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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:

TH1068 Domestic and export prices declined 1-2 percent due to lack of inquiries and the weakening of the Thai baht to 30.20 baht/\$. Foreign buyers returned to Vietnamese white rice.

Post:
Bangkok

Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending May 24, 2011

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	960	-	900	-	960	935	-	939	945
WR 100 B	480	-	510	-	495	492	490	493	501
PB 100%	500	-	510	-	500	495	500	501	507
PB 5%	495	-	505	-	495	490	495	496	502
WR 5%	465	-	490	-	480	472	480	477	485
WR 10%	460	-	480	-	460	468	-	467	473
WR 15%	457	-	470	-	-	462	-	463	468
WR 25%	440	-	-	-	-	450	-	445	450
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	410	-	430	-	425	412	-	419	421
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.20 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices declined 1-2 percent due to lack of inquiries and the weakening of the Thai baht to 30.20 baht/\$, compared to 30.0 baht/\$ in the previous week. Foreign buyers returned to Vietnamese white rice which was offered \$5/MT lower from the previous week and was closed to Thai rice prices. As for the government-to-government contract of 200,000 tons of 5 percent grade parboiled rice to Bangladesh which was finalized in early April for delivery from April 16 – May 11, Thai rice exporters has fulfilled approximately 120,000 tons, so far.

The government's weekly benchmark price for white rice for May 23-29, 2011 increased 0.2 percent. As such farmers will receive higher 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 (Hommati)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathom fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household)	14	16	30 ^a	30 ^a	30 ^a
2. Insured prices (Bht/ton) ^b	15,300	14,300	11,500	10,000	11,000
3. Benchmark prices (Bht/ton) ^{c,d}					
Apr 25 - May 1	-	11,945	9,421	14,726	8,165
May 2 - 8	-	12,440	9,267	14,392	8,182
May 9-15	-	12,498	9,217	13,809	8,188
May 16-22	-	12,526	9,038	13,551	8,164
May 23-29	-	12,500	9,044	13,837	8,183
4. Compensation (1-2), (Bht/ton)					
Apr 25 - May 1	-	2,355	2,079	-	2,835
May 2-8	-	1,860	2,233	-	2,818
May 9-15	-	1,802	2,283	-	2,812
May 16-22	-	1,774	2,442	-	2,836
May 23-29	-	1,800	2,456	-	2,817
5. Market prices (Bht/ton)					
Apr 25 - May 1	12,650	12,350	9,530	16,250	8,150
May 2-8	12,650	12,650	9,530	16,250	8,150
May 9-15	12,700	12,500	9,530	15,500	8,150
May 16-22	12,700	12,500	9,530	15,500	8,150
May 23-29 ^e	12,700	12,500	9,530	15,750	8,150

Note:

^a Cabinet approval on March 8, 2010 to raise eligible tonnage to 30 tons/household for MY2010/11 off-season crop

^b 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.

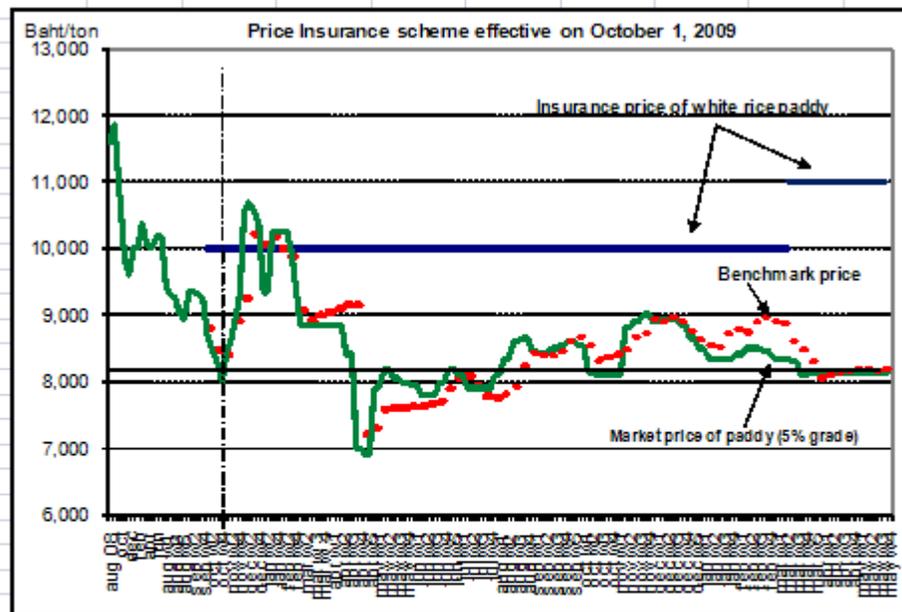
^c Starting Apr. 26, 2010 the benchmark prices will be based on average wholesale price of last week in Bangkok.

^d The insured prices of MY 2009/10 second-crop Pathom Fragrant rice were revised up from 10,000 baht/MT in MY2009/10 main-crop price insurance scheme, effective Mar. 16, 2010. In addition, the insured prices of MY2010/11 season-crop Pathom 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.

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

^f As of May 23, 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 prices 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 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.

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 May 16-22, 2011 totaled 182,380 tons, down 12,470 tons from the previous week, and down 21,361 tons from the four week moving average of 203,741 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – May 22, 2011 totaled 3,901,194 tons, up 67.9 percent from 2,323,686 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – May 12, 2011 amounted to 4,409,805 tons, up 48.8 percent from 2,962,858 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)	(%)
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	198,061	2,763	1,708	61.7
Apr 17	97,067	170,606	2,860	1,774	61.3
Apr 24	226,216	179,599	3,086	1,872	64.8
May 1	214,233	180,627	3,300	1,975	67.1
May 8	223,502	190,255	3,524	2,099	67.9
May 15	194,850	214,700	3,719	2,217	67.8
May 22	182,380	208,741	3,901	2,324	67.9

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2022, 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/BEK 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)	May 2-6	May 9-13 (Revised)	May 16-20 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	189,880	379,267	150,278
4 week sum	882,153	1,124,178	1,033,299
4 week mov. avg.	220,538	281,045	258,325
Year-to-date sales	3,756,067	4,135,334	4,285,612

End of report.