

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Date: 10/25/2011

GAIN Report Number: TH1134

Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH1134 Domestic and export prices are stable due to lack of trading activities caused by the current flooding in the Central Plain Region. It will likely take a couple of weeks for trading activities to normalize, which is the expected timeframe for flood waters to recede to operational levels. Meanwhile, main-crop production losses will likely be offset by anticipated increase in off-season crops which will begin in December 2011.

Post:
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Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Oct. 25, 2011

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,100	-	1,070	-	1,040	1,065	-	1,069	1,069
WR 100 B	615	-	620	-	610	620	620	617	617
PB 100%	615	-	610	-	610	610	600	609	609
PB 5%	610	-	605	-	605	605	595	604	604
WR 5%	595	-	600	-	600	600	610	601	601
WR 10%	590	-	-	-	595	595	-	593	593
WR 15%	570	-	-	-	590	590	-	583	583
WR 25%	550	-	-	-	580	560	-	563	563
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	485	-	-	-	500	490	-	492	492
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices are stable due to lack of trading activities caused by the current flooding in the Central Plain Region. Most millers and exporters' storage facilities have not been affected by the flooding but their local transportation has been blocked by the floodwaters. It will likely take a couple of weeks for trading activities to normalize, which is the expected timeframe for flood waters to recede to operational levels. Presently, they are holding stocks of 5-6 million tons of mostly white rice, and are closely monitoring the progress of the Paddy Mortgage Program and its impact on domestic prices. It may be until the end of November that they will finalize any export contracts. Meanwhile, main-crop production losses from flooding are expected to be around 1-2 million tons of paddy which will likely be offset by anticipated increase in off-season crops which will begin in December 2011. Presently, foreign buyers have flocked to Indian purchasing white rice and parboiled rice which are \$120-130/MT cheaper.

As for the Paddy Pledging Program, 115,096 tons of paddy have been pledged since the program started

on October 7, which account for 0.4 percent of the expected total production of 23.0 million tons of main-crop paddy. The program will likely be more aggressive in November when main-crop paddy will be harvested, particularly in the Northeastern region which accounts for half of total main-crop production, mostly fragrant and glutinous rice.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) October 17-23, 2011 totaled 88,685 tons, down 6,185 tons from the previous week, and down 31,547 tons from the four week moving average of 120,232 tons. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice during January 1 – October 23, 2011 totaled 7,554,807 tons, up 52.0 percent from 4,969,086 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 17, 2011 amounted to 9,437,886 tons, up 43.8 percent from 6,562,437 tons in the previous year.

Table 3: 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 7	131,189	159,732	6,076	3,501	73.6
Aug 14	123,362	149,309	6,200	3,581	73.1
Aug 21	146,492	141,812	6,346	3,660	73.4
Aug 28	156,711	139,439	6,503	3,799	71.2
Sept 4	148,132	143,675	6,651	3,911	70.1
Sep 11	144,757	149,023	6,796	4,047	67.9
Sep 18	133,097	145,674	6,929	4,203	64.9
Sep 25	144,852	142,710	7,074	4,355	62.4
Oct 2	161,057	145,941	7,235	4,521	60.0
Oct 9	136,317	143,831	7,371	4,658	58.3
Oct 16	94,870	134,274	7,466	4,808	55.3
Oct 23	88,685	120,232	7,555	4,969	52.0

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 4: Weekly private registered rice export sales			
Movement (MT)	Oct 3-7 (Revised)	Oct 10-14 (Revised)	Oct 17-21 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	128,470	81,324	N.A.
4 week sum	537,726	440,318	N.A.
4 week mov. avg.	134,432	110,080	N.A.
Year-to-date sales	8,208,346	8,289,670	N.A.

End of report.