

# **USDA Foreign Agricultural Service**

# **GAIN Report**

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# Thailand Grain and Feed Weekly Rice Price Update 2004

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### **Report Highlights:**

Export prices remained unchanged, except prices for fragrant rice which continued to decline.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Bangkok [TH1]

# **Indicative Price (Week Ending Feb 9):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations						Period Avg.		
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	495	475	581	507	550	500	500	517	526
WR 100 B	216	220	222	221	218	216	215	218	218
PB 5%	208	212	218	214	210	215	210	212	212
WR 5%	208	210	213	216	213	209	210	211	211
WR 10%	205	206	208	213	210	206	205	208	206
WR 15%	203	202	203	208	206	202	200	203	203
WR 25%	198	197	200	204	198	196	195	198	198
WR 35%	193	192	198	201	195	193	190	195	194
A 1 SUP	182	183	184	185	183	181	180	183	182
A 1 SPEC	180	181	183	182	181	-	179	181	181
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

### **Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice remained unchanged, except prices for fragrant rice. Trade sources expected the downward trend on prices, as local traders will gradually released their stocks when Vietnamese rice comes out more onto the market by the end of this month. As for fragrant rice, export prices continued to decline, due to greater available supply from both traders' stock release and the harvest of new crops in the Central Plain.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO	YEAR AGO
ENDING			DATE	
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
DEC 28	150,601	114,259	5,205	5,789
DEC 31	91,115	ı	5,299	5,792
JAN 4	6,950	1	7	10
JAN 11	80,970	-	88	83
JAN 18	119,650	-	208	178
JAN 25	72,837	•	280	294
FEB 1	99,666	93,281	380	365
FEB 8	111,643	100,949	492	446

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/BKK 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.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Feb. 2-8, 2004 totaled 111,643 tons, up 11,977 tons from the previous week's total and up 10,694 tons from the four-week moving average of 100,949 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Feb. 8, 2004 totaled 491,718 tons, compared with 446-109 tons during the same period in 2003.

Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) in January 2004 totaled 548,742 tons, down 4.2 percent from the same period in the previous year. Fragrant rice exports, which declined by about 18 percent to 168,669 tons, accounted for the bulk of decline, due mainly to a tight supply situation. However, fragrant rice exports to the U.S. increased significantly to 23,437 tons, as compared to 1,022 tons in the same period in the previous year. Also, exports to China increased slightly to 35,482 tons. Meanwhile, exports to Senegal, Thailand's 2003 largest fragrant rice importer, declined sharply to 14,217 tons, as compared to 25,995 tons. As for non-fragrant rice, exports increased by 1.3 percent.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan 19-23, Jan. 26 – 30, and Feb. 2-6, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 19-23	Jan. 26-30	Feb. 2-6	
weekly sales	63,984	190,267	176,511	
4 week sum	-	503,730	542,422	
4 week mov. avg.	-	125,933	135,006	
Total weekly sales	313,463	503,730	680,241	

End of Report.