

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH5144 – Export prices declined around 1 percent. The Government will issue the first public tender for non-food grade rice for industrial uses on December 1.

Post:
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Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending November 23, 2015

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV
FWR 100 B	710	-	-	720	800	720	-	738	808
WR 100 B	363	-	375	370	370	365	375	370	372
PB 100%	354	-	370	353	365	355	370	361	365
PB 5%	349	-	365	348	360	350	365	356	360
WR 5%	353	-	365	355	360	355	365	359	361
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	353	-	353	353
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	350	-	350	350
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 35.7 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices of most grades of rice declined around 1 percent from the previous week as supplies of main-crop rice are entering the market. Meanwhile, new inquiries from foreign buyers are reportedly quiet. The Government announced that it will issue a public tender for non-food/non-feed grade rice of 37,413 metric tons on December 1, 2015. The tender will consist of rotten rice from MY2008/09 (11,276 metric tons), MY2011/12 (12,291 metric tons) and MY2012/13 (13,847 metric tons). The only eligible bidders for this tender are ethanol producers and industrial manufacturers. Rice millers, traders and exporters as well as food and feed manufacturers are excluded from bidding due to the low quality of the rice. This will be the first tender of non-food/non-feed grade rice for industrial uses. The Ministry of Commerce will closely monitor the movement of this "rotten" rice to ensure that it will not be resold in the food or feed chains. If this tender is successful and the Ministry of Commerce is satisfied that it can effectively keep "rotten rice" out of food and feed channels, larger tenders with similar bidding restriction are expected in 2016. Market sources indicated that bids for this "rotten" rice will be at 3,000 baht per metric tons (\$84/MT, milled basis) and lower. This rice was originally purchased by the Government for as much as 22,730 baht per metric tons (\$637/MT, milled basis) under the previous Government pledging program.

The Government reported that it has "rotten" rice of around 2 million metric tons out of total stocks of 13 million metric tons. The remaining stocks are substandard food-grade rice (7 million metric tons) and non-food grade rice (4 million metric tons).

Rice Export Update

Unofficial preliminary rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for November 16-22, 2015 totaled 82,925 metric tons, up 24,807 metric tons from the previous week, and up 10,741 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 72,185 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) from January 1 – November 22, 2015, totaled 3,873,465 metric tons, down 19 percent from the same period last year.

Total Thai rice exports from January to September 2015 totaled 6.6 million metric tons, down 13 percent from the same period last year.

Table 2: 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)	(%)
Sep 20	115,146	115,632	3,071	3,729	-17.6
Sep 27	129,126	120,670	3,200	3,838	-16.6
Oct 4	103,934	118,859	3,304	3,973	-16.8
Oct 11	102,000	112,552	3,406	4,122	-17.4
Oct 18	90,999	106,515	3,497	4,241	-17.5
Oct 25	87,297	96,057	3,585	4,360	-17.8
Nov 1	97,818	94,529	3,682	4,465	-17.6
Nov 8	49,877	81,498	3,732	4,547	-17.9
Nov 15	58,118	73,278	3,791	4,653	-18.5
Nov 22	82,925	72,185	3,873	4,761	-18.6

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports. The reporting authority 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 and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

End of report