

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:**

TH1138 Domestic and export prices of white rice increased 2-4 percent due to tight supplies of broken rice. The shortage reflects the logistical difficulties that are being encountered as floodwaters have blocked highways and many of the local transportation networks in the Central Plain and Bangkok. Meanwhile, exporters have no concerns on the government's press release of the possible production losses from the flooding. Post estimates a net production loss of 2.0 million tons of paddy as around half of the flooded areas in the lower Northern Region have been replanted.



**Post:**  
Bangkok

**Author Defined:**  
**Market Tone**

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Nov. 7, 2011**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,085	-	1,100	-	1,080	1,100	-	1,091	1,069
WR 100 B	635	-	630	-	630	630	630	631	618
PB 100%	625	-	610	-	620	610	630	619	610
PB 5%	620	-	605	-	615	605	620	613	605
WR 5%	620	-	620	-	620	610	620	618	602
WR 10%	610	-	-	-	610	605	-	608	595
WR 15%	600	-	-	-	600	600	-	600	585
WR 25%	585	-	-	-	580	585	-	583	565
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	530	-	-	-	540	555	-	542	493
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 30.6 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices of white rice increased 2-4 percent due to tight supplies of broken rice. Exporters are running out of their broken rice supplies that are needed to process their 15-25% grade white rice for exports. The shortage reflects the logistical difficulties that are being encountered as floodwaters have blocked highways and many of the local transportation networks in the Central Plain and Bangkok where the exporters' and millers' facilities are located. Exporters have no concern on the government's press release on the possible production losses from the flooding of around 6-8 million tons of paddy, as they expect the loss will be offset by the bumper off-season crop. Post estimates a net production loss of 2.0 million tons of paddy, as around half of the flooded areas in the lower Northern Region have been replanted as the floodwaters keeps receding (Figure 1), which is expected to be harvested in late February and would be eligible for the MY2011/12 Paddy Pledging Program (October 7, 2011 – February 29, 2012). Meanwhile, new enquiries from foreign buyers remain quiet, particularly for parboiled rice, as they continue to purchase Indian parboiled rice which is \$160-170/MT cheaper.

**Figure 1: Flooding Areas in the Lower Northern Region on Sep 28, 2011 (Peak: 0.6 million hectares) V.S. Nov. 4 (0.3 million hectares)**



As for the Paddy Pledging Program, 530,803 tons of paddy have been pledged since the program started on October 7, which account for 2.5 percent of the expected total production of 21-22 million tons of main-crop paddy. The program will likely be more aggressive in mid-November when the main-crop paddy will be harvested, particularly in the Northeastern Region which accounts for half of total main-crop production, consisting mostly of fragrant and glutinous rice. Post expects the program will be able to absorb 10.0 million tons of paddy (6-7 million tons milled equivalent) of MY2011/12 main crop production, particularly for white rice and fragrant rice.

**Table 2. MY2011/12 Main-Crop Paddy Pledging Program**

Unit: Metric Ton

Region	Number of Farmer	Amount of Paddy					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homani	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	43,626	3,733	508	154	333,853	13,410	351,658
Northeast	4,809	18,708	-	-	2,522	5	21,235
Central	18,225	-	124	3,113	154,673	-	157,910
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,660</b>	<b>22,441</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>3,267</b>	<b>491,048</b>	<b>13,415</b>	<b>530,803</b>

Note: As of November 6, 2011

Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

### Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) October 31 – November 6, 2011 totaled 74,610 tons, down 10,478 tons from the previous week, and down 11,203 tons from the four week moving average of 85,813 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – November 6, 2011 totaled 7,711,442 tons, up 45.5 percent from 5,301,878 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during January 1 – October 18, 2011 amounted to 9,457,052 tons, up 43.5 percent from

6,590,194 tons in the previous year.

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Aug 21	146,492	141,812	6,946	9,660	79.4
Aug 28	156,711	199,499	6,509	9,799	71.2
Sept 4	148,192	149,675	6,651	9,911	70.1
Sept 11	144,757	149,029	6,796	4,047	67.9
Sept 18	199,097	145,674	6,929	4,209	64.9
Sept 25	144,852	142,710	7,074	4,955	62.4
Oct 2	161,057	145,941	7,295	4,521	60.0
Oct 9	196,917	149,891	7,371	4,658	58.9
Oct 16	94,870	194,274	7,466	4,808	55.9
Oct 23	88,685	120,292	7,555	4,969	52.0
Oct 30	85,087	101,240	7,640	5,149	48.5
Nov 6	74,610	85,819	7,711	5,902	45.5

*Notes 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. FASIS/KE 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

Movement (MT)	Oct 17-21 (Revised)	Oct 24-28 (Preliminary)	Oct 31 - Nov 4 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	112,794	31,120	N.A.
4 week sum	453,061	353,708	N.A.
4 week mov. avg.	113,265	88,427	N.A.
Year-to-date sales	8,402,464	8,433,584	N.A.

End of report

