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# GAIN Report

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## **Thailand**

### **Rice Price - Weekly**

#### **Weekly Rice Price Update**

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**Report Highlights:**

TH0011 Domestic and export prices of most grades of white rice declined slightly by 1 - 2 percent due to the government's announcement that it will issue tenders on January 21, 2010 for the release of white and glutinous rice for exports. The bi-weekly benchmark prices for January 16-31, 2010 remained higher than insurance prices for most grades of rice.

**Post:**

Bangkok

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (F O B) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Jan. 18, 2010**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,010	-	990	-	1,000	980	-	995	994
WR 100 B	590	-	615	-	590	590	590	595	599
PB 100%	605	-	630	-	610	610	610	613	608
PB 5%	595	-	620	-	600	605	600	604	599
WR 5%	555	-	585	-	560	560	580	568	578
WR 10%	545	-	575	-	550	550	-	555	566
WR 15%	520	-	550	-	-	530	-	533	545
WR 25%	500	-	510	-	-	515	-	508	515
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	415	-	-	-	430	420	-	422	420
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 32.8 baht/US \$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices of most grades of white rice declined slightly by 1 - 2 percent, due to the government's announcement that it will issue tenders on January 21, 2010 for the release of white and glutinous rice for exports by the Department of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Commerce. The Government plans to release 379,203 tons of old-crop intervention stock (MY2007/08 – MY2008/09), including 303,254 tons of white rice, and 75,949 tons of glutinous rice. This stock release is controversial as millers oppose the decision due to concerns that it will add downward pressure on domestic prices. Meanwhile, the release is expected to ease current tight exportable supplies, particularly for exporters in need to fulfill their pending shipments. Decline in export prices was partly offset by the strengthening Thai baht to 32.7 baht/\$, as compared to 33.0 baht/\$ in the previous week. Meanwhile, parboiled rice export prices remain high, up approximately 1.0 percent from the previous week due to continuous strong enquiries from African countries.

**Government stock tender for exports on Jan. 21, 2010**

Quality	Crop	Ton
<b>White rice</b>		
5% grade	MY2007/08 second crop	101,742.82
5% grade	MY2008/09 main crop	100,507.80
5% grade	MY2008/09 second crop	101,003.07
<b>Total</b>		<b>303,253.69</b>
<b>Glutinous rice</b>		
10% grade	MY2008/09 main crop	75,949.46
<b>Grand total</b>		<b>379,203.15</b>

Source: Department of Foreign Trade

The bi-weekly benchmark prices for January 16-31, 2010 remained higher than insurance prices for most grades of rice, resulting in farmers receiving no compensation for this period, except for those selling fragrant rice which will receive a compensation of 227 baht/ton (\$7/MT).

**Table 2: Price Insurance Scheme for MY 2009/2010 rice crop**

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Homm ali)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household) <sup>a/</sup>	14	16	25	16	25
2. Insured prices (Baht/ton) <sup>a/</sup>	15,300	14,300	10,000	9,500	10,000
3. Benchmark prices (Baht/ton) <sup>b/</sup>					
Oct. 1-15, 2009	14,986	13,899	9,896	7,523	8,806
Oct. 16-31, 2009	14,940	13,860	8,940	7,470	8,466
Nov. 1-15, 2009	14,840	13,729	9,175	7,680	8,389
Nov. 16-30, 2009	13,002	12,620	10,501	8,473	8,914
Dec. 1-15, 2009	13,720	13,388	10,565	9,591	9,242
Dec. 16-31, 2009	14,895	14,503	12,072	11,533	10,212
Jan. 1-15, 2010	15,369	14,757	12,198	11,706	10,072
Jan. 16-31, 2010	15,073	14,548	12,076	11,486	10,164
4. Compensation (1-2), (Baht/ton)					
Oct. 1-15, 2009	314	401	104	1,977	1,194
Oct. 16-31, 2009	360	440	1,060	2,030	1,534
Nov. 1-15, 2009	460	571	825	1,820	1,611
Nov. 16-30, 2009	2,298	1,680	-	1,027	1,086
Dec. 1-15, 2009	1,580	912	-	-	758
Dec. 16-31, 2009	405	-	-	-	-
Jan. 1-15, 2010	-	-	-	-	-
Jan. 16-31, 2010	227	-	-	-	-
5. Market prices (Baht/ton)					
Oct. 1-15	n.a.	n.a.	8,500	n.a.	8,600
Oct. 16-31	13,675	n.a.	8,575	n.a.	8,150
Nov. 1-15	14,075	14,000	9,775	8,800	8,525
Nov. 16-30	14,577	14,000	10,550	8,967	9,600
Dec. 1-15	15,125	14,000	12,050	11,500	10,738
Dec. 16-31	15,250	14,000	12,200	11,800	10,310
Jan. 1-15	15,250	14,000	11,850	11,775	9,350
Jan. 16-31 <sup>c/</sup>	15,250	14,000	11,850	11,750	9,350

Note:

<sup>a/</sup> Cabinet approval on Sep. 22, 2009<sup>b/</sup> The benchmark prices will be published twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of the last 15 days in Bangkok. These prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Commerce.<sup>c/</sup> As of Jan. 18, 10**Rice Exports Update**

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for January 11-17, 2010 totaled 171,849 tons, up 60,550 tons from the previous week. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1-17, 2010 totaled 284,148 tons, up 34.8 percent from 210,846 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – 14, 2010 amounted to 301,038 tons, up 43.9 percent from 209,145 tons in the previous year.

**Table 3: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)**

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4 WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Nov 1	114,220	117,520	5,030	6,827	-26.3
Nov 8	93,983	113,965	5,124	6,908	-25.8
Nov 15	112,300	116,441	5,237	6,997	-25.2
Nov 22	113,768	108,568	5,350	7,047	-24.1
Nov 29	75,104	98,789	5,426	7,101	-23.6
Dec 6	80,501	95,418	5,506	7,170	-23.2
Dec 13	116,586	96,490	5,623	7,258	-22.5
Dec 20	120,454	98,161	5,743	7,348	-21.8
Dec 27	126,910	111,113	5,870	7,453	-21.2
Dec 31, 2009	25,812	97,440	5,900	7,470	-21.1
Jan 3, 2010	1,000	-	1	3	-68.0
Jan 10	111,299	-	112	85	32.6
Jan 17	171,849	-	284	211	34.8

*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. 28-31	Jan. 4-8, 2010	Jan. 11-15, 2010 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	85,349	182,336	104,282
4 week sum	392,546	-	-
4 week mov. avg.	98,137	-	-
Total weekly sales	6,301,587	182,336	104,282

End of report.