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Chile

Grain and Feed

Chile Exports Rice to Brazil

2004

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Report Highlights:

Chile begins "japonica" exports to Brazil. Rice producers Association estimates exports could grow to 100 MT per month in 2005.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Santiago [C1]
[C1]

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Production General

According to a recent news article in El Diario dated July 15, 2004, Chile began its first domestic rice exports to Brazil. As part of a Ministry of Agriculture development program, in cooperation with Fundacion Chile (is a private non-profit institution that contributes to market innovation and technology transfer in goods and services), producers in Regions VII and VIII (Talca and San Carlos production areas) delivered the first shipment of "japonica" rice to Brazil. The shipment totaled 50 tons of rice at an average price of US\$400 per ton. Brazil is a significant producer of rice, but Chile has the potential for a significant market niche because it produces various types of specialized Japanese rice. There are an estimated 4 million Japanese descendants living in the Sao Paulo area. This huge Japanese community in Brazil registers a per capita consumption of 60 kilograms per year and is the targeted client for Chilean diamond rice. This rice is considered to be different than the normal long and narrow grain "tropical or indico" type rice as it is a long, wide and soft grain with excellent culinary characteristics. In Chile, rice grows in a Mediterranean climate, with practically rainless summers, and hot, dry days with a lot of sunlight. These conditions together with the low relative humidity favor increased rice production in a high yield environment entirely free of insecticides and fungicides.

This year an estimated 50 tons will be exported, but the Rice Producers Association predicted that starting in 2005 Chile would export 100 tons per month to Brazil.