

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

Export prices declined 1-2 percent due to the weakening Thai baht and anticipation for the upcoming tender for feed-quality rice stocks which will be issued on March 23.

Post:
Bangkok

Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending March 13, 2017

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV
F WR 100 B	580	-	-	585	600	583	-	587	601
WR 100 B	359	-	395	360	370	360	405	375	380
PB 100%	355	-	390	362	360	357	395	370	376
PB 5%	350	-	385	357	355	352	390	365	371
WR 5%	349	-	380	350	365	350	380	362	365
WR 10%	347	-	-	-	-	349	-	348	352
WR 15%	345	-	-	-	-	347	-	346	350
WR 25%	339	-	-	-	-	340	-	340	343
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 35.2 baht/USD

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices declined 1-2 percent from the previous week as the Thai baht weakened to 35.2 baht/USD, compared to 34.9 baht/USD last week. Additionally, the Thai government will issue a new tender for 3.7 million metric tons of non-food quality rice stocks on March 23, 2017. As this rice is required to be used only by non-food industries; it is expected that most of the bidders will be feed mills. Their bids are anticipated to be between 5,000 – 6,000 baht per metric ton (143 – 170 USD/MT) which will be 45-50 percent lower than new-crop broken rice used by the domestic industry in swine and duck feed rations. Exporters and traders who are not eligible to participate in the tender voiced concerns about how the government will effectively track the use of the non-food quality rice to ensure that this rice will not be resold. The government also plans to issue another tender for approximately 1.4 million metric tons for ethanol production in April 2017.

The Thai government has finalized another shipment of 100,000 metric tons of new-crop 5% grade white rice with China under the 2015 two million metric ton government-to-government agreement. The prices for this shipment are 386 USD/MT (FOB) for 50 kilogram packages and 391 USD/MT for 25 kilogram packages, which is the same price as the two previous 100,000 metric tons shipments. This new shipment will take place between May – June 2017. The Thai government expects that another 0.6 million metric tons of new-crop white rice will be delivered to China under this government-to-government agreement by the end of 2017.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial preliminary rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for March 6-12, 2017, totaled 77,188 metric tons, down 77,926 metric tons from the previous week, and down 60,267 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 137,455 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports from January 1 – March 12, 2017, totaled 1,474,169 metric tons.

Table 2: Weekly Rice Exports (excluding fragrant rice)

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	% Growth from Last Year
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Jan 15, 2017	134,347	-	217	142	52.8
Jan 22, 2017	149,583	-	367	248	48.0
Jan 29, 2017	199,389	141,553	566	334	69.3
Feb 5, 2017	185,893	167,303	752	429	75.2
Feb 12, 2017	171,618	176,621	924	514	79.7
Feb 19, 2017	178,553	183,863	1,102	628	75.5
Feb 26, 2017	138,965	168,757	1,241	710	74.8
Mar 5, 2017	155,114	161,062	1,397	794	75.9
Mar 12, 2017	77,188	137,455	1,474	828	77.9

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, during May 1, 2013 - December 18, 2016, export data did not include 25% - 100% grade white rice exports as 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 export data. FAS/BKK reports only the official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind these differences when comparing historical data with current data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand