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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH 1008 Despite continued weakening of the Thai baht to 30.4 baht/\$, domestic and export prices of white rice increased by 1-3 percent as exporters are securing new-crop white rice supplies.

Post:
Bangkok

Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Jan. 18, 2011

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	980	-	1,035	-	980	945	-	985	1,013
WR 100 B	520	-	550	-	535	540	525	534	529
PB 100%	520	-	545	-	535	535	540	535	532
PB 5%	515	-	535	-	530	530	535	529	526
WR 5%	505	-	530	-	515	520	515	517	512
WR 10%	495	-	520	-	505	515	-	509	503
WR 15%	480	-	500	-	-	505	-	495	488
WR 25%	465	-	470	-	-	475	-	470	467
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	395	-	415	-	400	410	-	405	401
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.40 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Despite continued weakening of the Thai baht to 30.4 baht/\$, compared to 30.1 baht/\$ in the previous week, domestic and export prices of white rice increased by 1-3 percent as exporters, particularly those who bought old-crop intervention stock from the government, secured new-crop white rice supplies. They expect new large-volume enquiries for white rice from Indonesia and Iran over the coming months while outstanding shipments are underway and will be completed by the end of this month. Large exporters still have 2-3 million tons of old-crop carry-over stocks bought from government stock released since July 2010. Presently, the government has outstanding stock of approximately 1.0 million tons (out of total intervention stock of 5-6 million tons at the beginning of 2010).

The government's weekly benchmark price for white rice for January 17-23, 2011 declined by 0.1 percent.

Table 2: Price Insurance Scheme for MY2009/2010 - MY2010/2011 rice crop

	Rice paddy
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	Fragrant rice (Hommali)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household) ^{a/}	14	16	25	16	25
2. Insured prices (Baht/ton) ^{a/}	15,300	14,300	11,000 ^{d/}	9,500	10,000
3. Benchmark prices (Baht/ton) ^{b/ c/}					
Dec 20-26	13,539	13,139	11,070	13,876	8,904
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	13,295	12,873	10,657	14,002	8,769
Jan 3 - 9	13,108	12,878	10,442	13,942	8,636
Jan 10-16	13,080	12,849	10,390	13,927	8,537
Jan 17-23	12,990	12,799	10,403	13,966	8,527
4. Compensation (1-2), (Baht/ton)					
Dec 20-26	1,761	1,161	-	-	1,096
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	2,005	1,427	343	-	1,231
Jan 3-9	2,192	1,422	558	-	1,364
Jan 10-16	2,220	1,451	610	-	1,463
Jan 17-23	2,310	1,501	597	-	1,473
5. Market prices (Baht/ton)					
Dec 20-26	13,750	13,500	10,600	14,500	8,850
Dec 27, 2010 - Jan 2, 2011	13,975	13,500	10,500	15,000	8,650
Jan 3-9	13,750	13,400	10,500	14,500	8,500
Jan 10-16	13,750	13,000	10,500	15,000	8,350
Jan 17-23 ^{f/}	13,750	13,000	10,500	15,000	8,350

Note:

^{a/} Cabinet approval on
Sep. 22, 2009

^{b/} Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

^{c/} Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesales price of last week in Bangkok.

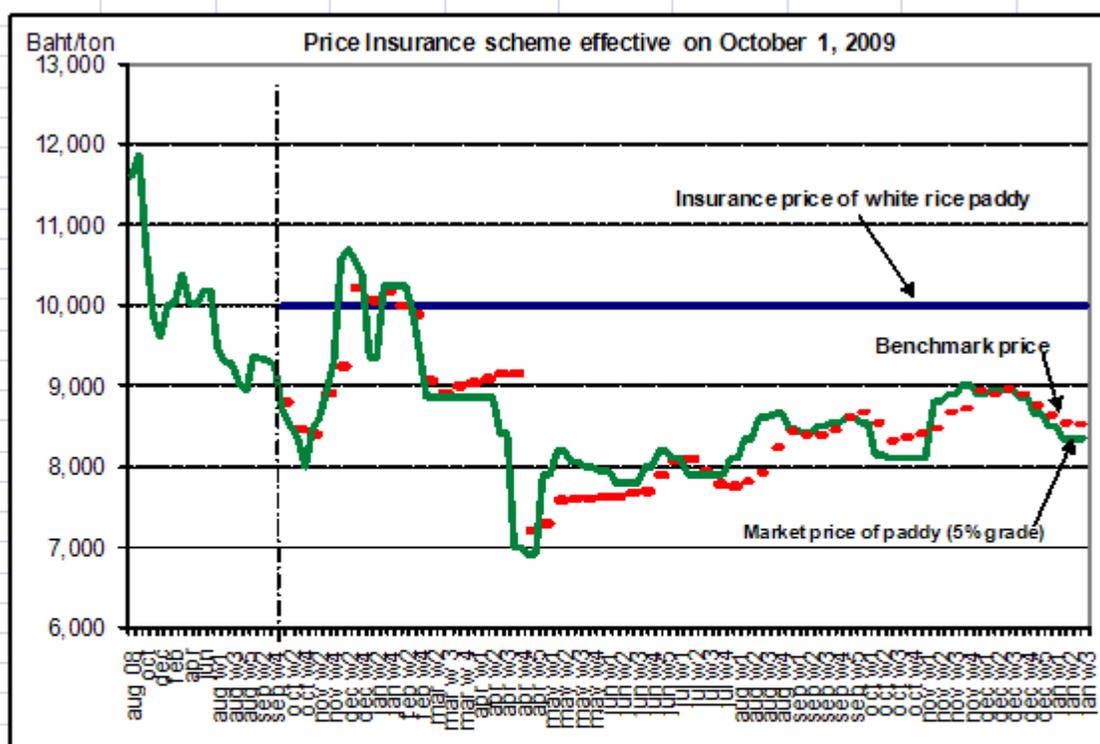
^{d/} The insured prices of MY 2009/10 second-crop Pathum Fragrant rice were revised up

from 10,000 tons/MT in MY2009/10 main-crop price insurance scheme, effective Mar. 16, 2010

^{e/} The benchmark prices of fragrant rice and Provincial fragrant rice are for MY2010/11 crop.

^{f/} As of Jan 14, 2011

Figure 1: Comparison of market price, insurance price, and benchmark price



Note: ^{1/} Benchmark prices are average historical wholesales prices which will be used for the calculation of compensation to farmers. The compensation is based on the difference between insurance prices and benchmark prices.

^{2/} Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

^{3/} Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesales price of last week in Bangkok.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for January 10-16, 2011 totaled 198,541 tons, up 11,617 tons from the previous week. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – 16, 2011 totaled 389,066 tons, up 42.8 percent from 272,428 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – 11, 2011 amounted to 266,233 tons, up 31.6 percent from 202,237 tons in the previous year.

Table 3: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)

WEEK	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS %
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ENDING					OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Nov 14	176,449	167,432	5,486	5,234	4.8
Nov 21	166,973	167,602	5,653	5,345	5.8
Nov 28	158,089	163,130	5,811	5,425	7.1
Dec 5	154,521	164,008	5,965	5,500	8.5
Dec 12	154,966	158,637	6,120	5,614	9.0
Dec 19	191,645	164,806	6,312	5,742	9.9
Dec 26	181,514	170,662	6,493	5,852	10.6
Dec 31	155,420	170,886	6,649	5,896	12.8
Jan 2, 2011	3,600	-	4	1	260.0
Jan 9	186,924	-	191	105	81.8
Jan 16	198,541	-	389	272	42.8

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.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

Table 4: Weekly private registered rice export sales			
Movement (MT)	Dec 27-31, 2010	Jan 3-7, 2011	Jan 10-14 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	212,430	131,948	141,480
4 week sum	903,709	-	-
4 week mov. avg.	225,927	-	-
Year-to-date sales	7,744,861	131,948	273,428

End of report.