

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **Thailand**

### **Rice Price - Weekly**

#### **Weekly Rice Price Update - March 26**

**Approved By:**

Paul Welcher, Agricultural Attaché

**Prepared By:**

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

**Report Highlights:**

Rice export prices increase 2-3 percent due to strong demand for parboiled rice and appreciation of the Thai baht.

## Commodities:

Rice, Milled

## Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending March 25, 2019

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV
FWR 100 B	1,070	-	-	1,100	1,100	1,070	-	1,085	1,103
WR 100 B	398	-	399	400	400	399	400	399	391
PB 100%	395	-	397	398	398	396	398	397	386
PB 5%	390	-	392	393	393	391	393	392	381
WR 5%	388	-	389	390	390	389	390	389	381
WR 10%	385	-	-	387	-	386	-	386	377
WR 15%	382	-	-	-	-	383	-	383	373
WR 25%	380	-	-	-	-	381	-	381	371
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 31.35 baht = U.S. \$1.00

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Rice export prices increased 2-3 percent from the previous week due to strong demand for parboiled rice from African countries. Exporters are securing parboiled rice supplies for contracted shipments, particularly to Benin, which is a major transit port to West African countries. This put upward pressure on parboiled rice domestic prices which increased approximately 3 percent from the previous week. Additionally, Thai rice exporters were forced to cover the foreign exchange risk as the Thai baht strengthened to 31.3 baht/U.S. \$1.00 from the previous week's exchange rate of 31.5 baht/U.S. \$1.00.

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial and preliminary rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for March 11-17, 2019 totaled 164,268 metric tons, up 9,124 metric tons from the previous week and up 22,798 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 141,470 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports from January 1 – March 17, 2019 totaled 1,622,619 metric tons, down 23 percent from the same period last year.

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 20, 2019	184,554	156,512	452	519	-12.8
Jan 27, 2019	172,137	156,087	624	732	-14.7
Feb 3, 2019	154,667	171,682	779	964	-19.2
Feb 10, 2019	127,558	159,729	905	1,215	-25.5
Feb 17, 2019	150,193	151,139	1,048	1,408	-25.5
Feb 24, 2019	131,479	140,974	1,178	1,541	-23.6
Mar 3, 2019	114,989	131,055	1,303	1,687	-22.7
Mar 10, 2019	155,144	137,951	1,458	1,876	-22.3
Mar 17, 2019	164,268	141,470	1,622	2,113	-23.2

*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

**End of Report.**