
MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS :

- o U.S. 1998/99 rice exports are projected at 84 million cwt, down 2 million from last month's forecast and more than 1 percent below a year earlier.
- o Ending stocks for 1998/99 are projected at 31.5 million cwt, up 5 percent from last month's projection--a result of weaker exports--and 14 percent larger than a year earlier.
- o The 1998/99 season-average farm price is projected at \$8.40 to \$8.80 per cwt, up 15 cents on the low end and 5 cents on the high end from last month's projection.
- o World trade for 1999 is projected at almost 21.7 million tons—up 3 percent from last month's forecast, but 22 percent below 1998's revised record of 27.65 million tons.

U.S. 1998/99 EXPORT PROJECTION LOWERED TO 84 MILLION CWT

U.S. rice exports in 1998/99 are projected at 84 million cwt, down 2 million from last month's forecast and slightly below 1997/98. The monthly revision is based on expectations that the 100,000-ton PL 480 Title I donation to Indonesia will not be entirely shipped by the end of the 1998/99 (August-July) market year. All of the decrease is for long grain milled rice. Rough rice exports remain projected at 24 million cwt, second only to last year's record of 26.1 million. Milled rice exports are forecast at 60 million cwt, down 2 million from last month's projection.

Through March 4, exports and outstanding sales totaled almost 2.27 million tons (product-weight basis), 12 percent ahead of a year earlier, a result of greater rough rice sales. Total rough rice exports and outstanding sales were almost 966,000 tons, 29 percent ahead of a year earlier, with Brazil accounting 56 percent. In contrast, total milled exports and outstanding sales were more than 2 percent behind a year earlier, with combined medium and short grain commitments 29 percent behind a year earlier. Long grain milled export commitments were almost 11 percent ahead. As of March 4 outstanding sales totaled only 260,300 tons, less than half the level of a year earlier. Outstanding sales have been on a near-steady decline since early-October as huge shipments to Brazil early in the market year heavily front-loaded 1998/99 exports.

Total use in 1998/99 is projected at 193.2 million cwt, down 1.5 million cwt from last month's forecast but slightly above a year earlier. Total domestic use was raised slightly to a record 103.7 million, with food use accounting for all of the increase. Food use was raised 500,000 cwt--all long grain--to a record 84 million based on trend analysis from the *U.S. Rice Distribution Patterns 1997/98 Report* showing stronger growth in direct food use and processed foods.

Ending stocks for 1998/99 are projected at 31.5 million cwt, 1.5 million above last month's projection--as lower exports more than offset greater food use--and 14 percent above a year earlier. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 16.3 percent, up from 15.4 percent a month earlier. These are the highest ending stocks and stocks-to-use ratio since 1992/93.

Total long grain use is projected at a record 141.6 million cwt, down 1.5 million from last month's projection, but 7 percent higher than last year. Domestic use was raised 500,000 cwt from last month to a record 72.1 million, up 15 percent from a year earlier. Exports were lowered 2 million cwt to 69.5 million, marginally below a year earlier. Ending stocks are projected at 22.2 million cwt, up 7 percent from last month's projection and 55 percent higher than a year earlier. These are the highest long grain stocks since 1986/87. The long grain stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 15.7 percent, up from 14.4 percent last month and the largest since 1992/93. No revisions were made to the medium/short grain supply and use projections.

U.S. MEDIUM GRAIN PRICES REMAIN AT NEAR-RECORD LEVELS

The 1998/99 U.S. season-average farm price (SAFP) is projected at \$8.40 to \$8.80 per cwt, up 15 cents on the low end and up 5 cents on the high end from last month. The revision is based on monthly cash prices that averaged \$9.11 through mid-February. Near-record medium grain prices account for the relatively high cash prices; long grain prices have declined since the start of the market year. Even with near-record medium grain prices, the 1998/99 projected SAFP for all rice is below a year earlier's \$9.70, the result of record U.S. long grain supplies and lower international prices.

Last month, USDA estimated February's midmonth price at \$9.11 per cwt and lowered January's average price to \$9.05 from a preliminary \$9.12. Near record medium grain prices are behind the relatively high monthly average cash prices thus far in 1999 in the face of falling long grain prices. Industry sources have reported steady softening of long grain cash prices since mid-September, with prices currently quoted around \$7.75 per cwt in the Delta and about \$1 higher in Texas, although there is very little selling reported in Texas. Recent drops in long grain prices have been due to weaker export sales since mid-January and industry expectations of large supplies in 1999/00.

In contrast to declining long grain prices, southern medium grain prices have strengthened since the start of the 1998/99 season, with quotes in the Delta reported at more than \$10 per cwt in early February. Little southern medium grain remains to be marketed. In California, medium grain farm prices have been reported at more than \$10.50 per cwt since mid-February, nearly \$2.00 higher than a year earlier. Most California medium grain sales are complete. U.S. medium grain prices have not been reported this high on any sustained basis since the late 1970s and very early 1980s. The price strength is due to extremely tight supplies of southern and California medium grain and large sales to Japan of California medium grain milled rice in late 1998 and early 1999.

The major factor behind relatively strong long grain prices early in the season despite record supplies was the massive imports by Brazil. However, Brazil's main harvest started in early March--and a very large crop is projected--therefore few if any additional U.S. sales to Brazil are likely, and nearly all of the 1998/99 purchases have been shipped.

THAI EXPORT PRICES CONTINUE TO DROP IN ABSENCE OF NEW ORDERS

Thai export prices for most grades of rice continue to drop in the absence of major buyers, large available supplies from the Thai main crop harvested in December-January, and lower prices for Vietnamese and Pakistani rice. In addition, China has been exporting at a rapid pace thus far in 1999, with prices well below those for comparable grades of Thai rice. Thai prices have declined since mid-January as supplies from the country's main harvest began to arrive on the market and Indonesia halted new purchases.

Quotes for high-quality Thai rice (100 percent, grade B, f.o.b. Bangkok) were \$271 per ton for the week ending March 9, down from \$278 a week earlier and a \$287 February average. Prices for low quality rice--25, 35, and 100 percent broken--have also dropped since mid-January on an absence of new sales. There is little potential for a major price increase in the international market--as occurred in the first half of 1998--for the remainder of the 1998/99 market year.

Quotes for comparable qualities of Vietnamese rice continue the drop that began in September. The recent softening of Vietnamese prices has been due to an absence of new buyers to replace Indonesia and the arrival of the country's main winter-spring harvest. Vietnamese 5 percent broken were quoted at \$230 per ton in mid-March, down from almost \$240 in February and \$245 in January. Vietnamese rice is currently quoted about \$30 per ton below similar grades of Thai rice, down from more than \$40 a month earlier, but sufficient to limit Thai sales.

Prices for similar type and quality U.S. long grain rice (No. 2, 4-percent broken, f.o.b. Houston) are currently quoted at \$369 per ton, down from \$375 in mid-February and \$386 in mid-January. Prices have been below a year earlier since the start of the 1998/99 market year, a result of the substantial drop in Thai prices since September and record supplies of U.S. long grain rice.

The price difference between Thai and U.S. rice is widening as Thai prices drop faster than U.S. prices. For March, the difference averages \$95 per ton, up from \$85 in February and \$76 in January. Thus, even as U.S. prices have dropped since January, the difference will have to contract for United States rice to be competitive with Thailand in high quality markets in the Middle East and South Africa. The United States does not compete with Thailand and Vietnam in the lower quality Asian commercial markets such as Indonesia and the Philippines.

In contrast to weaker prices for southern long grain, prices for high-quality California medium grain rice (No. 1, 4-percent broken, 100 pound bags, f.o.b. Sacramento) have shown substantial strength throughout 1998/99. Prices are currently quoted at \$474 per ton bagged, up from \$408 at the start of the market year. A substantially smaller 1998 crop, expectations of very tight ending stocks, and large sales to Japan in January are behind the higher prices.

RECORD CROP PROJECTED FOR LATIN AMERICA IN 1998/99

For 1998/99, world rice production is projected at 378 million tons (milled basis), marginally above last month's projection as revisions for individual producing countries virtually netted each other out. Production is still 2 percent below the 1997/98 record. World consumption is projected at 384.2 million tons, down almost a million tons from last month's projection and nearly equal to the 1997/98 revised record. With consumption exceeding production by 6.27 million tons, ending stocks are projected to decline 12 percent to 45.7 million tons, the lowest since 1987/88. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 11.9 percent, up marginally from last month and the lowest since 1972/73.

Brazil accounts for the bulk of the month-to-month increase in world production. The Brazilian crop was revised up 310,000 tons to 7.45 million (milled basis) based on higher yields and greater plantings. Japan's crop was raised 54,000 tons to 8.15 million based on final data reporting larger area. Bangladesh's crop was raised 50,000 tons to 17.8 million due to higher yields (area was actually reduced). Very good weather was behind a 25,000-ton increase in Australia's crop to 965,000 tons. And finally, Uruguay's production was raised 20,000 tons to 820,000 due to larger plantings. Its 1997/98 and 1996/97 crops were revised higher as well.

Nearly canceling out these increases were several downward revisions. Poor weather cut Taiwan's yield, pulling total production down 75,000 tons to 1.33 million. Italy's crop was reduced 42,000 tons to 808,000 due to lower yields although area was raised. Chile's crop was revised down 40,000 tons to 50,000 based on government data showing much smaller area and lower yields. Chile's production has been lowered for each year going back to 1995/96. Finally, Malaysia's rice production was lowered 30,000 tons to 1.23 million due to lower area.

The year-to-year decrease in global rice production is primarily due to smaller projected crops in China, India, Bangladesh, Japan, South Korea, and Egypt. Except for Bangladesh, these countries are either major exporters--India, China, and Egypt--or, in the case of Japan and South Korea, their import levels are largely driven by WTO agreements. Although both Thailand and Vietnam are also expected to produce smaller crops in 1998/99, production would still be quite large in both countries, yielding substantial exportable supplies.

Several countries are expected to produce larger crops in 1998/99. Indonesia's crop is projected to rise 1.5 million tons from 1997/98's revised level to 33 million due to higher yields. The crop would still be below the record 33.2 million tons in 1995/96. The Philippines' 6.65-million-ton crop is more than 2 percent above last year's drought-reduced crop, although production and area remain well below the 1996/97 record. These two importers accounted for the bulk of 1998's massive expansion in world rice trade. Pakistan's 4.65-million-ton crop is up over 7 percent from 1997/98 due to record area and yield and is the third straight record crop.

In Latin America, Brazil's revised crop is up 28 percent from the El Nino-reduced crop in 1997/98, the result of a 20-percent increase in area and a slightly higher yield. The region's principal exporters, Argentina and Uruguay, are expected to produce record crops. Argentina's

1998/99 crop is projected at 880,000 tons, up 34 percent from the flood-damaged 1997/98 crop. Both area and yield are projected substantially higher. Uruguay's revised crop is up 25 percent, with both area and yield rebounding from severe flood damage. For the region as a whole, Latin America is projected to produce a record 20.6 million tons, 20 percent larger than a year earlier.

Thus the smaller global supplies and tight ending stocks are not likely to create much upward price pressure as crops in most major importing countries--Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brazil--are expected to post significant gains in 1998/99, substantially limiting import demand.

GLOBAL 1999 RICE TRADE REVISED UP 3 PERCENT TO 21.7 MILLION TONS

Global 1999 rice trade is projected at 21.7 million tons, up 640,000 from last month's projection but 22 percent below 1998's revised record of 27.65 million tons. Trade in 1999 would be the second largest on record. India and China accounted for most of the upward revision in exports. India's exports were raised 300,000 tons to 2.5 million based on planned World Food Program shipments to Bangladesh. China's exports were raised 250,000 tons to 1.5 million based on the pace of shipments in January and February. Larger crops are behind a 50,000-ton increase in both Uruguay's exports to a record 725,000 tons and a 25,000 ton increase in Australia's to 700,000 tons. Saudi Arabia's exports were raised slightly based on larger transshipments to Yemen. In contrast, Taiwan's exports were lowered 25,000 tons due to a smaller crop.

On the import side, Indonesia's imports were raised 500,000 tons from last month to 2.5 million based on larger consumption. Bangladesh's imports were raised 350,000 tons to 1.3 million based on World Food Program plans and a weaker crop. Malaysia's imports were raised 50,000 tons due to a smaller crop. Haiti's imports were revised up 25,000 tons to 200,000 to match revisions in 1998 data. Similarly, Canada's imports were raised 5,000 tons to 240,000.

Indonesia accounts for the bulk of the year-to-year decline in imports with a projected drop of 3.6 million tons from 1998's revised record of almost 6.1 million. The Philippines's imports are projected to drop almost 1 million tons to 1.2 million. Bangladesh's revised imports are almost 1.2 million tons below 1998's revised record, even with a smaller crop. Brazil's exports are projected to drop more than 600,000 tons from 1998's revised record of almost 1.5 million.

Total trade for 1998 is revised up 360,000 tons from last month to a record 27.65 million tons. End-of-year trade data were behind the revisions. Argentina, Uruguay, India, and the United States accounted for the bulk of the higher exports. Indonesia accounted for the bulk of the higher imports, with imports revised up 181,000 tons. The EU accounted for most of the remainder, with imports revised up 100,000 tons to 800,000. Smaller increases were made for Brazil, Eastern Europe, Haiti, Mexico, other Western Europe, Canada, South Korea, and Syria. In contrast, Japan's 1998 imports were lowered 182,000 tons to 468,000. Small reductions in imports were made for Colombia, Singapore, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Yemen, Ghana, Malaysia, and the United States.

Detailed 1998/99 foreign supply and use forecasts will be published on March 15, 1999 in *Grain: World Markets and Trade*, available on the Foreign Agricultural Service website at www.fas.usda.gov.

The next *Rice Outlook* is scheduled for release at 4 pm on April 12, 1999. The report, along with the *1998 Rice Yearbook* and other commodity reports and yearbooks, may be accessed on the ERS website at www.econ.ag.gov.

Note: To order printed copies of the *1998 Rice Yearbook*, call 1-800-999-6779. The summary of the 1999 Rice Yearbook will be released on November 18, 1999.

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Table 1- U.S. rice supply and use, 1992/93 to present 1/

Item	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 2/	1998/99 3/
TOTAL RICE							
Area	Million acres						
Planted	3.176	2.920	3.353	3.121	2.824	3.125	3.345
Harvested	3.132	2.833	3.316	3.093	2.804	3.103	3.317
Yield	Pounds per harvested acre						
	5,736	5,510	5,964	5,621	6,120	5,897	5,669
	Million hundredweight						
Beginning stocks	27.4	39.4	25.8	31.3	25.0	27.2	27.7
Production	179.7	156.1	197.8	173.9	171.6	183.0	188.1
Imports	6.1	6.9	7.3	7.4	10.0	9.2	9.0
Total supply	213.2	202.5	230.9	212.6	206.6	219.4	224.7
Food	69.0	71.2	74.0	77.0	80.0	82.0	84.0
Seed	3.8	4.3	4.1	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.3
Brewer's use	15.1	14.3	14.5	15.6	15.4	15.4	15.4
Residual 4/	8.8	11.6	8.2	8.3	1.6	4.8	5.5
Domestic use	96.7	101.4	100.7	104.6	101.0	106.5	109.2
Exports	77.0	75.3	98.9	83.0	78.4	85.2	84.0
Rough	5.2	3.5	17.7	10.6	12.6	26.1	24.0
Milled 5/	71.8	71.8	81.2	72.4	65.9	59.1	60.0
Total use	173.7	176.7	199.6	187.6	179.4	191.7	193.2
Ending stocks	39.4	25.8	31.3	25.0	27.2	27.7	31.5
CCC inv.	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Free stocks	39.3	25.8	31.2	25.0	27.2	27.7	31.5
Stocks-use-ratio	Percent						
	22.7	14.6	15.7	13.3	15.2	14.4	16.3
Average farm price 6/	\$/cwt						
	5.89	7.98	6.78	9.15	9.96	9.70	8.40 to 8.80
Av. milling rate	Percent						
	70.0	74.0	74.1	71.4	70.2	72.0	72.0

N/A = Not applicable under current farm legislation. 1/Marketing year (August to July 31); rough equivalent of rough and milled rice. 2/Estimated. 3/Projected. 4/Residual: unreported use, processing losses and estimating errors. 5/ Rough equivalent. 6/ Market year weighted average prices received.

Table 2--U.S. monthly average farm prices and marketings, rough equivalent, 1996/97 to present

Month	1998/99		1997/98		1996/97	
	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt
August	8.95	9,153	9.94	9,177	10.10	10,520
September	9.35	9,502	9.92	12,204	10.00	13,478
October	9.25	12,379	10.00	11,925	9.66	11,988
November	8.98	11,882	9.82	11,191	9.41	11,768
December	9.06	13,728	9.77	12,540	9.82	12,758
January	9.05	13,705	9.57	13,416	9.95	15,927
February	9.11 1/	11,725 1/	9.75	10,679	10.10	12,086
March			9.67	10,474	10.20	10,133
April			9.40	10,802	10.30	9,902
May			9.38	10,357	10.20	7,969
June			9.58	11,061	9.90	7,092
July			9.58	9,290	10.00	9,421
Average 2/	9.11	82,074	9.70	11,093	9.96	11,087
Total 3/	8.40-8.80 4/		133,116		133,042	

1/ Preliminary midmonth estimate. 2/ Price is marketing year weighted average; 1998/99 is through current month. 3/ Total volume marketed; 1998/99 is August to current month only. 4/ USDA price range.

Table 3--USDA calculated world market rice prices, 1996/97 to 1998/99 1/

Month	1998/99			1997/98			1996/97		
	Long	Medium	Short	Long	Medium	Short	Long	Medium	Short
	\$/cwt								
August	8.77	7.71	7.56	8.45	7.24	7.12	7.79	7.93	7.63
September	8.90	7.76	7.61	7.89	7.39	7.24	7.66	7.89	7.60
October	8.42	7.55	7.40	8.00	7.59	7.44	7.48	7.82	7.52
November	8.03	7.48	7.31	8.20	7.63	7.48	7.18	7.67	7.37
December	7.54	7.20	7.03	8.34	7.71	7.56	7.25	7.71	7.41
January	7.54	7.09	6.92	8.76	7.80	7.67	7.54	7.74	7.48
February	7.33	7.08	7.14	9.41	7.88	7.72	7.72	7.67	7.53
March	7.07	6.98	7.04 2/	9.50	7.86	7.70	7.43	7.59	7.45
April				9.80	7.91	7.76	7.14	7.26	7.12
May				8.79	7.81	7.63	8.38	7.21	7.09
June				9.19	7.91	7.74	8.50	7.11	7.00
July				9.22	7.92	7.75	8.58	6.93	6.83
Average 3	7.95	7.36	7.25 2/	8.80	7.72	7.57	7.72	7.54	7.34

1/Loans are repayable at the lower of the loan rate or prevailing world market price. 2/Preliminary. 3/Simple average of weekly announced world market price.

Table 4- U.S. exports and sales commitments, 1993/94 to present 1/

Country or region	1998/99	1997/98	97/98 Final	96/97 Final	95/96 Final	94/95 Final	93/94 Final
	as of 3/04/99	as of 3/04/98					
1,000 metric tons							
European Union	237	263	324	342	417	474	362
Other Western Europe	16	16	17	16	19	22	18
Turkey	69	48	115	202	187	259	67
Eastern Europe	0	0	0	4	34	58	10
Former Soviet Union	0	1	2	23	37	18	4
Japan	323	250	250	212	192	2	568
OTHER ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST	133	141	183	315	344	525	347
Iran	0	0	0	0	72	191	121
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan	21	41	42	56	22	62	1
Indonesia	26	0	0	76	15	0	0
Saudi Arabia	66	73	96	168	130	153	157
Syria	0	5	11	25	1	28	0
AFRICA	128	132	171	205	324	257	258
Cote d'Ivoire	0	30	31	31	82	57	67
Ghana	44	45	64	33	48	7	0
South Africa	68	51	67	114	147	113	90
WESTERN HEMISPHERE	1,360	1,149	1,718	934	1,010	1,585	513
Brazil	554	1	28	1	1	368	12
Canada	109	98	107	109	107	127	91
Colombia	11	130	297	34	28	0	0
Costa Rica	0	83	102	55	110	65	46
Dominican Republic	50	82	93	19	3	40	0
Ecuador	0	52	148	0	0	0	0
Guatemala	24	29	25	32	31	23	4
Haiti	79	66	100	86	121	148	43
Honduras	39	44	63	52	30	29	1
Jamaica	13	13	26	28	80	74	63
Leeward & Windward Is	11	15	16	17	22	17	18
Mexico	256	271	397	309	318	327	177
Nicaragua	33	26	35	68	29	39	0
Panama	5	88	88	0	0	17	0
Peru	101	54	99	46	36	77	3
El Salvador	33	58	49	22	30	37	5
Trinidad	23	19	21	21	27	34	21
TOTAL	2,267	2,015	2,780	2,254	2,564	3,201	2,149
Census Bureau 2/	2,740	4/	3,186	2,713	2,878	3,604	2,630
Difference 4/	412		406	459	313	403	481

"U.S. Export Sales" reports in product-weight. 1/Columns labeled "Final" are final exports reported by U.S. Census. Columns labeled "as of" are combined exports and sales commitments. 2/Census export total (product-weight basis) is the official total. "U.S. Export Sales" does not include PL 480, Section 416, and Food for Peace exports. 3/USDA forecast, milled basis. 3/The average difference between Census and "Export Sales" for 1993/94 to 1997/98.

Table 5-U.S. and Thailand f.o.b. export prices, 1986/87 to present

Month or marketing year 1/	U.S. 2/			Bangkok, long grain 5/				Vietnam	
	Long grain 3/ Houston	Medium grain 4/ Calif.	Par- boiled Houston	100% grade B	5% par- boiled	15% ----- brokens	35% ----- Special	Al 7/ broken	5%
\$ per metric ton									
1986/87	240	282	311	190	171	173	154	122	
1987/88	422	366	485	273	261	256	236	204	
1988/89	323	361	386	292	276	275	256	232	
1989/90	342	352	400	292	259	262	220	172	
1990/91	331	347	400	296	270	261	214	165	
1991/92	368	384	418	287	263	258	222	184	
1992/93	322	383	348	244	227	217	193	163	
1993/94	439	451	470	294	244	243	209	160	
1994/95	314	375	349	290	276	270	255	232	
1995/96	414	445	456	362	344	335	302	265	
1996/97	450	415	479	338	323	303	259	216	
Aug 1997	430	397	474	296	314	265	237	209	253
Sep 1997	419	397	463	280	304	254	231	203	253
Oct 1997	419	397	463	275	280	249	224	192	237
Nov 1997	419	397	463	261	261	237	213	181	244
Dec 1997	419	397	463	274	269	255	228	193	270
Jan 1998	419	397	463	299	279	278	236	186	259
Feb 1998	419	397	463	307	290	279	235	187	255
Mar 1998	410	392	445	306	284	278	235	193	280
Apr 1998	408	386	441	326	296	296	249	199	295
May 1998	408	386	441	328	299	299	248	197	NQ
Jun 1998	408	395	441	338	315	311	256	209	304
Jul 1998	408	402	441	337	315	304	255	211	305
1997/98	415	396	455	302	292	275	237	197	269
Aug 1998	401	421	441	334	318	305	264	229	315
Sep 1998	391	441	435	332	317	304	269	241	311
Oct 1998	375	468	419	306	298	282	264	252	295
Nov 1998	386	445	419	278	275	260	248	234	285
Dec 1998	386	474	419	282	281	261	245	232	257
Jan 1999	383	474	419	308	303	283	252	234	245
Feb 1999	373	474	419	287	279	263	234	212	239
Mar 1999 9/	369	474	419	275	264	249	221	202	230
1998/99 9/	383	459	424	300	292	276	249	229	272

1/ Simple average of weekly price quotes. 2/ Lowest quote offered. 3/ Number 2, 4 percent brokens. 4/ Number 1, 4 percent brokens. 5/ Nominal price quotes collected by U.S. Embassy, Bangkok. 6/ Price quotes from industry sources. 7/ 100 percent broken. 8/ Bagged, f.o.b. mills. 9/ Preliminary.

Table 6- U.S. rice supply and use, by type, 1992/93 to present 1/

Item	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 2/	1998/99 3/
LONG-GRAIN							
Million acres							
Planted	2.408	2.102	2.410	2.335	1.983	2.327	2.629
Harvested	2.372	2.028	2.379	2.312	1.967	2.309	2.608
Pounds per harvested acre							
Yield	5,397	5,082	5,609	5,265	5,777	5,391	5,430
Million hundredweight							
Beginning stocks	13.0	21.6	15.1	14.4	10.1	14.1	14.3
Production	128.0	103.1	133.4	121.7	113.6	124.5	141.6
Imports	5.4	5.9	6.3	6.3	8.7	8.0	7.8
Total supply	146.4	130.6	154.8	142.4	132.5	146.6	163.8
Domestic use 4/	59.0	59.9	60.1	67.4	61.9	62.5	72.1
Exports	65.8	55.6	80.3	64.9	56.5	69.7	69.5
Total use	124.8	115.5	140.4	132.3	118.4	132.2	141.6
Ending stocks	21.6	15.1	14.4	10.1	14.1	14.3	22.2
Percent							
Stocks-use-ratio	17.3	13.0	10.3	7.6	11.9	10.8	15.7

Continued--

Table 6- U.S. rice supply and use, by type, 1992/93 to present--continued 1/

Item	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 2/	1998/99 3/
=====							
MEDIUM & SHORT-GRAIN							
Million acres							
Planted	0.768	0.818	0.943	0.786	0.841	0.798	0.716
Harvested	0.760	0.805	0.937	0.781	0.837	0.794	0.709
Pounds per harvested acre							
Yield	6,795	6,590	6,866	6,676	6,926	7,369	6,548
Million hundredweight							
Beginning stocks	12.9	15.8	10.0	15.8	14.3	12.1	12.3
Production	51.6	53.0	64.3	52.1	58.0	58.5	46.4
Imports	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Total supply 5/	65.2	71.2	75.0	69.5	73.1	71.8	59.9
Domestic use 4/	37.7	41.6	40.6	37.2	39.1	44.0	37.1
Exports	11.2	19.6	18.6	18.1	22.0	15.5	14.5
Total use	48.9	61.2	59.2	55.3	61.0	59.5	51.6
Ending stocks	15.8	10.0	15.8	14.3	12.1	12.3	8.3
Percent							
Stocks-use-ratio	32.4	16.3	26.7	25.8	19.9	20.6	16.1

Ending stocks difference 1/	2.0	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0

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1/ Stock totals by type omit broken, screenings, and brewers. These are included in the totals for all types in Table 1. 2/ Estimated. 3/ Projected. 4/ Includes residual. 5/ Accounts for difference in beginning and ending inventories of broken. Thus, total supply of medium and short grain rice may not equal summation of beginning stocks, production, and imports.