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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH2077 Domestic and export prices for most grades of rice did not change significantly. The Government is considering overhauling the criteria for the Paddy Pledging Program to limit the amount of paddy that can be pledged as the current program is reportedly biased against large farmers.

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Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending July 30, 2012

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,060	-	1,060	-	1,000	1,015	-	1,034	1,031
WR 100 B	565	-	580	-	575	580	570	575	575
PB 100%	560	-	570	-	570	575	570	569	571
PB 5%	555	-	560	-	565	570	560	562	564
WR 5%	555	-	570	-	570	570	560	565	566
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	565	-	565	565
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	560	-	560	560
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	550	-	550	550
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	510	-	-	-	515	515	-	513	515
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 31.5 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices for most grades of rice did not change significantly from the previous week due to quiet trading activity. Thai rice prices remained \$150-160/MT higher than Indian and Vietnamese rice due to the current Paddy Pledging Program. The Government is considering overhauling the criteria of the Paddy Pledging Program for MY2012/13 crop which will begin in October 2012. A restriction will likely be imposed on the amount of paddy that can be pledged as the current program is reportedly biased against large farmers. Around 1.3 million farm households have participated in the MY2011/12 main-crop Paddy Pledging Program, which accounts for around 34.0 percent of total rice-farm households. The Government is considering limiting the interest-free loan eligibility to 500,000 baht/farm household (\$15,873/farm household) for the 2012/13 Paddy Pledging Program. Meanwhile, the intervention prices will likely remain unchanged at 15,000 baht/ton (\$476/MT) for white rice paddy, and 20,000 baht/ton (\$635/MT) for fragrant rice paddy. So far, the MY2011/12 Paddy Pledging Program has pledged 16.6 million tons of paddy (roughly 11.0

million tons milled equivalent), of which 6.8 million tons are main-crop paddy (Table 2) and 9.8 million tons are off-season crop paddy (Table 3). Weekly pledging declined to 67,055 tons of paddy, down 39.0 percent from 109,996 tons in the week before last. However, the Government expects additional 2.0 million tons of paddy will likely be pledged by the end of the program on September 15, 2012.

Table 2. MY2011/12 Main-Crop Paddy Pledging Program (October 7, 2011 - February 29, 2012)

Unit: Metric Ton

Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homali	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	990,415	912,852	269,552	2,750	1,465,654	290,461	2,281,909
Northeast	787,824	2,774,757	-	84	164,062	211,626	3,150,529
Central	154,816	-	65,872	12,968	1,266,425	-	1,344,665
South (Feb 1 - Jul 31, 2012)	4,945	-	-	-	22,780	-	22,780
Total	1,277,400	3,087,609	995,424	15,242	2,918,921	442,087	6,759,283

Note: As of October 7, 2011 - April 9, 2012
Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

Table 3. MY2011/12 Off-season Paddy Pledging Program

Unit: Metric Ton

Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy			
		White Rice	Fragrant Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
North	442,762	4,048,334	5,745	203,581	4,257,660
Northeast	192,656	744,375	1	95,557	839,933
Central	387,052	4,623,757	118,381	-	4,742,138
South	261	1,970	-	-	1,970
Total	1,022,731	9,418,436	124,127	299,138	9,841,701

Note: As of March 1 - July 29, 2012
Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for July 23-29, 2012 totaled 110,006 tons, up 20,475 tons from the previous week, and up 27,053 tons from the four-week moving average of 82,953 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – July 29, 2012 totaled 2,928,108 tons, down 50.5 percent from 5,916,350 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – July 23, 2012 amounted to 3,780,680 tons, down 46.8 percent from 7,108,686 tons in the previous year.

Table 4: 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 13	121,062	122,690	1,894	3,685	-48.6
May 20	139,001	129,369	2,033	3,855	-47.3
May 27	136,161	130,265	2,169	4,090	-47.0
Jun 3	79,184	118,852	2,248	4,325	-48.0
Jun 10	70,097	106,111	2,318	4,562	-49.2
Jun 17	77,910	90,838	2,396	4,775	-49.8
Jun 24	99,482	81,668	2,496	5,002	-50.1
July 1	100,306	86,949	2,596	5,208	-50.2
July 8	82,749	90,112	2,679	5,385	-50.3
July 15	49,526	83,016	2,729	5,576	-51.1
July 22	89,531	80,528	2,818	5,751	-51.0
July 29	110,006	82,953	2,928	5,916	-50.5

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/REK 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 5: Weekly private registered rice export sales

Movement (MT)	Jul. 9-13	Jul. 16-20 (Revised)	Jul. 23-27 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	92,354	124,305	29,552
4 week sum	N.A.	N.A.	281,118
4 week mov. avg.	N.A.	N.A.	70,280
Year-to-date sales (excluding Apr. 9 - Jun. 29)	1,641,319	1,765,624	1,795,176

End of report

