Flavored rice versions, instant or parboiled continue to be out of the controlled price system, and the industry can produce them according to the amounts set by the Executive at the ration of 80 percent regulated rice and 20 percent other varieties.