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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH4009 – Domestic and export prices increased slightly due to the lack of government rice sales.

Post:
Bangkok

Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending January 27, 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	989
WR 100 B	455	-	440	-	410	380	425	422	421
PB 100%	455	-	460	-	430	450	450	449	447
PB 5%	450	-	455	-	425	445	445	444	442
WR 5%	445	-	420	-	400	370	390	405	405
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 slightly due to the lack of government rice sales. The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) is currently investigating fraud allegations involving government-to-government rice deals, including internal tenders. As a result, government-to-government rice deals have been suspended.

The Agricultural Futures Exchange of Thailand (AFET) reported that 19 traders participated in last week's public tender that occurred on January 22, 2014. The tender consisted of 110,480 metric tons of 5% grade white rice from government-owned 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. The bids were approximately 17 and 9 percent below the market prices for white and fragrant rice. The result of the tender has not yet been finalized.

As for the current MY2013/14 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program, the government has reportedly received approximately 10.7 million metric tons of rice paddy (7.1 million metric milled equivalent – Table 2). As of January 19, 2014, the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) has reportedly paid approximately 50 billion baht (\$1.5 billion) in loans to rice farmers for 3.5 million metric tons of pledges. The BAAC indicated that the current program is likely to cost approximately 190 billion baht (\$5.8 billion) for anticipated total pledges of 11 to 12 million metric tons. The caretaker government has received preliminary approval to raise an additional 130 billion baht (\$4 billion) to support the current program. The government has already guaranteed loans totaling 410 billion baht for the 2011/12 and 2012/13 pledging programs.

Table 2 Results of the MY2013/14 Paddy Pledging Program (Main Crop: October 1, 2013 - February 28, 2014), as of January 26, 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	4.4
Northeast	1.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.7
Central Plain	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.5	0.0	2.6
South	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	1.9	3.7	0.5	0.1	5.9	0.6	10.7

Source: Ministry of Commerce

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding premium white rice and fragrant rice) for January 20-26, 2014 totaled 47,038 metric tons, down 20,768 metric tons from the previous week and up 387 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 46,650 metric tons (Table 3). Rice exports from January 1 – 26, 2014 totaled 186,601 metric tons, down 45 percent from 337,680 metric tons in the same period last year.

Total rice exports (including premium white rice and fragrant rice) from January 1 through December 31, 2013 preliminarily amounted to 6.6 million metric tons, down 5 percent from the same period in 2012.

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 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
Jan 26	47,038	46,650	187	338	-44.7

*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