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GAIN Report

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

Approved By:

John Wade, Agricultural
Counselor

Prepared By:

Ponnarong Prasertsri
Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

TH3068 – Domestic and export prices declined 1-3 percent due to the sales of the government rice stocks of 90,000 tons which consist of 60,000 metric tons of 5% grade white rice for exports, and 30,000 metric tons of grade A1 Super broken white rice for the domestic or export market.

Post:
Bangkok

Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending July 29, 2013

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,135	-	1,130	-	1,130	1,105	-	1,125	1,118
WR 100 B	525	-	525	-	520	465	530	509	519
PB 100%	545	-	545	-	550	530	530	540	542
PB 5%	540	-	540	-	545	525	525	535	537
WR 5%	510	-	510	-	505	455	510	498	506
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	450	-	450	460
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	445	-	445	455
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	440	-	450	450
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	480	420	-	450	463
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 31.0 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices declined 1-3 percent due to the sales of the government rice stocks. On July 29, 2013 the government sold its MY2011/12 main-crop rice stocks of approximately 90,000 metric tons to four large exporters. The sales consisted of 60,000 metric tons of 5% grade white rice to three traders for exports, and 30,000 metric tons of grade A1 Super broken white rice to one trader for the domestic or export market. The sales represented only one-fourth of the total the government recently tendered for sale. The tenders were conducted on July 26, 2013 for MY2011/12 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program's rice stocks of 353,600 metric tons which included 152,837 metric tons of 5% grade white rice, and 200,763 metric tons of broken rice. The government did not reveal the result of the bidding prices due to its concern over the impact on the market prices and next tenders. However, the bidding prices are expected to be approximately 10 percent discount from the current market prices. These sales will likely help Thai rice exporters to compete with the premium Vietnamese white rice which is currently \$40-50/MT cheaper, as compared to \$120/MT cheaper in early this month.

On July 30, 2013, the government will conduct another tender for 200,000 metric tons of white rice paddy (130,000 metric tons milled equivalent) from the current MY2012/13 Off-Season Rice Paddy Pledging Program, which will be used for parboiled rice exports. Exporters hesitate to participate in the tender due to the concern over the quality of the rice paddy that may not meet their export specifications.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding premium white rice and fragrant rice) for July 22-28, 2013 totaled 46,258 metric tons, down 13,337 metric tons from the previous week, and up 3,369 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 42,889 metric tons. Exports of white and parboiled rice from January 1 through July 28, 2013 totaled 1,879,587 metric tons, down 36 percent (2,921,800 metric tons) from the same period last year.

Total rice exports (including premium white rice and fragrant rice) from January 1 through June 30, 2013 amounted to approximately 3.1 million metric tons, down 10 percent (3.4 million metric tons) from the same period last year. The contraction primarily reflected a reduction in parboiled rice exports which declined 47 percent to 0.6 million metric tons. Meanwhile, white rice exports increased 7 percent to 1.5 million metric tons, of which 1 million metric tons were premium white rice (100% - 25% grade white rice) which increased 20 percent from the same period last year. Also, fragrant rice exports increased 15 percent to approximately 1 million tons.

Table 2: 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)	(%)
May 12	26,397	51,852	1,406	1,886	-25.4
May 19	51,816	48,769	1,458	2,025	-28.0
May 26	31,788	37,455	1,490	2,168	-31.3
Jun 2	44,665	38,667	1,534	2,244	-31.6
Jun 9	46,365	43,650	1,581	2,318	-31.8
Jun 16	44,796	41,903	1,626	2,391	-32.0
Jun 23	43,095	44,730	1,669	2,492	-33.0
Jun 30	39,356	43,403	1,708	2,594	-34.2
Jul 7	30,007	39,313	1,738	2,676	-35.1
Jul 14	35,695	37,038	1,774	2,728	-35.0
Jul 21	59,595	41,163	1,833	2,812	-34.8
Jul 28	46,258	42,889	1,880	2,922	-35.7

*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