

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Thailand

**Post:** Bangkok

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

TH9158 Export prices declined by 1-2 percent due to increasing supplies of new-crop harvest. The Government set the bi-weekly benchmark prices for Oct. 16-30 below the previous period.

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Oct. 19, 2009**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	995	-	1,000	-	1,000	980	-	994	990
WR 100 B	490	-	520	-	510	510	510	508	512
PB 5%	535	-	580	-	560	550	550	555	565
WR 5%	475	-	500	-	490	485	480	486	490
WR 10%	465	-	-	-	480	475	-	473	480
WR 15%	430	-	-	-	-	460	-	445	450
WR 25%	400	-	-	-	-	410	-	405	408
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	280	-	300	-	290	300	-	293	295
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 33.30 baht/U.S. \$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices continued to decline by 1-2 percent due to increasing domestic supplies from the new main-crop harvest. MY2009/10 main-crop harvest is underway with marginal impact due to flooding. Meanwhile, foreign buyers are reportedly waiting for prices to move downward as the new crop is harvested.

The Government established the bi-weekly benchmark prices for Oct. 16-30 below the previous period. Farmers that sell in this period will receive larger compensation that ranges from 39 baht/ton for Provincial fragrant rice to 956 baht/ton for Pathum fragrant rice. The National Rice Policy Committee is considering measures to the Cabinet to help support market prices. These include direct purchases of 2.0 million tons of paddy from farmers at benchmark prices, financial assistance to millers, domestic and international market promotion, on-farm mortgage of 1.5 million tons of paddy, and outreach to farmers for effective communication of the new price insurance program.

**Table: Price Insurance Scheme for MY2009/2010 crops**

	Rice paddy				
	Fragrant rice (Hommati)	Provincial fragrant rice	Pathum fragrant rice	Glutinous rice	White rice
1. Eligible tonnage (ton/household) <sup>a/</sup>	14	16	25	16	25
2. Insured prices (Baht/ton) <sup>a/</sup>	15,300	14,300	10,000	9,500	10,000
3. Benchmark prices (Baht/ton) <sup>b/</sup>					
Oct. 1-15	14,986	13,899	9,896	7,523	8,806
Oct. 16-30	14,940	13,860	8,940	7,470	8,466
4. Compensation (1-2), (Baht/ton)					
Oct. 1-15	314	401	104	1,977	1,194
Oct. 16-30	360	440	1,060	2,030	1,534

Note:

<sup>a/</sup> Cabinet approval on Sep. 22, 2009

<sup>b/</sup> The benchmark prices will be published twice a month on the 1st and 16th, based on average historical wholesale prices of the last 15 days in Bangkok. These prices are set by the Subcommittee on Benchmark Price Determination.

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Oct. 12-18, 2009 totaled 102,396 tons, down 5,806 tons from the previous week, and down 3,453 tons from the four-week moving average of 105,849 tons. Exports of white rice during Jan. 1- Oct. 18, 2009 totaled 4,770,998 tons, as compared with 6,692,465 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Oct. 2, 2009 amounted to 6,560,645 tons, down 22.0 percent from 8,408,181 tons in the previous year.

**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)	(%)
Aug 2	111,845	106,826	3,473	5,300	-34.5
Aug 9	114,776	113,679	3,587	5,421	-33.8
Aug 16	112,267	109,487	3,700	5,547	-33.3
Aug 23	126,240	116,282	3,826	5,693	-32.8
Aug 30	139,731	123,253	3,966	5,851	-32.2
Sep 6	105,702	120,985	4,071	5,988	-32.0
Sep 13	134,061	126,434	4,205	6,118	-31.3
Sep 20	142,128	130,406	4,348	6,246	-30.4
Sep 27	116,648	124,635	4,464	6,383	-30.1
Oct 4	96,150	122,247	4,560	6,468	-29.5
Oct 11	108,202	115,782	4,669	6,536	-28.5
Oct 18	102,396	105,849	4,771	6,692	-28.7

*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/EKK 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 3: Weekly private registered rice export sales**

Movement (MT)	Sep. 28 - Oct. 2	Oct. 5-9	Oct. 12-16
Weekly sales	65,936	83,539	144,284
4 week sum	425,887	329,657	370,448
4 week mov. avg.	106,472	82,414	92,612
Total weekly sales	4,915,471	4,999,010	5,143,294

End of report