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# GAIN Report

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## **Thailand**

### **Rice Price - Weekly**

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

**Approved By:**

Orestes Vasquez, Agricultural Attaché

**Prepared By:**

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

**Report Highlights:**

TH0029 Domestic and export prices declined slightly by 1.0 percent and will likely remain stable throughout next week as businesses will likely be closed due to the Lunar New Year holidays. Registration rate for the price insurance scheme for the off-season crop has reached approximately 80-90 percent.

**Post:**

Bangkok

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (F O B) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Feb. 8, 2010**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	990	-	990	-	1,000	965	-	986	990
WR 100 B	580	-	595	-	590	580	580	585	587
PB 100%	580	-	610	-	610	590	600	598	602
PB 5%	575	-	600	-	600	585	590	590	592
WR 5%	545	-	560	-	560	550	570	557	559
WR 10%	540	-	550	-	550	540	-	545	546
WR 15%	510	-	540	-	-	520	-	523	527
WR 25%	490	-	500	-	-	500	-	497	500
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	410	-	-	-	430	420	-	420	422
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 33.0 baht/US \$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices declined slightly by 1.0 percent and will likely remain stable throughout next week as businesses will likely be closed due to the Lunar New Year holidays. Exporters expect enquiries to fully resume on the last week of February with prices remaining stable. Export prices are under downward pressure as new-crop supplies will enter the market next month. In addition, the price spread between Thai and Vietnamese rice reportedly increased as Vietnam's new-crop supplies will enter the market early next month. Meanwhile, the government stock release plan remains uncertain but the expectation is that the government will gradually release stocks through a basis-bidding approach in the Agricultural Future Exchange of Thailand (AFET).

As for the price insurance scheme for off-season crop, approximately 80-90 percent of farmers have registered, totaling approximately 400,000 household. The insured prices remained unchanged for white rice paddy at 10,000 baht/ton (\$303/MT) with eligible tonnage of 25 metric tons.

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

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Hom Mali)	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
Feb. 1-15, 2010	14,915	14,359	12,004	11,511	9,993
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	-	-	-	-
Feb. 1-15, 2010	385	-	-	-	7
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. 16-3	15,250	14,000	11,850	11,750	10,250
Feb. 1-15 <sup>c/</sup>	15,025	14,000	11,750	11,800	10,250

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 Feb. 8, 2010

## Rice Exports Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for February 1-7, 2010 totaled 98,535 tons, down 5,912 tons from the previous week, and down 29,500 tons from the four-week moving average of 128,035 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – February 7, 2010 totaled 624,439 tons, up 14.7 percent from 544,504 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1-29, 2010 amounted to 685,693 tons, up 16.7 percent from 587,771 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 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
Jan 24	137,308	105,364	422	353	19.5
Jan 31	104,448	131,226	526	428	22.9
Feb 7	98,535	128,035	624	545	14.7

*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)	Jan. 18-22	Jan. 25-29	Feb. 1-5
Weekly sales	172,418	57,828	96,925
4 week sum	-	571,291	485,880
4 week mov. avg.	-	142,823	121,470
Total weekly sales	513,468	571,291	668,216

End of report.