



MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- o The 1999 U.S. rice crop is projected at 207 million cwt, the largest on record and 10 percent larger than the 1998 crop.
- o U.S. rice exports for 1999/2000 are projected at 84 million cwt, down 1 million cwt from this year's revised level as a decline in rough rice exports is not fully compensated for by an expansion in milled shipments.
- o Ending stocks in 1999/2000 are projected at 50.6 million cwt, up 67 percent from a year earlier and the highest since 1986/87. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 25.7 percent, up 10 percentage points from a year earlier and the largest since 1986/87.
- o The 1999/2000 U.S. season-average price range is projected at \$6.00 to \$7.00 per cwt, down from this year's revised \$8.55-\$8.75.
- o U.S. 1998/99 exports were revised up 1 million cwt to 85 million based on the pace of shipments. All of the increase is for rough rice exports now projected at 26 million cwt.
- o World rice production in 1999/2000 is forecast at a record 388.8 million tons, up more than 2 percent from a year earlier. World trade is projected at 23.5 million tons in market year 1999/2000, virtually unchanged from 1998/99.

1999 U.S. RICE CROP PROJECTED AT RECORD 207 MILLION CWT

The first projections for 1999/2000 peg the U.S. rice crop at a record 207 million cwt, up 10 percent from a year earlier and 5 percent larger than the previous record of 197.8 million in 1994. A 7-percent increase in area and a higher yield are behind the robust crop projection. The March *Prospective Plantings* reported rice plantings at 3.58 million acres, second only to the 1981 record of 3.83 million. The 1999 yield is projected at 5,831 pounds per acre, up almost 3 percent from 1998 but still 5 percent below the 1996 record of 6,120 pounds.

The 1999 crop projection is based on farmers' planting intentions, average abandonment, and a projected yield. The yield projection is derived from a 5-year Olympic average (dropping high and low) weighted by State and grain type. The acreage projections in the report are from a survey of farmers' planting intentions as of March 1. Actual plantings may differ. On June 30, USDA will publish updated planting estimates. On August 12, USDA will forecast rice production based on yields from farm operator surveys.

Total supply is projected at a record 247.2 million cwt, up 10 percent from 1998/99 and 7 percent above the 1994 record. A record crop, larger carryin, and increased imports are behind the substantial increase. Beginning stocks are estimated at 30.4 million cwt, up 10 percent from a year earlier and the largest since 1995/96. Imports for 1999/2000 are projected to rise 250,000

cwt to 9.75 million, just fractionally below the 1996/97 record. Growth in imports, mostly fragrant rices from Asia, has slowed since the mid-1990's.

In contrast to the large increase in supplies, total use is projected to increase less than 1 percent to a record 196.6 million cwt as stronger domestic use is nearly offset by weaker exports. Total domestic use (excluding residual or unreported loss) is projected to rise almost 3 percent to a record 107.1 million cwt, with food use accounting for all of the expansion. Food use is projected at a record 88 million cwt, up 3.5 percent from 1998/99, with much of the growth attributed to stronger processed food and ingredient uses.

In contrast to expanding domestic use, exports are projected to drop 1 million cwt to 84 million as expanding milled shipments do not fully compensate for weaker rough rice exports. Rough rice exports are projected to drop 11 million cwt to 15 million, a result of much smaller shipments to South America, with Brazil accounting for the bulk of the drop. Milled exports are projected to rise 17 percent to 69 million cwt, the largest since 1995/96 and the first increase since 1994/95. Lower prices are behind expectations of greater U.S. milled rice exports. Ending stocks are projected to rise 66 percent to 50.6 million cwt, as total supply outstrips the rise in total use. Ending stocks would be the largest since 1986/87. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 25.7 percent, up 10 percentage points from a year earlier and the largest since 1986/87.

An examination of supply and use by grain type indicates somewhat different market situations. For long grain rice, total supplies are projected at a record 180.3 million cwt, up 10 percent from a year earlier, due to greater carryin and a record crop. Beginning stocks are projected at 22 million cwt, up 53 percent from a year earlier and the largest since 1987/88. Production is projected at a record 150 million cwt, up 6 percent from 1998. Total use is projected to drop more than 1 percent to 140.5 million cwt as a small expansion in domestic use is more than offset by a 5 percent drop in exports to 67 million cwt. This raises ending stocks 81 percent to 39.8 million cwt, the largest since 1985/86. The stocks-to-use ratio is forecast at 28.3 percent, up from 15.4 percent a year earlier and the largest since 1985/86.

Combined medium/short grain supplies are projected at 65.9 million cwt, up 10 percent from a year earlier but well below levels during the mid-1990's and the record supplies of the early 1980's. Carryin is projected at just 7.4 million cwt, down 40 percent from a year earlier and the smallest reported beginning stocks since supply and use tables were first reported by grain type in 1982/83. Production is projected at 57 million cwt, up 23 percent from a year earlier, but still slightly below 1996 and 1997. Total use is projected to rise to 56.1 million cwt, up 7 percent from 1998/99. Domestic use is projected to increase 3 percent to 39.1 million and exports are projected to rise 17 percent to 17 million cwt. With total supplies rising faster than total use, ending stocks are projected to rise 32 percent to 9.8 million cwt. Nevertheless, this would be the third smallest since 1982/83. And although the stocks-to-use ratio is projected to rise more than 3 percentage points to 17.4 percent, it would still be the third smallest since 1982/83.

As of May 9, plantings were 74 percent complete nationwide, slightly ahead of a year earlier and the 5-year average. Plantings in Louisiana and Texas were nearly complete with Louisiana even

with, and Texas ahead of its 5-year average. Plantings in Arkansas and Mississippi were slightly behind their 5-year averages. And while plantings are just 50 percent complete in California, the pace is well ahead of last year's severely delayed plantings and the State's 5-year average.

U.S. 1998/99 EXPORT PROJECTION RAISED TO 85 MILLION CWT

U.S. rice exports in 1998/99 are projected at 85 million cwt, up 1 million from last month's projection based on the pace of shipments through April. Exports are virtually unchanged from a year earlier. All of the increase was for rough rice, now projected at 26 million, just fractionally below the 1997/98 record. Milled exports remain projected at 59 million, marginally below last year and the smallest in a decade.

Through April 29, exports and outstanding sales totaled 2.61 million tons (product-weight), 4 percent ahead of a year earlier, a result of massive rough rice exports--mostly to Brazil--early in the market year. While both exports and total commitments have been ahead of a year earlier since the start of the market year, the lead has steadily narrowed since last fall after the bulk of the Brazilian purchases were shipped. Total rough rice exports and outstanding sales were nearly 1.1 million tons, almost 10 percent ahead of a year earlier, with Brazil accounting for more than half. In contrast, total milled exports and outstanding sales were almost 6 percent behind a year earlier. Combined medium and short grain commitments were more than 28 percent behind a year earlier while long grain milled exports and commitments were 4 percent ahead. As of April 29, outstanding sales totaled just 195,000 tons, compared with 517,300 a year earlier.

Total 1998/99 domestic use (excluding residual) was raised 1 million cwt to 104.3 million, with food use--projected at 85 million cwt--accounting for all of the expansion. The revision was based on analysis from data from annual milled rice distribution surveys. Food use was revised up 1 million cwt in 1995/96, 1996/97, and 1997/98 as well to reflect the survey data. For these 3 years, the residual was adjusted to keep combined total domestic use and residual unchanged.

The 2 million cwt increase in total use led to a 6-percent downward revision in ending stocks to 30.4 million cwt, still 10 percent above 1997/98. The stocks-to-use ratio was reduced slightly to 15.6 percent, about equal to 1994/95. There were no adjustments to the 1998/99 supply.

All of the increase in exports was for long grain rice which, was raised 1 million cwt to 70.5 million, slightly above a year earlier. Stocks were reduced 1 million cwt to 22 million to reflect the greater exports, lowering the stocks-to-use ratio about 1 percentage point to 15.4 percent. No adjustments were made to the medium/short grain use.

MONTHLY CASH PRICES CONTINUE TO WEAKEN

The 1998/99 U.S. season-average farm price (SAFP) is projected at \$8.55 to \$8.75 per cwt, a tightening of 5 cents on both the high and low ends from last month. Monthly cash prices averaged \$8.98 through mid-April. Near-record medium grain prices account for the modest decline in average cash prices in the face of sharp drops in long grain prices since the start of the

market year. Even with near-record medium grain prices, the 1998/99 projected SAFF for all rice is well below a year earlier's \$9.70, the result of record U.S. long grain supplies and much lower international prices.

Last month, USDA estimated April's midmonth price at \$8.33 per cwt and lowered March's average to \$8.86 from a preliminary \$8.93. Monthly cash prices are the lowest since September 1995. Industry sources have reported steady softening of long grain cash prices since mid-September, with prices currently quoted around \$7.50 to \$7.75 per cwt in the Delta, down slightly from a month earlier, and more than \$1.50 below the January average. Prices in Texas are reported around \$7.75 per cwt, but business is light across the South. The decline in long grain prices since January has been due to a substantial slowing of rough rice exports and expectations of record supplies of long grain rice in 1999/2000.

In contrast to declining long grain prices, southern medium grain prices strengthened since the start of the 1998/99 season. In California, medium grain farm prices were reported at nearly \$11 per cwt in early May. However, little marketing has occurred since early March as most California medium grain sales are complete. Southern medium grain prices were reported at \$9.00 to \$10.00 per cwt in early May, with very light marketings. U.S. medium grain prices have not been reported this high on any sustained basis since the late 1970's and very early 1980's. The price strength is due to extremely tight supplies in California and the South.

THAI-U.S. PRICE DIFFERENCE NARROWS

Thai export prices for most grades of rice have risen slightly due to some strengthening in the baht. However, new business remains scarce. There are large available supplies in both Thailand and Vietnam, and lower prices for rice from Vietnam, China, and Pakistan. Thai prices had steadily declined from mid-January through April as supplies from its 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 \$248 per ton for the week ending May 10, up slightly from a week earlier and \$242 in April. Thai prices for lower quality grades--35 percent broken and 100 percent broken--actually dropped in an absence of new sales. Even with the slight increase, Thai prices are now reported the lowest since spring 1994. There is little potential for a major price increase in the international market as occurred in the first half of 1998, as several top buyers--Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brazil--are expected to import substantially less rice in 1999.

Quotes for comparable qualities of Vietnamese rice have dropped since early September, although not to the degree that Thai prices have. Like Thai prices, Vietnamese prices rose slightly in early May, with Vietnamese 5-percent broken rising \$5 per ton to \$225 on heavy loadings and strong sales. However, prices remain below March's \$228 and February's \$238. Vietnamese rice is currently quoted about \$15 per ton below similar grades of Thai rice.

Prices for similar type and quality U.S. long grain rice (No. 2, 4-percent broken, f.o.b. Houston)

have steadily dropped since late January with prices quoted at \$342 per ton for the week ending May 10, down from \$353 a week earlier and \$364 during most of April. 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, large supplies of U.S. long grain rice, and expectations of a record 1999 U.S. crop. The price difference between Thai and U.S. rice has recently contracted. As of May 10, the difference was \$94 per ton, down from \$106 a week earlier and \$125 in late April. However, the difference is still larger than before Thai prices collapsed in January.

In sharp contrast to declining 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 been very strong 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 and expectations of very tight ending stocks are behind the higher prices.

RECORD WORLD PRODUCTION, FLAT TRADE PROJECTED FOR 1999/2000

For 1999/2000, world rice production is projected at a record 388.8 million tons, up more than 2 percent from 1998/99. The record production is based on a slight increase in total plantings and assumes normal weather in all growing areas. Record or near-record crops are expected in the major producing countries, and large or record crops are projected for all major exporting countries as well. Total consumption is projected to rise almost 1 percent to a record 388.5 million tons. With production just fractionally above consumption, ending stocks are forecast at 47 million tons, nearly unchanged from a year earlier. The resulting stocks-to-use ratio is 12.1 percent, virtually unchanged from 1998/99 and the lowest since 1972/73.

World trade in market year 1999/2000 (aggregate of local marketing years) is projected at 23.5 million tons, nearly unchanged from 1998/99. Trade remains well below the 27 million tons in market year 1997/98 when El Nino severely reduced crops in Indonesia, the Philippines, and South America.

1998/99 CROPS REVISED UP IN SOUTH AMERICA AND INDIA

For 1998/99, world rice production is projected at 379.6 million tons, up 1.2 million tons from last month's projection. Production is still almost 2 percent below 1997/98's revised record. World consumption is projected at 385.7 million tons, up more than 1 million tons from last month's projection and 2 million tons larger than a year earlier. With consumption exceeding production by 6.1 million tons, ending stocks are projected to decline 12 percent to 46.7 million tons--nearly unchanged from last month--and the lowest since 1987/88. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 12.1 percent, nearly the same as last month and the lowest since 1972/73.

India accounts for the bulk of the month-to-month increase in world production. India's crop was revised up 2 million tons to a record 83 million (milled basis) based on higher yields. In South America, Brazil's crop was raised 50,000 tons to 7.65 million due to higher yields. Similarly, the Argentina's record crop was revised up 50,000 tons to a record 975,000 due to a 20,000 hectare

increase in area to 280,000. In contrast, a reduction in milling yield to 63.2 percent has resulted in a 900,000 ton drop in Indonesia's milled crop (but not paddy) to 32.1 million tons. Indonesia's 1997/98 milling rate and milled output were lowered as well.

CALENDAR YEAR 1999 GLOBAL RICE TRADE TO DROP 5.5 MILLION TONS

Global rice trade for calendar year is projected at 22 million tons, up 250,000 from last month's projection but 20 percent below calendar year 1998's revised record of 27.4 million tons. Trade in 1999 is the second largest on record. China accounts for all of the increase in exports. China's exports were revised up 250,000 tons to 1.75 million based on first-quarter shipments. On the import side, Eastern Europe's were raised 45,000 tons to 215,000 based on larger shipments to Poland and Romania.

Total trade for calendar year 1998 is revised down 270,000 tons from last month to 27.4 million, still a record. End-of-year trade data caused the revisions. India's exports were lowered 309,000 tons to 4.5 million while Uruguay's were raised 39,000 tons to 639,000. On the import side, South Korea's imports were reduced 19,000 tons to 54,000 based on World Trade Atlas data, and Iraq's imports were lowered 15,000 tons to 610,000 based on shipment data. In contrast to these reductions, Eastern Europe's imports were raised 46,000 tons to 235,000 based on final shipment data. Imports were increased slightly for China, Japan, Peru, Singapore, and Yemen.

Detailed 1998/99 foreign supply and use forecasts will be published on May 14, 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 June 14, 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, 1993/94 to present 1/

Item	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 2/	1999/00 3/
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TOTAL RICE	Percent						
ARP Area	5.0	0.0	5.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0
	Million acres						
Planted	2.920	3.353	3.121	2.824	3.125	3.345	3.580
Harvested	2.833	3.316	3.093	2.804	3.103	3.317	3.550
	Pounds per harvested acre						
Yield	5,510	5,964	5,621	6,120	5,897	5,669	5,831
	Million hundredweight						
Beginning stocks	39.4	25.8	31.3	25.0	27.2	27.7	30.4
Production	156.1	197.8	173.9	171.6	183.0	188.1	207.0
Imports	6.9	7.3	7.4	10.0	9.2	9.5	9.8
Total supply	202.5	230.9	212.6	206.6	219.4	225.2	247.2
Food	71.2	74.0	78.0	81.0	83.0	85.0	88.0
Seed	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.7
Brewer's use	14.3	14.5	15.6	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4
Residual 4/	11.6	8.2	7.3	1.2	4.4	5.5	5.5
Domestic use	101.4	100.7	104.6	101.0	106.5	109.8	112.6
Exports	75.3	98.9	83.0	78.4	85.2	85.0	84.0
Rough	3.5	17.7	10.6	12.6	26.1	26.0	15.0
Milled 5/	71.8	81.2	72.4	65.9	59.1	59.0	69.0
Total use	176.7	199.6	187.6	179.4	191.7	194.8	196.6
Ending stocks	25.8	31.3	25.0	27.2	27.7	30.4	50.6
	Percent						
Stocks-use-ratio	14.6	15.7	13.3	15.2	14.4	15.6	25.7
	\$/cwt						
Average farm price 6/	7.98	6.78	9.15	9.96	9.70	8.55 to 8.75	6.00 to 7.00
	Percent						
Average milling rate	74.0	74.1	71.4	70.2	72.0	72.0	72.0

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N/A = Not applicable under current farm legislation. 1/ Marketing year (August 1 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	8.97	13,033	9.75	10,679	10.10	12,086
March	8.86	12,792	9.67	10,474	10.20	10,133
April	8.33 1/	12,022 1/	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/	8.98	12,022	9.70	11,093	9.96	11,087
Total 3/	8.55-8.75 4/	108,196		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/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	6.85	6.86	6.92	9.50	7.86	7.70	7.43	7.59	7.45
April	6.43	6.70	6.76	9.80	7.91	7.76	7.14	7.26	7.12
May	6.44	6.74	6.79 2/	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/	7.63	7.22	7.14 2/	8.80	7.72	7.57	7.72	7.54	7.34

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

Table 4- U.S. exports and sales commitments, 1994/95 to present 1/

Country or region	1998/99	1997/98	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95
	as of 4/29/99	as of 4/29/98	Final	Final	Final	Final
			1,000 metric tons			
European Union	307	303	324	342	417	474
Other Western Europe	20	17	17	16	19	22
Turkey	84	82	115	202	187	259
Eastern Europe	0	0	0	4	34	58
Former Soviet Union	0	2	2	23	37	18
Japan	323	250	250	212	192	2
OTHER ASIA/MIDDLE EAST	175	192	183	315	344	525
Iran	0	0	0	0	72	191
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan	41	41	42	56	22	62
Indonesia	26	0	0	76	15	0
Saudi Arabia	83	119	96	168	130	153
Syria	0	5	11	25	1	28
AFRICA	135	148	171	205	324	257
Cote d'Ivoire	0	31	31	31	82	57
Ghana	51	59	64	33	48	7
Senegal	0	0	0	0	5	28
South Africa	68	52	67	114	147	113
WESTERN HEMISPHERE	1,568	1,478	1,718	934	1,010	1,585
Brazil	555	1	28	1	1	368
Canada	123	109	107	109	107	127
Colombia	11	192	297	34	28	0
Costa Rica	41	101	102	55	110	65
Dominican Republic	61	93	93	19	3	40
Ecuador	0	151	148	0	0	0
Guatemala	26	29	25	32	31	23
Haiti	139	73	100	86	121	148
Honduras	44	56	63	52	30	29
Jamaica	15	13	26	28	80	74
Leeward & Windward Is.	13	19	16	17	22	17
Mexico	311	343	397	309	318	327
Nicaragua	45	27	35	68	29	39
Panama	6	88	88	0	0	17
Peru	101	87	99	46	36	77
El Salvador	33	58	49	22	30	37
Trinidad	23	21	21	21	27	34
TOTAL	2,612	2,512	2,780	2,254	2,564	3,201
Census Bureau 2/	2,780	2,780	3,186	2,713	2,878	3,604
Difference 4/	412		406	459	313	403

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"U.S. Export Sales" reports in product-weight. 1/ Columns labeled "Final" are final exports reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. Columns labeled "as of" are combined exports and sales commitments. 2/ The U.S. Census export total (product-weight basis) is the official total. "U.S. Export Sales" report does not include food aid shipments. 3/ USDA forecast, milled basis. 4/ Average difference between Census and Export Sales 1993/94 to 1997/98.

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

Month or market 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%	A1 7/ Special	5% broken
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\$ per metric tons 8/									
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	241
Dec 1997	419	397	463	274	269	255	228	193	270
Jan 1998	419	397	463	299	279	278	236	186	262
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	278
Dec 1998	386	474	419	283	283	267	245	233	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	367	474	419	263	254	239	213	197	228
Apr 1999	361	474	416	242	240	221	199	184	222
May 1999	347	474	408	248	248	225	198	182	225
1998/99	377	461	421	288	282	265	239	220	262

NQ = No quote. 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, 1993/94 to present 1/

Item	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 2/	1999/00 3/
LONG-GRAIN							
Million acres							
Planted	2.102	2.410	2.335	1.983	2.327	2.629	
Harvested	2.028	2.379	2.312	1.967	2.309	2.608	
Pounds per harvested acre							
Yield	5,082	5,609	5,265	5,777	5,391	5,430	
Million hundredweight							
Beginning stocks	21.6	15.1	14.4	10.1	14.1	14.3	22.0
Production	103.1	133.4	121.7	113.6	124.5	141.6	150.0
Imports	5.9	6.3	6.3	8.7	8.0	8.3	8.3
Total supply	130.6	154.8	142.4	132.5	146.6	164.3	180.3
Domestic use 4/	59.9	60.1	67.4	61.9	62.5	71.8	73.5
Exports	55.6	80.3	64.9	56.5	69.7	70.5	67.0
Total use	115.5	140.4	132.3	118.4	132.2	142.3	140.5
Ending stocks	15.1	14.4	10.1	14.1	14.3	22.0	39.8
Percent							
Stocks-use-ratio	13.0	10.3	7.6	11.9	10.8	15.4	28.3
MEDIUM & SHORT-GRAIN							
Million acres							
Planted	0.818	0.943	0.786	0.841	0.798	0.716	
Harvested	0.805	0.937	0.781	0.837	0.794	0.709	
Pounds per harvested acre							
Yield	6,590	6,866	6,676	6,926	7,369	6,548	
Million hundredweight							
Beginning stocks	15.8	10.0	15.8	14.3	12.1	12.3	7.4
Production	53.0	64.3	52.1	58.0	58.5	46.4	57.0
Imports	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.5
Total supply 5/	71.2	75.0	69.5	73.1	71.8	59.9	65.9
Domestic use 4/	41.6	40.6	37.2	39.1	44.0	38.0	39.1
Exports	19.6	18.6	18.1	22.0	15.5	14.5	17.0
Total use	61.2	59.2	55.3	61.0	59.5	52.5	56.1
Ending stocks	10.0	15.8	14.3	12.1	12.3	7.4	9.8
Percent							
Stocks-use-ratio	16.3	26.7	25.8	19.9	20.6	14.1	17.4
Ending stocks difference 1/	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

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.