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GAIN Report

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH4046 – Export prices increased 1 to 2 percent due to the uncertainties about the sales of rice stocks under the military government. The next tender in AFET which will be on May 30 has been cancelled. The new military government announced it will seek loans to expedite the overdue payments under the pledging program.

Post:
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Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending May 26, 2014

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	=1	=2	=3	=4	=5	=6	=7	CUR.	PRV
F WR 100 B	945	-	975	-	970	935	-	956	958
WR 100 B	395	-	400	-	400	405	400	400	399
PB 100%	400	-	410	-	410	420	400	408	408
PB 5%	395	-	405	-	405	415	395	403	403
WR 5%	370	-	380	-	380	390	375	379	378
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	377	-	377	375
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	373	-	373	370
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	360	-	360	355
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	300	-	-	-	310	310	-	307	302
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 32 baht U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices increased 1 to 2 percent due to the uncertainties about the sales of rice stocks after the military government seized power on May 22, 2014. The next tender of 216,075 metric tons via the Agricultural Futures Exchange of Thailand (AFET) which will be on May 30 has been cancelled. Also, last week (before the military coup) the caretaker government announced the cancellation of the tender of 220,175 metric tons in the AFET on May 14 as the bids were too low.

The new military government which calls itself the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) announced it will seek loans for the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) to expedite the overdue payments of approximately 90 billion baht (\$2.8 billion) to 0.8 million farmers under the MY2013/14 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program. As of May 25, 2014, the government reportedly received approximately 11.6 million metric tons of main-crop rice paddy (7.7 million metric milled equivalent – Table 2) under the MY2013/14 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program that costs around 192 billion baht (\$6 billion). The BAAC has reportedly paid approximately 104 billion baht (\$3.2 billion) in loans to 0.9 million rice farm households.

Table 2: Results of the MY2013/14 Paddy Pledging Program (Main Crop: October 1, 2013 - February 28, 2014), as of May 25, 2014

Region	Number of Farmers (Million)	Amount of Rice Paddy (Million Metric Ton)					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homali	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.0	3.6	0.4	4.8
Northeast	1.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.7
Central Plain	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	3.0	0.0	3.2
South	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	1.9	3.7	0.5	0.1	6.8	0.6	11.6

Source: Ministry of Commerce

Rice Export Update

Preliminary unofficial rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for May 19-25,

2014 totaled 145,717 metric tons, up 56,632 metric tons from the previous week and up 34,742 metric tons from the four- week moving average of 110,975 metric tons (Table 3). Rice exports from January 1 – May 25, 2014 totaled 1,634,008 metric tons, up 9.6 percent from the same period last 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 23	76,213	72,193	753	988	-23.8
Mar 30	89,319	73,620	842	1,062	-20.7
Apr 6	91,380	80,753	934	1,137	-17.9
Apr 13	89,767	86,670	1,024	1,199	-14.6
Apr 20	34,389	76,214	1,058	1,262	-16.1
Apr 27	132,081	86,904	1,190	1,335	-10.9
May 4	111,935	92,043	1,302	1,380	-5.6
May 11	97,162	93,892	1,399	1,405	-0.4
May 18	89,085	107,566	1,488	1,457	2.1
May 25	145,717	110,975	1,634	1,490	9.6

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. 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 the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

End of report