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# GAIN Report

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## Thailand

### Rice Price - Weekly

#### Weekly Rice Price Update

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**Report Highlights:**

TH2028 Domestic and export prices for most grades of rice remained unchanged, except for parboiled rice which increased approximately 1.0 percent due to tight domestic supplies of paddy for its production. The off-season Paddy Pledging Program has absorbed nearly 1.0 million tons of paddy.

**Post:**  
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**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Mar. 19, 2012**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,075	-	1,065	-	1,100	1,015	-	1,064	1,064
WR 100 B	555	-	560	-	560	560	590	565	565
PB 100%	600	-	580	-	580	600	580	588	582
PB 5%	595	-	575	-	575	595	575	583	577
WR 5%	540	-	540	-	545	545	580	550	550
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	540	-	-	540	540
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	535	-	-	-	520	-	-	528	528
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.6 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices for most grades of rice remained unchanged from the previous week, except for parboiled rice. Parboiled rice prices increased around 1.0 percent due to tight domestic supply of paddy for its production while exporters are fulfilling their outstanding contracts of parboiled rice to Nigeria of 300,000 – 400,000 tons for delivery by June 2012. In addition, the MY2011/12 off-season Paddy Pledging Program has absorbed nearly 1.0 million tons of paddy (0.6 million tons milled equivalent) during March 1-19, up significantly from 324,465 tons in the previous week (Table 3). The Government expects that the program will pledge around 8.0 million tons of paddy (5.3 million tons milled equivalent), accounting for 72.0 percent of the total off-season production.

The March 6-9, 2012 results of the government's retender of 38,495 tons of broken rice from stocks of the MY2011/12 main-crop Paddy Pledging Program, have not been finalized. However, the Government will likely release the stocks to exporters within this month as a successful negotiation is expected.

Presently, the Government is holding total intervention stocks of around 7.1 million tons milled equivalent, of which 2.0 million tons are old-crop intervention stocks, and 5.1 million tons are MY2011/12 crop. The MY2011/12 main-crop Paddy Pledging Program took delivery of a total of 6.8 million tons of paddy (4.5 million tons milled equivalent (Table 2). The remainder is from the current off-season Paddy Pledging Program.

**Table 2. MY2011/12 Main-Crop Paddy Pledging Program (October 7, 2011 - February 29, 2012)**

Unit: Metric Ton

Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homali	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	990,416	912,841	269,612	2,750	1,465,694	290,475	2,281,412
Northeast	787,561	2,777,097	-	84	164,062	211,876	3,153,059
Central	154,819	-	65,872	12,968	1,266,486	-	1,344,726
South (Feb 1 - Jul 31, 2012)	9,759	-	-	-	18,889	-	18,889
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,276,549</b>	<b>3,089,878</b>	<b>995,484</b>	<b>15,242</b>	<b>2,915,191</b>	<b>442,951</b>	<b>6,758,086</b>

Note: As of October 7, 2011 - March 18, 2012

Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

**Table 3. MY2011/12 Off-season Paddy Pledging Program**

Unit: Metric Ton

Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy			
		White Rice	Fragrant Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
North	43,151	528,535	38	-	528,573
Northeast	-	-	-	-	-
Central	37,501	430,195	18,415	-	448,610
South	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,652</b>	<b>958,730</b>			<b>977,183</b>

Note: As of March 1-19, 2012

Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for March 12-18, 2012 totaled 106,954 tons, up 20,134 tons from the previous week, and up 8,975 tons from the four-week moving average of 97,980 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – March 18, 2012 totaled 980,368 tons, down 54.2 percent from 2,138,574 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – March 14, 2012 amounted to 1,204,887 tons, down 50.8 percent from 2,446,547 tons in the previous year.

**Table 4: 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)	(%)
Jan 1, 2012	1,100	-	1	2	-40.5
Jan 8	61,310	-	62	172	-63.6
Jan 15	104,079	-	166	381	-56.3
Jan 22	49,433	-	216	559	-61.4
Jan 29	71,723	71,636	288	723	-60.2
Feb 5	73,902	74,784	352	919	-61.7
Feb 12	108,645	75,926	470	1,141	-58.8
Feb 19	118,258	96,132	588	1,323	-55.5
Feb 26	126,345	106,787	715	1,517	-52.9
Mar 4	71,798	106,262	787	1,706	-53.9
Mar 11	71,798	106,262	787	1,706	-52.9
Mar 18	106,954	97,980	980	2,139	-54.2

*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/REK 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 5: Weekly private registered rice export sales**

Movement (MT)	Feb 27 - Mar 2	Mar 5-9 (Revised)	Mar 12-16 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	43,413	212,508	83,667
4 week sum	366,980	459,145	408,854
4 week mov. avg.	91,745	114,786	102,214
Year-to-date sales	856,664	1,069,172	1,152,839

End of report