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GAIN Report

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH4006 – Domestic and export prices increased 1 to 2 percent as the sales of government rice stocks are on hold due to allegations of fraud in government-to-government rice contracts.

Post:
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Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending January 20, 2014

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	=1	=2	=3	=4	=5	=6	=7	CUR.	PRV
F WR 100 B	960	-	1,000	-	1,050	945	-	989	1,018
WR 100 B	455	-	440	-	410	380	420	421	414
PB 100%	455	-	460	-	430	450	440	447	445
PB 5%	450	-	455	-	425	445	435	442	440
WR 5%	445	-	420	-	400	370	390	405	401
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	365	-	365	365
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	360	-	360	360
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	345	-	345	345
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	320	300	-	310	310
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 32.7 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Domestic and export prices increased 1 to 2 percent as the caretaker government has halted government-to-government rice sales after the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) indicated that it would bring corruption charges against officials overseeing alleged fraudulent rice deals. Meanwhile, the government will continue to conduct a public tender through the Agricultural Futures Exchange of Thailand (AFET) on January 22, 2014. The tender will consist of 110,480 metric tons of white rice from its MY2012/13 and MY2013/14 main-crop rice stocks and 38,460 metric tons of 100% B grade fragrant rice from MY2013/14 main-crop rice stocks.

As for the current MY2013/14 Rice Paddy Pledging Program, the government has reportedly received approximately 10.5 million metric tons of rice paddy (6.9 million metric milled equivalent – Table 2). According to the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC), it has already paid approximately 43 billion baht (\$1.3 billion) in loans to farmers as of January 14, 2014. The caretaker government is seeking approval from the Election Committee for additional government-guaranteed loans totaling 130 billion baht (\$4 billion) to help support the program.

Table 2 Results of the MY2013/14 Paddy Pledging Program (Main Crop: October 1, 2013 - February 28, 2014), as of January 16, 2014

Region	Number of Farmers (Million)	Amount of Rice Paddy (Million Metric Ton)					
		Fragrant Rice			White Rice	Glutinous Rice	Total
		Homali	Provincial	Pathumthani			
North	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.0	3.2	0.4	4.3
Northeast	1.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.6
Central Plain	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.4	0.0	2.6
South	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	1.8	3.6	0.5	0.1	5.8	0.5	10.5

Source: Ministry of Commerce

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding premium white rice and fragrant rice) for January 13-19, 2014 totaled 67,805 metric tons, up 18,079 metric tons from the previous week and up 16,448 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 51,357 metric tons (Table 3). Rice exports from January 1 – 19, 2014 totaled 139,563 metric tons, down 40 percent from 231,706 metric tons in the same period last year.

Total rice exports (including premium white rice and fragrant rice) from January 1 through December 16, 2013 amounted to approximately 6.4 million metric tons, down 3.7 percent from the same period last 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)	(%)
Nov 10	31,439	44,402	2,808	4,376	-35.8
Nov 17	61,801	45,946	2,870	4,505	-36.3
Nov 24	60,462	49,100	2,931	4,586	-36.1
Dec 1	90,034	60,934	3,021	4,664	-35.2
Dec 8	97,078	77,344	3,118	4,719	-33.9
Dec 15	71,768	79,836	3,190	4,795	-33.5
Dec 22	95,846	88,682	3,285	4,889	-32.8
Dec 31, 2013	65,866	82,639	3,351	5,000	-33.0
Jan 5, 2014	22,031	63,878	22	53	-58.4
Jan 12	49,727	58,367	72	141	-49.2
Jan 19	67,805	51,357	140	232	-39.8

*Note on data: * Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports. 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 fragrant rice and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

End of report