

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:**

Export prices were steady over the past week. The Ministry of Energy is considering conducting a feasibility study on the use of non-food grade rice stocks for ethanol production.

**Post:**  
Bangkok

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending December 13, 2016**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV
F WR 100 B	580	-	-	585	620	585	-	593	593
WR 100 B	366	-	390	370	380	370	395	379	379
PB 100%	357	-	390	365	370	360	385	371	371
PB 5%	352	-	385	360	365	355	380	366	366
WR 5%	356	-	380	355	365	360	380	366	366
WR 10%	354	-	-	-	-	357	-	356	356
WR 15%	352	-	-	-	-	355	-	354	354
WR 25%	343	-	-	-	-	347	-	345	345
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 35.4 baht/USD

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices were steady over the past week. Exporters expect slow trading until the end of December. Reportedly, some shipments have been postponed until January 2017 as traders are uncertain about market conditions.

The Ministry of Energy's Department of Energy Business is considering conducting a feasibility study on the use of non-food grade rice stocks for ethanol production partially in response to tight feedstocks resulting from the delay of the sugarcane harvest. This study is associated with the government's goal to sell all of its non-food grade rice stocks totaling approximately 4 million metric tons in 2017. Prior plans to use non-food grade rice stocks for ethanol production have not been achieved as in previous years ethanol producers did not win the public tenders of rice stocks as their bids were too low in order to stay competitive with cassava-based ethanol. Prices of cassava have remained low and are currently at 1.7 baht/kg (48 USD/MT).

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial preliminary rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for December 5-11, 2016 totaled 48,810 metric tons, down 45,131 metric tons from the previous week and down 33,255 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 82,065 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports from January 1 – December 11, 2016 totaled 4,008,393 metric tons, down 3 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)	(%)
Oct 23	153,010	128,596	3,322	3,580	-7.2
Oct 30	131,273	132,180	3,473	3,679	-5.6
Nov 6	128,572	136,872	3,582	3,724	-3.8
Nov 13	98,118	127,743	3,680	3,774	-2.5
Nov 20	105,033	115,749	3,785	3,851	-1.7
Nov 27	80,473	103,049	3,866	3,954	-2.2
Dec 4	93,941	94,392	3,960	4,058	-2.4
Dec 11	48,810	82,065	4,008	4,113	-2.5

*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 as 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 these differences when comparing with historical data.*

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand