



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 08/24/2004

GAIN Report Number: VM4050

Vietnam

Grain and Feed

Rice Weekly Update

2004

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Report Highlights: The Ministry of Trade sent a mission to the Mekong Delta to survey the rice harvest and consumption situation. Based on the results of that survey, the MOT will review the export target (currently set at 3.5 million metric tons).

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Hanoi [VM1]
[VM]

Indicative price (Week ending August 20, 2004)**Vietnam rice export prices (FOB basis) for various grades**

Grade % Broken	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	Period Averages	
								Current Average	Previous (Aug. 13)
5	233	233	233	233	233	233	233	233.00	232.57
10	230	230	230	230	230	230	230	230.00	230.29
15	228	228	228	228	228	228	228	228.00	227.14
25	223	223	223	223	223	223	223	223.00	223.29

Source: Average indicative prices from exporters

Export prices were stable, at fairly high levels, as no new export contracts were made. Exporters expect the Ministry of Trade to revise Vietnam's 2004 rice export target by early September 2004.

Paddy prices in domestic markets, however, continued declining, slightly, by VND 10-30/kg compared with last week's level. The price of material (unpolished) rice is quoted at VND 2,900/kg. (Exchange rate is \$1 equal to VND 15,755 as of August 24, 2004)

Exports

The following are reported rice exports (metric tons) from August 7 to August 13, 2004.

Week ending	Quantity	4-WK Avg.	Year to date	Year ago
July 02	131,000	71,750	2,162,000	2,250,000
July 09	118,000	93,500	2,280,000	2,321,000
July 16	72,000	95,500	2,352,000	2,395,000
July 23	103,000	106,000	2,455,000	2,449,000
July 30	97,000	97,500	2,552,000	2,539,000
August 06	65,000	84,250	2,617,000	2,573,000
August 13	98,000	90,750	2,715,000	2,641,000

According to the Vietnam Economic News, an official publication of the Ministry of Trade (MOT), the MOT sent a mission to the Mekong Delta to survey the rice harvest and consumption situation. A plan for reviewing the export target will be submitted to the Prime Minister based on the survey results.

Experts said the rice export target of 3.5 million tons set forth by MOT is reasonable. According to some observers of the global rice trade situation, Vietnam could hope that by retaining stocks now they could reap higher prices early next year.

End of Report