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# GAIN Report

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## **Thailand**

### **Rice Price - Weekly**

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

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**Report Highlights:**

TH1052 Export prices were offered 1-2 percent higher due to enquiries on white rice from African countries who were unable to secure white rice supplies from Vietnam. Last week, quotations of Vietnamese rice were a record \$15/MT higher than Thai white rice.

**Post:**  
Bangkok

Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Apr 25, 2011**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	980	-	995	-	930	900	-	951	928
WR 100 B	490	-	540	-	500	500	495	505	495
PB 100%	505	-	530	-	505	510	505	511	506
PB 5%	500	-	525	-	500	505	500	506	501
WR 5%	475	-	530	-	480	485	485	491	479
WR 10%	470	-	510	-	475	475	-	483	471
WR 15%	465	-	500	-	-	470	-	478	462
WR 25%	445	-	-	-	-	450	-	448	448
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	405	-	430	-	420	410	-	416	414
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 29.77 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices were offered 1-2 percent higher due to enquiries on white rice from African countries and Eastern Europe as they were unable to secure white rice supplies from Vietnam. Last week, quotations of Vietnamese rice were record \$15/MT higher than Thai white rice due to Vietnam's tight domestic supplies. The biggest Thai rice exporters still hold large supplies from the government's stock release last year that they must export. Quotations from small and medium exporters who do not have government stock are presently \$40-50/MT higher than Vietnam as these traders are anticipating stronger demand for Thai white rice.

The government's weekly benchmark price for white rice for April 18-24, 2011 increased 0.7 percent. As such farmers will receive lower compensation compared to the previous week. Farmers that sell their supplies this week will not attain insurance price, as compensation will fall short due to higher benchmark price over market prices.

**Table 2: Price Insurance Scheme for MY2009/2010 - MY2010/2011 rice crop**

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Bha/ton)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
<b>1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household)</b>	14	16	30 <sup>a</sup>	30 <sup>a</sup>	30 <sup>a</sup>
<b>2. Insured prices (Bht/ton)<sup>b</sup></b>	15,300	14,300	11,500	10,000	11,000
<b>3. Benchmark prices (Bht/ton)<sup>c,d</sup></b>					
Mar 28 - Apr 3	13,019	11,810	9,936	14,973	8,380
Apr 4-10	-	11,728	9,378	14,281	8,056
Apr 11-17	-	11,800	9,300	14,733	8,082
Apr 18-24	-	11,816	9,373	14,241	8,146
Apr 25 - May 1	-	11,945	9,421	14,226	8,165
<b>4. Compensation (I-Z), (Bht/ton)</b>					
Mar 28 - Apr 3	2,281	2,490	1,564	-	2,620
Apr 4-10	-	2,522	2,122	-	2,944
Apr 11-17	-	2,500	2,200	-	2,908
Apr 18-24	-	2,484	2,127	-	2,854
Apr 25 - May 1	-	2,335	2,079	-	2,885
<b>5. Market prices (Bht/ton)</b>					
Mar 28 - Apr 3	12,600	12,250	9,300	15,250	8,150
Apr 4-10	12,700	12,500	9,300	16,250	8,150
Apr 11-17	12,825	12,000	9,300	16,250	8,150
Apr 18-24	12,750	12,250	9,300	16,250	8,150
Apr 25 - May 1 <sup>e</sup>	12,650	12,250	9,550	16,250	8,150

**Note:**

<sup>a</sup> Cabinet approval on March 8, 2010 to raise eligible tonnage to 30 ton/household for MY2010/11 off-season crop

<sup>b</sup> Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

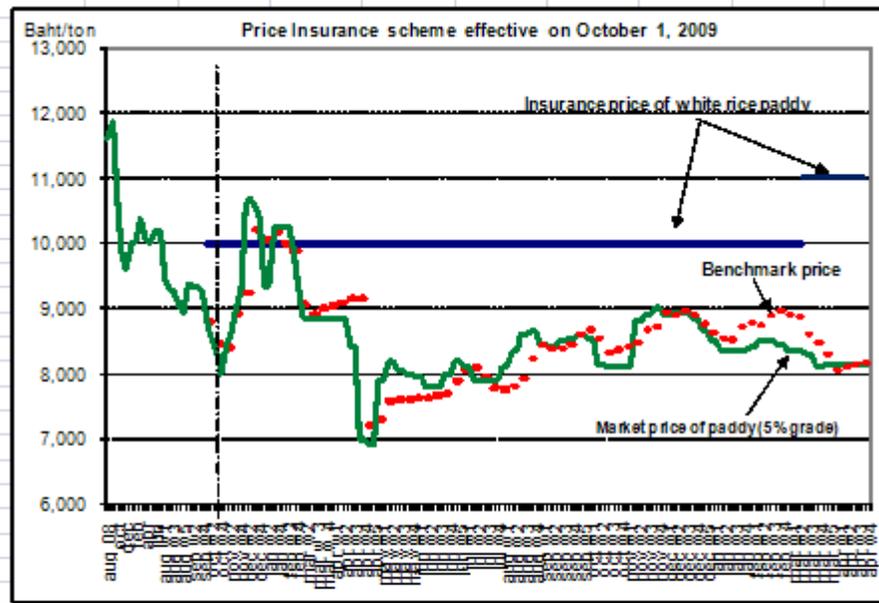
<sup>c</sup> Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesale price of last week in Bangkok.

<sup>d</sup> The insured prices of MY2009/10 second-crop Pathum Fragrant rice were revised up from 10,000 baht/ton in MY2009/10 main-crop price insurance scheme, effective Mar. 16, 2010. In addition, the insured prices of MY2010/11 main-crop Pathum Fragrant rice were revised up again to 11,500 baht/ton, effective Mar. 16, 2011. Also, those of white rice were raised from 10,000 baht/ton to 11,000 baht/ton, and glutinous rice from 9,500 baht/ton to 10,000 baht/ton.

<sup>e</sup> The benchmark prices of fragrant rice and Provincial fragrant rice are for MY2010/11 main crop.

<sup>f</sup> As of Apr. 25, 2011

**Figure 1: Comparison of market price, insurance price, and benchmark price**



Note: 1/ Benchmark prices are average historical wholesale prices which will be used for the calculation of compensation to farmers. The compensation is based on the difference between insurance price and benchmark prices.

2/ Starting March 8, 2010 the benchmark prices will be published on a weekly basis instead of twice a month on the 1st and 15th, based on average wholesale prices of last 15 days in Bangkok. The prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination, chaired by the Permanent Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce.

3/ Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesale price of last week in Bangkok.

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for April 18-24, 2011 totaled 226,216 tons, up 129,148 tons from the previous week, and up 46,617 tons from the four week moving average of 179,599 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – April 24, 2011 totaled 3,086,228 tons, up 64.8 percent from 1,872,344 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – April 20, 2011 amounted to 3,568,451 tons, up 44.7 percent from 2,466,126 tons in the previous year.

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK.AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Feb 13	214,204	189,387	1,147	746	53.6
Feb 20	188,985	191,778	1,336	880	58.8
Feb 27	187,469	196,950	1,523	1,032	47.6
Mar 6	235,443	206,525	1,759	1,171	50.2
Mar 13	232,186	211,021	1,991	1,288	54.6
Mar 20	186,887	210,496	2,178	1,409	54.5
Mar 27	190,244	211,190	2,368	1,501	57.7
Apr 3	174,121	195,860	2,542	1,601	58.8
Apr 10	220,993	193,061	2,763	1,708	61.7
Apr 17	97,067	170,606	2,860	1,774	61.2
Apr 24	226,216	179,599	3,086	1,872	61.8

*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. FASBIC 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

Movement (MT)	Apr. 4-8 (Revised)	Apr. 11-15 (Revised)	Apr. 18-22 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	226,900	137,242	144,321
4 week sum	833,150	778,411	724,655
4 week mov. avg.	208,288	194,603	181,164
Year-to-date sales	2,873,914	3,011,156	3,155,477

End of report.