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## Rice Outlook

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### U.S. 2003/04 Ending Stocks Projected To Be The Lowest Since 1980/81

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The next release is  
Sept. 12, 2003  
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Approved by the  
World Agricultural  
Outlook Board.

This month the U.S. Department of Agriculture fractionally raised its 2003/04 projections for both total U.S. supply and total use. On the supply-side, beginning stocks were lowered 500,000 cwt to 20.2 million, 48 percent below last year. In contrast, production was raised fractionally to 195.1 million cwt based on a higher yield and imports raised 500,000 cwt to a record 15.5 million. On the use-side, total domestic use was raised fractionally to a record 126.3 million cwt, a result of a slightly higher expected seed use. Exports remain projected at 87 million cwt.

On balance, these revisions increased 2003/04 ending stocks to 17.6 million cwt, fractionally above last month's forecast but the lowest since 1980/81. Long grain accounts for all of the decline in ending stocks. Long grain ending stocks were reduced 1.3 million cwt to 9 million, the lowest in more than 20 years. In contrast, combined medium/short grain ending stocks were raised 1.3 million cwt to 7.1 million, still 11 percent below a year earlier. The 2003/04 season-average farm price range was raised 25 cents on both the high and low ends to \$6.50 to \$7.00 per cwt, the highest since 1998/99 and up from a year earlier's revised \$4.20.

Global rice production for 2003/04 was lowered 3.4 million tons to 390.6 million tons (milled basis), still nearly 3 percent larger than a year earlier. China and India account for the bulk of this month's reduction in global rice production. Crop forecasts were also lowered for Bangladesh, Japan, and the Philippines, while Brazil's crop projection was raised. Global ending stocks for 2003/04 are projected at 85.1 million tons, down 3.4 million from last month's forecast and the lowest since 1983/84.

Global rice trade for calendar year 2004 is projected at 26.2 million tons (milled basis), up 350,000 from last month's forecast and up 1.2 million from 2003. Export projections were raised for Thailand and the United States. On the import side, projections were raised for Nigeria and Turkey while lowered for Brazil and Cuba. The 2003 global import forecast was raised 450,000 tons to 27.4 million due to stronger demand from Bangladesh and Turkey.

Export prices for milled rice have declined since early July for both Thailand and Vietnam. A lack of major new sales and a weaker currency are behind the lower Thai prices. Vietnam's prices have dropped due to abundant supplies and few new sales. In contrast, prices for U.S. milled rice—long grain regular milled, long grain parboiled, and California medium grain—have all risen substantially since early July, a result of tight supplies.

## U.S. 2003/04 Rice Crop Forecast Raised Fractionally to 195.1 Million Cwt

This month the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) raised its 2003/04 U.S. rough rice production forecast 130,000 hundredweight (cwt) to 195.1 million, still nearly 8 percent smaller than a year earlier. The upward revision was the result of a 5-pound per-acre increase in average yield to 6,577 pounds per acre, just 1 pound below a year earlier's record. This was USDA's first survey-based yield forecast for the 2003 U.S. rice crop. Plantings remain estimated at 2.99 million acres, 8 percent below last year and the smallest since 1996.

Area and production are projected to decline this year in all reported States except Mississippi where they are unchanged from 2002. By class of rice, combined medium/short grain was increased 402,000 cwt to 50.4 million, 6 percent below a year earlier. In contrast, long grain production was lowered 272,000 cwt to 144.7 million, a decline of 8 percent from a year earlier.

California accounts for the bulk of the year-to-year decline in U.S. rice production. California's crop is projected at 37.4 million cwt, 13 percent below a year earlier. A 12-percent drop in harvested area to 467,000 acres accounts for most of the production decline. The yield—projected at 8,000 pounds per

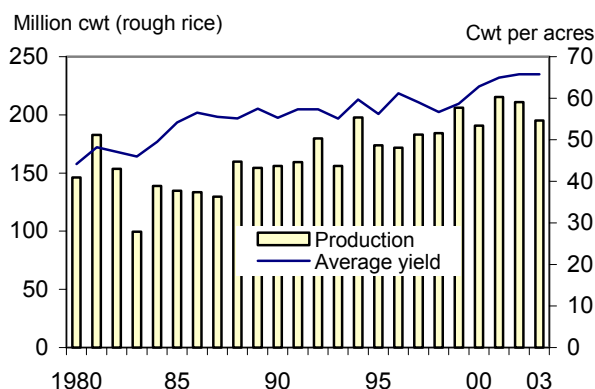
acre—is 2 percent below a year earlier. This year, plantings in California were delayed by excessive rain, a major factor behind the acreage contraction.

In Texas, production is projected to decline 12 percent in 2003 to 12.9 million cwt, a result of smaller plantings. At 181,000 acres, rice acreage is the smallest since the mid-1930s. Louisiana's rice crop is projected to drop more than 11 percent to 26 million cwt, a result of a 13-percent drop in area. The yield is projected at a record 5,600 pounds per acre. In Missouri, the 2003 crop is projected at 10.1 million cwt, a drop of nearly 9 percent from a year earlier, a result of smaller plantings.

The yield is projected at a record 6,100 pounds per acre. Arkansas' crop is projected to decline more than 4 percent to 92.6 million cwt, a result of an almost 5 percent drop in harvested area to 1.44 million acres. The yield is projected at a record 6,450 pounds per acre. Mississippi's rice production is projected at 16.2 million cwt, unchanged from a year earlier. Harvested area has remained at 253,000 acres since 2001. This year's yield—projected at 6,400 pounds per acre—is unchanged from last year but 200 pounds below the 2001 record. The area decline in the South is primarily due to low price expectations at planting and some weather problems in specific localities within the region.

Figure 1

### The U.S. 2003 rough rice yield is projected to virtually unchange from the 2002 record

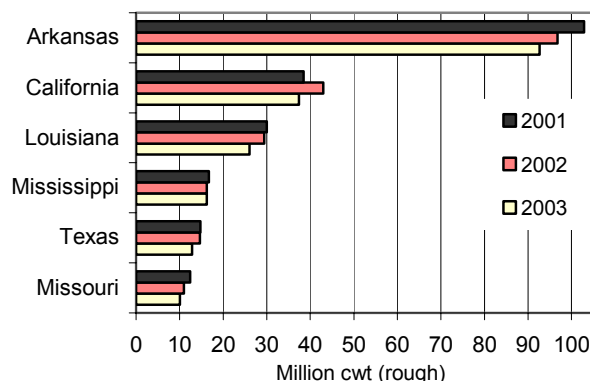


2003 forecasts.

Sources: NASS/ USDA and ERS/ USDA.

Figure 2

### Production is projected to decline in 2003 in every State except Mississippi

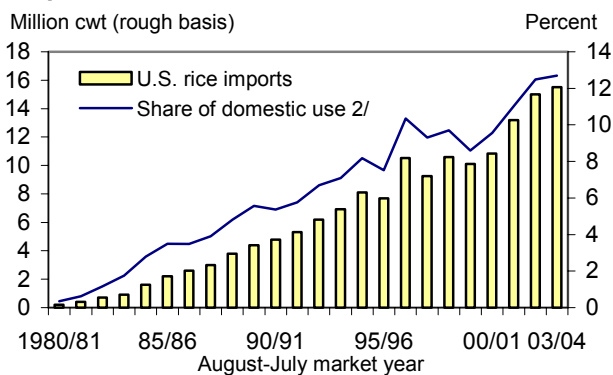


Source: NASS/USDA.

Total supplies for 2003/04 were increased fractionally to 230.9 million cwt, down almost 13 percent from a year earlier's record. This month's upward revision in total supplies is the result of a higher import forecast and a fractionally larger crop more than offsetting a smaller carryin. Beginning stocks for 2003/04 are projected at 20.2 million cwt, down more than 2 percent from last month's forecast and 48 percent below a year earlier. These are the smallest beginning stocks since 1981/82. Imports are forecast at a record 15.5 million cwt, up 500,000 cwt from both last month and the 2002/03 revised projection.

Figure 3

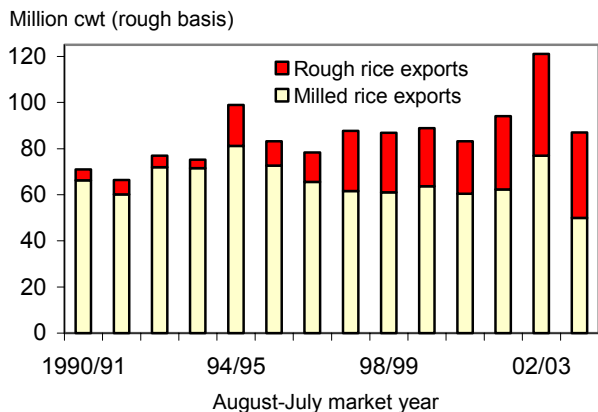
**Imports are projected to account for nearly 13 percent of domestic use in 2003/04**



1/ Includes imports by U.S. territories. 2/ Does not include seed use.  
Sources: 1980/81- 2001/02 import data, Bureau of the Census. 2002/03 and 2003/04 USDA forecasts.

Figure 4

**U.S. 2003/04 milled rice exports are projected at 50 million cwt**



Sources: 1990/91 to 2001/02, Bureau of the Census. 2002/03 and 2003/04 USDA projections.

Total use for 2003/04 is projected at 213.3 million cwt, virtually unchanged from last month but almost 13 percent below a year earlier's record. The 2003/04 total rice export forecast remains at 87 million cwt, a drop of 28 percent from a year earlier's record. The year-to-year reduction in exports is based on tighter supplies and higher U.S. prices. Milled rice exports (both fully milled and brown rice) remain forecast at 50 million cwt, a decline of 35 percent from a year earlier and the lowest in more than a quarter of a century. Rough rice exports remain projected at 37 million, a drop of 16 percent from a year earlier.

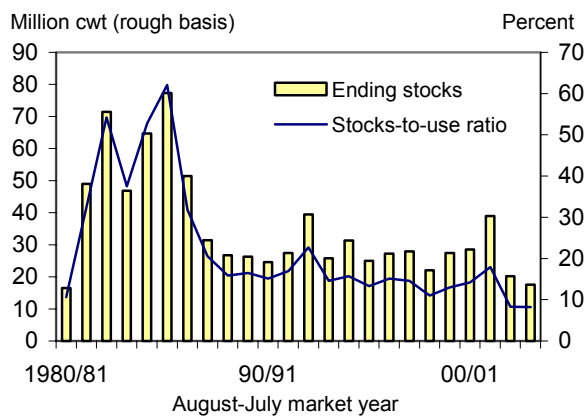
Total domestic use—projected at a record 126.3 million cwt—is virtually unchanged from last month but up 2 percent from a year earlier. *Food, industrial, and residual* for 2003/04 remains projected at a record 122 million cwt, up 2 million from a year earlier. *Seed use* was raised fractionally to 4.3 million cwt.

**U.S. Ending Stocks for 2003/04 Projected To Be the Lowest Since 1980/81**

Ending stocks for 2003/04 are projected at 17.6 million cwt, fractionally above last month's forecast but 13 percent below a year earlier's revised forecast. These are the lowest ending stocks since 1980/81. The resulting stocks-to-use ratio is 8.2 percent, virtually unchanged from last month and a year earlier.

Figure 5

**U.S. 2003/04 ending stocks are projected to be the smallest since 1980/81**



2002/03 and 2003/04 forecasts.  
Source: NASS/USDA and WAOB/USDA.

The 2003 harvest has begun on the Gulf Coast. Through August 10, about 9 percent of the total 2003 U.S. rice crop had been harvested, 1 or 2 percentage points behind a year earlier and the 5-year average. Harvest was 45 percent complete in Louisiana, nearly unchanged from last year and the State's 5-year average. However, in Texas harvest was just 24 percent complete by August 10, well behind a year earlier's 60 percent and the State's 5-year average of 39 percent. Harvest had not begun in the other producing States.

Heading of the U.S. 2003/04 rice crop was 76 percent complete by August 10, slightly ahead of both a year earlier and the U.S. 5-year average. Heading was virtually complete in Texas, about the same as last year but fractionally ahead of the State's 5-year average. Heading was 93 percent complete in Louisiana, fractionally behind last year and the State's 5-year average. At 92 percent headed by August 10, Mississippi was fractionally ahead of a year earlier and 10-percentage points ahead of the State's 5-year average. Heading was 82 percent complete in Arkansas by August 10, 6 percentage points ahead of both last year and the State's 5-year average. At 70-percent headed, the Missouri rice crop was 15 percentage points ahead of last year and the State's 5-year average. In California, heading was 30 percent complete by August 10, about 7 percentage points behind a year earlier but even with the State's 5-year average.

Reported crop conditions for the 2003 U.S. rice crop are ahead of a year earlier. For the week ending August 10, about 69 percent of the U.S. crop was rated in good or excellent condition, up from 64 percent a year earlier. About 4 percent of the U.S. crop was rated in very poor or poor condition, unchanged from a year earlier.

Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri account for the bulk of this year's better crop condition ratings. In Louisiana, 80 percent of the crop was rated in good or excellent condition for the week ending August 10, up from a year earlier's 63 percent. About 67 percent of the Arkansas crop was rated in good or excellent condition, up from 62 percent a year earlier. In Missouri, 73 percent of the crop was rated in good or excellent condition for the week ending August 10, about 3 percentage points above a year earlier. In Mississippi, 89 percent of the crop was rated in good or excellent condition, up a percentage point from a

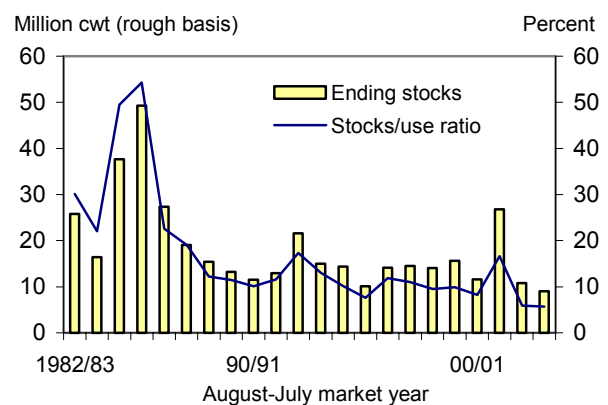
year earlier. About 85 percent of the Texas crop was rated good or excellent, also up a percentage point from a year earlier. In contrast, 45 percent of California's crop was rated good or excellent, down from 50 percent a year earlier.

### ***U.S. 2003/04 Long Grain Ending Stocks Projected To Be Smallest in More Than 20 Years***

Total U.S. 2003/04 long grain supplies are projected at 166 million cwt, down 1 percent from last month and 15 percent below a year earlier. A reduced carry-in and the fractionally smaller crop forecast account for the reduced total supply projection. Beginning stocks of long grain rice are projected at 10.8 million cwt, down 9 percent from last month's forecast and 60 percent below a year earlier. These are the smallest beginning stocks since 1996/97. Long grain production of 144.7 million cwt is 8 percent below a year earlier. Long grain imports remain projected at a record 10.5 million cwt, more than 2 percent above a year earlier.

Total long grain use is projected at 157 million cwt, virtually unchanged from last month's forecast but 14 percent below a year earlier. Long grain exports remain projected at 68 million cwt, 29 percent below a year earlier's revised forecast. Total domestic use of long grain rice remains projected at a record 89 million cwt, a 2-percent increase from a year earlier.

Figure 6  
**U.S. Long grain ending stocks are projected to be the smallest in more than two decades**



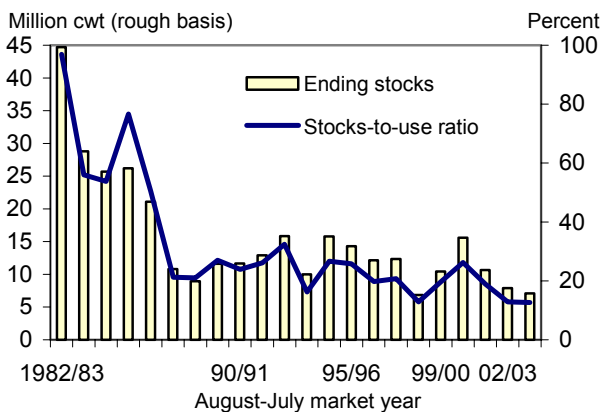
2002/03 and 2003/04 forecasts.  
Source: NASS/USDA and WAOB/USDA.

Ending stocks of long grain rice are projected at 9 million cwt, down 13 percent from last month's forecast and 17 percent below a year earlier. These are the lowest ending stocks for long grain rice in more than 20 years. The stocks-to-use ratio—projected at 5.7 percent—is down a percentage point from last month's forecast and fractionally below a year earlier.

Combined medium/short grain supplies for 2003/04 are projected at 63.3 million cwt, up 2 percent from last month's forecast but more than 8 percent below a year earlier. Beginning stocks, production, and imports were all raised slightly this month. Beginning stocks of medium/short grain rice are projected at 7.9 million cwt, 7 percent above last month's forecast but 26 percent below a year earlier. Medium/short grain production of 50.4 million cwt is up almost 1 percent from last month but 6 percent smaller than a year earlier. Imports—projected at a record 5 million cwt—are up 500,000 cwt from last month's forecast and 5 percent larger than a year earlier. The bulk of U.S. imports of medium/short grain rice are imported by Puerto Rico.

Combined medium/short grain rice total use for 2003/04 is projected at 56.2 million cwt, virtually unchanged from last month's forecast but 8 percent below a year earlier. Medium/short grain exports remain projected at 19 million cwt, 24 percent below a year earlier's near-record. Domestic use of medium/short grain rice is projected at 37.2 million cwt, 3 percent higher than a year earlier.

Figure 7  
**U.S. medium/short grain ending stocks have declined for 3 consecutive years**



2002/03 and 2003/04 projections.  
Sources: ERS/USDA and WAOB/USDA.

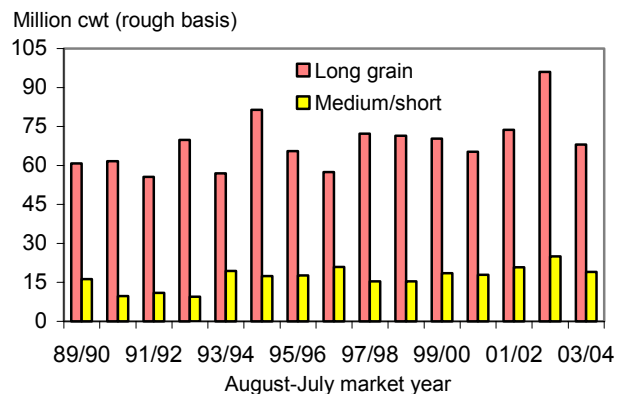
Ending stocks of medium/short grain rice are projected at 7.1 million cwt, up 24 percent from last month's forecast but 10 percent below a year earlier. Ending stocks of medium/short grain rice are projected to be the lowest since 1998/99. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected to be 12.6 percent, up from 10.1 percent last month but fractionally below a year earlier.

**U.S. 2002/03 Export Forecast  
Raised a Million Cwt to 121 Million**

The only supply-side revision this month for 2002/03 was a 500,000-cwt increase in imports to 15 million cwt, the largest to date. The increase was based on deliveries through May, with medium/short grain accounting for all of the upward revision. Combined medium/short grain imports are projected at a record 4.75 million cwt, up 18 percent from a year earlier. Long grain imports remain projected at a record 10.25 million cwt, up 12 percent from a year earlier.

On the use side, total U.S. rice exports were raised a million cwt to a record 121 million, 28 percent higher than a year earlier. The increase was based on Census shipment data through May and commercial sales and export data through July reported in the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report. Rough rice exports were lowered a million cwt to 44 million, still a record and 37 percent higher than a year earlier. Milled rice exports were raised 2 million cwt to 77 million, up nearly 24 percent from a year earlier. Long grain exports—

Figure 8  
**U.S. 2002/03 long grain exports are projected at a record 96 million cwt**



Sources: 1989/90 to 2001/02, Bureau of the Census; 2002/03 and 2003/04 USDA projections.



projected at a record 96 million—account for all of the upward revision. Combined medium/short grain exports remain projected at a near-record 25 million.

Total ending stocks for 2002/03 are projected at 20.2 million cwt, down 500,000 cwt from last month's forecast and 48 percent below a year earlier. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 8.3 percent, nearly unchanged from last month but well below the 17.9 percent of a year earlier. Long grain accounted for all of this month's downward revision in stocks. Long grain ending stocks were lowered a million cwt to 10.8 million, 60 percent below a year earlier. In contrast, combined medium/short grain ending stocks were raised 500,000 cwt to 7.9 million cwt, 26 percent below a year earlier.

According to the *U.S. Export Sales* report, for the August-July market year ending July 31, 2003, U.S. combined outstanding sales and commercial exports of rice totaled a record 4.45 million tons (product-weight), 29 percent larger than a year earlier. Exports were reported at 4.08 million tons, almost 25 percent higher than a year earlier. Outstanding sales were reported at 3.77 million tons, up 118 percent and the largest on record for this date. Commercial shipments were higher in 2002/03 than a year earlier to the European Union (EU), Turkey, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Chile, and Haiti. In contrast, commercial shipments were behind a year earlier to Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

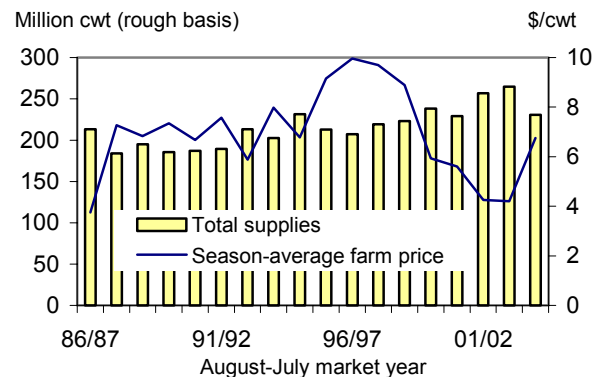
### ***U.S. 2003/04 Season-Average Farm Price Raised to \$6.50-\$7.00 Per Cwt***

The 2003/04 season-average farm price (SAFP) is projected at \$6.50-\$7.00 per cwt, up 25 cents on both the high and low ends from last month's forecast and well above a year earlier's revised \$4.20. This month's upward revision in the 2003/04 SAFP was based on expectations of higher world prices in 2003/04. The 2003/04 SAFP is the highest since 1998/99. Last month, USDA estimated the mid-July price at \$4.90 per cwt and raised the June price to \$5.04—the highest since July 2001—from a preliminary \$4.63 per cwt.

Except for in the Delta, there has been little trading of U.S. southern long grain rough rice since mid-May, a result of a near-absence of supplies in the Gulf Coast prior to the start of the 2003 harvest. For the week ending August 5, cash prices in the Delta were quoted around \$6.25 per cwt, up 25 cents from early July. In Southwest Louisiana, early sales of the 2003 rough rice crop were reported at \$6.50 per cwt, the highest since July 1999. There were no reported public sales of Texas rice for the week ending August 5.

Price quotes for California medium grain rough rice were calculated at \$9.25 per cwt for the week ending August 5, up more than 25 cents from a month earlier and the highest since April 1999. There is very little trading and rough rice supplies are very tight. Large shipments to Japan, Taiwan, Turkey, and South Korea, as well as strong sales into the domestic market, are behind the price strength. Because the bulk of California's rough rice is sold under some type of a pooling method, rough rice prices are determined by the price of milled rice. In the Delta, where the bulk of southern medium grain rice is produced, rice quotes for southern medium grain rough rice were quoted at \$7.25 per cwt, the highest since May 1999.

Figure 9  
**The U.S. rough rice season-average farm price is projected to be the highest since 1998/99**



2003/04 mid-point of \$6.50 to \$7.00 projection range.  
Sources: 1986/87 to 2002/03 NASS/USDA; 2003/04 USDA projections.

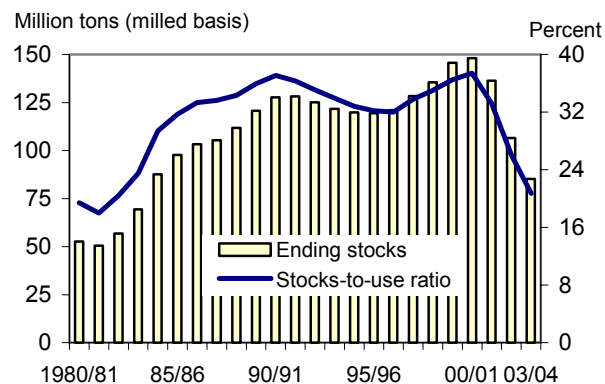
### *Production Forecasts for 2003/04 Lowered for China, South Asia, Japan, and the Philippines*

Global rice production for 2003/04 is projected at 390.6 million tons (milled basis), down 3.5 million from last month's forecast but nearly 3 percent larger than a year earlier. The 2003/04 crop is more than 4 percent below the 1999/2000 record of 408.7 million tons. Global rice consumption is projected at a record 412 million tons, fractionally below last month's forecast. Ending stocks are projected at 85.1 million tons, down 3.4 million from last month's forecast and 20 percent below a year earlier. Ending stocks are the lowest since 1983/84. This is the third consecutive year of declining global ending stocks. China accounts for the bulk of the decline in global ending stocks in 2003/04.

This month, USDA lowered 2003/04 crop forecasts for several major Asian rice producing countries. China accounts for the largest share of this month's downward revision in 2003/04 global rice production. China's 2003/04 rice production forecast was lowered 2 million tons to 118 million, the smallest since 1985/86. Both area and yield were revised down. India's 2003/04 production forecast was lowered a million tons to 90 million based on lower area. The crop is still 19 percent larger than the year-earlier crop. In 2002/03, an unfavorable southwest monsoon was responsible for causing India to harvest its smallest crop since 1992/93.

Figure 10

**Global ending stocks for 2003/04 are projected to decline 20 percent**



2002/03 estimates; 2003/04 forecasts.  
Sources: FAS/USDA and ERS/USDA.

Crop forecasts were lowered in several other countries. Rice production in Bangladesh was lowered 500,000 tons to 26 million—still a record—due to a lower yield. The revision was based on information from the U.S. agricultural counselor in Bangladesh and a smaller 2002/03 crop. Japan's 2003/04 crop was cut 200,000 tons to 7.8 million due to a lower yield caused by a cold and extremely wet July. Finally, rice production in the Philippines was lowered 100,000 tons to 8.5 million based on smaller yields. Partially offsetting these reductions was a 300,000-ton boost in Brazil's 2003/04 crop to 7.3 million tons, a result of a higher yield.

This month, USDA lowered its 2002/03 global rice production forecast nearly 1.8 million tons to 379.6 million, nearly 5 percent below a year earlier. India's production was lowered 1.3 million tons to 75.7 million based on government information reporting a weaker yield. In addition, Bangladesh's production was cut 640,000 tons to 25.36 million based on a lower yield. Area was actually boosted slightly. In contrast, 2002/03 rice production in Vietnam was raised 170,000 tons to 21.26 million based on a higher yield.

### *Export Forecasts for 2004 Raised for Thailand and the United States*

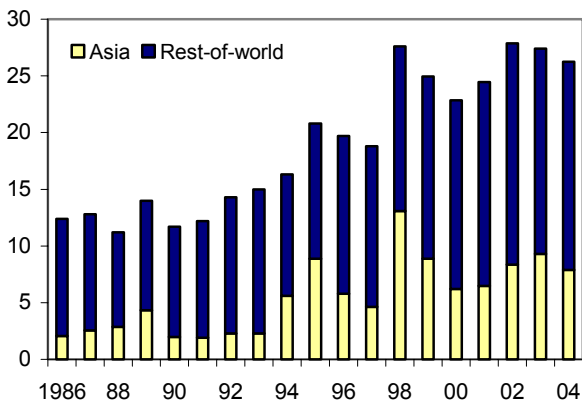
Global rice trade for calendar year 2004 is projected at 26.2 million tons (milled basis), up 350,000 from last month's forecast and up 1.2 million from 2003. Trade is still 1.6 million tons below the 2002 record. Thailand and the United States account for this month's upward revision in 2004 exports. Thailand's 2004 export forecast was raised 250,000 tons to a record 8.25 million based on stronger global demand and a higher 2003 forecast. In addition, the U.S. 2004 export forecast was raised 100,000 tons to 2.8 million based on higher global demand.

On the import side, Nigeria's imports were raised 250,000 tons to 1 million based on supply and domestic use forecasts. In addition, Turkey's 2004 rice imports were raised 50,000 tons to 350,000 based on stronger 2003 imports. Partially offsetting these increases were two downward revisions in 2004

Figure 11

**Global rice imports are projected to decline 4 percent in 2004**

Million tons (milled basis)

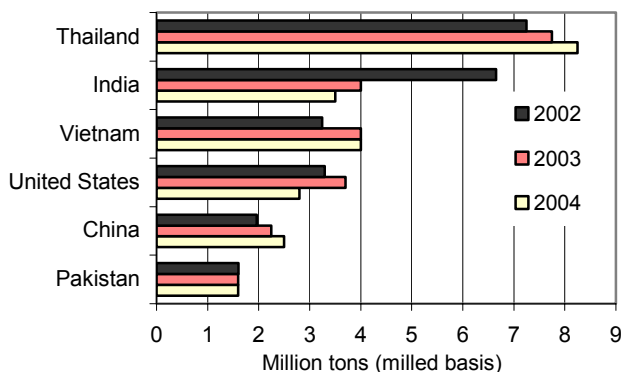


2003 and 2004 forecasts.

Source: FAS/USDA and ERS/USDA.

Figure 12

**Thailand is projected to export a record 8.25 million tons of rice in 2004**



These six countries account for more than 85 percent of global rice exports. 2003 and 2004 projected.

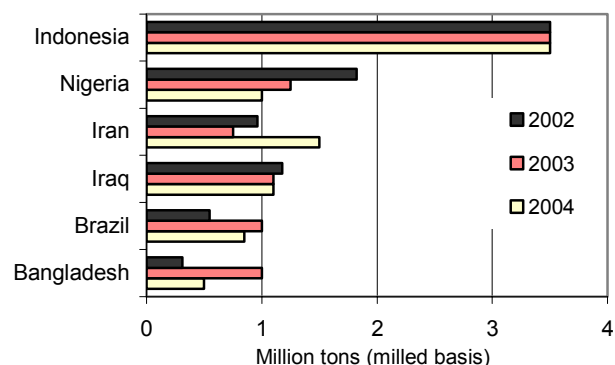
Source: FAS/USDA.

imports. First, Brazil's imports were lowered 150,000 tons to 850,000 based on larger supplies. And second, Cuba's imports were lowered 50,000 tons to 550,000 based on weaker 2003 imports.

Global rice trade for 2003 is projected at 27.4 million tons, 450,000 tons above last month's forecast but nearly 2 percent smaller than a year earlier's record. There were several revisions on the export side. First, Thailand's exports were raised 250,000 tons to 7.75 million based on expectations of higher shipments, primarily to the Middle East and Africa. Second, Egypt's exports were boosted 100,000 tons to

Figure 13

**Nigeria, Bangladesh, and Brazil are projected to import less rice in 2004**



2003 and 2004 projected. These six countries account for about a third of global rice imports.

Source: FAS/USDA.

700,000 tons—second only to the 1969 record of 772,000 tons—based on shipment pace and expectations of stronger shipments to the Middle East. Finally, Uruguay's 2004 exports were raised 100,000 tons to 700,000 based on shipment pace.

On the import side, Bangladesh's 2003 import forecast was raised 300,000 tons to 1 million based on smaller production. Turkey's imports were raised 100,000 tons to 350,000 based on shipment pace. Chile's import forecast was raised 50,000 tons to 200,000, also based on shipment pace. Finally, South Korea's 2003 imports were raised 30,000 tons to 180,000 based on information from the U.S. agricultural counselor in Seoul. Partially offsetting these increases was a 100,000-ton cut in Cuba's 2003 rice imports to 500,000 based on shipment pace.

**Thailand's Export Prices Drop Slightly, U.S. Price Quotes Strengthen**

Thai export price quotes for most grades of regular-milled rice are down slightly from early July, primarily due to a lack of major new sales and continued depreciation of the baht. Price quotes for Thai rice have dropped a dollar or two each week since early July.

For the week ending August 4, price quotes for high-quality Thai white rice (100-percent, Grade B, f.o.b. vessel, Bangkok) were reported at \$200 per ton, down from \$207 in early July. Prices for Thai 5-percent



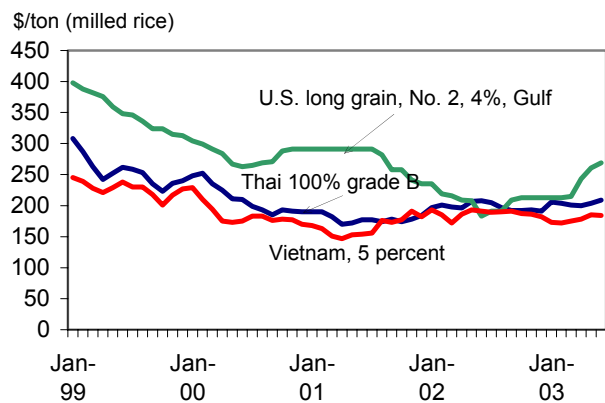
regular milled white rice—quoted at \$194 per ton—were down \$7 from early July. Prices for Thai 35-percent broken were quoted at \$175 per ton for the week ending August 4, down \$6 from the first week of July.

Prices for Thailand’s A-1 Special (100-percent broken) were quoted at \$149 per ton for the week ending August 4, down \$2 from early July. Prices for Thailand’s parboiled rice (5-percent broken) were quoted at \$199 per ton for the week ending August 4, down \$5 from early July.

Prices for Vietnam’s regular-milled white rice have declined since early July as well, a result of plentiful supplies and few major new sales. Prices for Vietnam’s 5-percent broken (f.o.b. vessel, Ho Chi Minh City) were reported at \$180 per ton for the week ending August 5, down \$2 from early July.

Price quotes for U.S. milled rice have risen sharply since early July. Price quotes for U.S. long grain milled rice (No. 2, 4-percent broken, bagged, f.o.b. rice mill in Houston) were reported at \$298 per ton for the week ending August 11, up \$44 per ton from early July and the highest since January 2000. The higher prices are primarily due to tight U.S. supplies. After adjusting the U.S. price to reflect a “free-on-board vessel” quote, U.S. prices are more than \$100 per ton above prices for similar grades of Thai rice, the highest difference since August 2001.

Figure 14  
**U.S. export prices are almost \$100 per ton higher than Thailand's prices**



All prices quoted "free-on-board" vessel at local port.  
Sources: Thai prices, U.S. Ag Counselor, Bangkok, U.S. prices, AMS/USDA. Vietnam prices industry sources.

Prices for U.S. parboiled rice are also up from early July. For the week ending August 11, prices for long grain milled parboiled rice (f.o.b. Houston) were quoted at \$342 per ton, up \$33 from July and the highest since August 2001. Prices for high-quality California medium grain milled rice (No. 1, 4-percent broken, bagged, f.o.b. Sacramento) were quoted at \$419 per ton for the week ending August 11, up \$66 per ton from early July and the highest since September 2000.

## Contacts and Links

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### Data

Monthly tables from *Rice Outlook* are available in Excel (.xls) spreadsheets at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rice/Data/data.htm>. These tables contain the latest data on the production, use, prices, and trade.

### Reports from the Economic Research Service

*Updating Base Acres and Payment Yields* indicates that about 63 percent of eligible farmland owners elected to use their historical PFC acreage (plus oilseeds, if applicable) for designating base acres under the 2002 Farm Act. The alternative was to update base acres using 1998-2001 plantings. Farmers who updated their base acres were provided choices for determining payment yields used to calculate the new counter-cyclical payments. The analysis is available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/FarmPolicy/updating.htm>.

*The 2002 Farm Act: Provisions and Implications for Commodity Markets* provides an initial assessment of the legislation's effects on agricultural production, commodity markets, and net farm income over the next 10 years. The report is available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aib778/>.

### Related Websites

Rice Briefing Room, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rice>

WASDE, <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/reports/waobr/wasde-bb/>

Grain Circular, [http://www.fas.usda.gov/grain\\_arc.html](http://www.fas.usda.gov/grain_arc.html)

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Table 1--U.S. rice supply and use 1/

Item	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 2/	2002/03 3/	2003/04 3/
TOTAL RICE						
Area	Million acres					
Planted	3.285	3.531	3.060	3.334	3.240	2.992
Harvested	3.257	3.512	3.039	3.314	3.207	2.967
	Pounds per harvested acre					
Yield	5,663	5,866	6,281	6,496	6,578	6,572
	Million cwt					
Beginning stocks	27.9	22.1	27.5	28.5	39.0	20.2
Production	184.4	206.0	190.9	215.3	211.0	195.1
Imports	10.6	10.1	10.9	13.2	15.0	15.5
Total supply	223.0	238.2	229.2	256.9	264.9	230.9
Food, industrial, & residual 4/	109.6	118.1	113.4	119.5	120.0	122.0
Seed	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.7	4.3
Total domestic use	114.0	121.9	117.5	123.5	123.7	126.3
Exports	86.8	88.8	83.2	94.5	121.0	87.0
Rough	25.8	25.2	22.8	32.2	44.0	37.0
Milled 5/	61.1	63.6	60.4	62.4	77.0	50.0
Total use	200.9	210.7	200.7	218.0	244.7	213.3
Ending stocks	22.1	27.5	28.5	39.0	20.2	17.6
	Percent					
Stocks-to-use ratio	11.0	13.0	14.2	17.9	8.3	8.3
	\$/cwt					
Average farm price 6/	8.89	5.93	5.61	4.25	4.20	6.50 to 7.00
	Percent					
Average milling rate	69.3	69.6	68.6	69.0	68.0	69.0

1/ August-July market year; rough equivalent. 2/ Estimated. 3/ Projected. 4/ Residual includes unreported use, processing losses, and estimating errors. 5/ Rough rice equivalent. 6/ Market year weighted average.

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, WAOB, USDA.

Updated August 12, 2003.

Table 2--U.S. rice supply and use, by class 1/

Item	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 2/	2003/04 3/
<b>LONG GRAIN</b>						
Million acres						
Planted	2.589	2.731	2.206	2.713	2.537	
Harvested	2.568	2.718	2.189	2.697	2.512	
Pounds per harvested acre						
Yield	5,426	5,587	5,882	6,213	6,260	
Million cwt						
Beginning stocks	14.5	14.1	15.6	11.6	26.8	10.8
Production	139.3	151.9	128.8	167.6	157.2	144.7
Imports	8.4	7.6	8.8	9.2	10.3	10.5
Total supply	162.2	173.5	153.1	188.3	194.3	166.0
Domestic use 4/	76.7	87.6	76.2	87.9	87.5	89.0
Exports	71.4	70.3	65.3	73.7	96.0	68.0
Total use	148.2	157.9	141.5	161.6	183.5	157.0
Ending stocks	14.1	15.6	11.6	26.8	10.8	9.0
Percent						
Stocks-to-use ratio	9.5	9.9	8.2	16.6	5.9	5.7
<b>MEDIUM &amp; SHORT GRAIN</b>						
Million acres						
Planted	0.696	0.800	0.854	0.621	0.703	
Harvested	0.689	0.794	0.850	0.617	0.695	
Pounds per harvested acre						
Yield	6,548	6,822	7,308	7,733	7,729	
Million cwt						
Beginning stocks	12.3	6.8	10.4	15.6	10.7	7.9
Production	45.1	54.2	62.1	47.7	53.7	50.4
Imports	2.2	2.5	2.1	4.0	4.8	5.0
Total supply 5/	59.6	63.3	74.8	67.1	69.1	63.3
Domestic use 4/	37.4	34.3	41.3	35.6	36.2	37.2
Exports	15.4	18.6	17.9	20.8	25.0	19.0
Total use	52.8	52.9	59.2	56.4	61.2	56.2
Ending stocks	6.8	10.4	15.6	10.7	7.9	7.1
Percent						
Stocks-to-use ratio	12.9	19.7	26.3	18.9	12.9	12.6
Ending stocks difference 1/	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5

1/ Stock totals by type omit broken, which are included in total stocks for all types of rice in table 1.

2/ Estimated. 3/ Projected. 4/ Includes residual. 5/ Accounts for the difference in beginning and ending stocks of broken. Thus, total supply of medium/short grain may not equal the sum of beginning stocks, production, and imports.

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, WAOB, USDA.

Updated August 12, 2003.

Table 3--U.S. monthly average farm prices and marketings

Month	2002/03		2001/02		2000/01	
	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt
August	3.72	11,478	5.01	12,443	5.72	8,802
September	3.94	12,787	4.67	9,496	5.53	10,616
October	3.69	14,027	4.39	12,415	5.57	13,183
November	3.70	11,876	4.25	11,093	5.72	12,393
December	4.13	14,242	4.29	11,215	5.69	12,689
January	4.29	20,748	4.30	16,415	5.86	15,204
February	4.03	14,500	4.16	11,694	5.72	12,465
March	4.14	16,069	3.99	9,718	5.66	11,700
April	4.33	16,445	3.94	11,270	5.68	11,870
May	4.58	11,417	3.98	9,841	5.40	9,087
June	5.04	10,553	3.92	8,884	5.14	7,951
July	4.90 1/	14,013 1/	3.81	8,288	5.32	8,588
Average 2/	4.21	14,013	4.25	11,064	5.61	11,212
Total 3/	4.20 4/			132,772		134,548

N/A = Not available.

1/ Preliminary mid-month estimate. 2/ Price is market year weighted average; 2002/03 is simple average through current month only. 3/ Total volume marketed; 2002/03 is through current month only. 4/ USDA season-average farm price projection.

Source: Monthly cash price and marketings, Agricultural Prices, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Last updated August 12, 2003.



Table 4--USDA calculated world market rice prices (rough basis)

Month	2003/04			2002/03			2001/02		
	Long	Medium	Short	Long	Medium	Short	Long	Medium	Short
	\$/cwt								
August 1/	4.02	3.79	3.85	3.32	2.99	3.00	2.97	2.57	2.58
September				3.29	2.96	2.97	3.09	2.69	2.70
October				3.28	2.95	2.96	3.18	2.80	2.81
November				3.24	2.91	2.92	3.22	2.86	2.87
December				3.22	2.93	2.94	3.37	3.02	3.02
January				3.29	2.96	2.98	3.40	3.06	3.06
February				3.40	3.01	3.03	3.59	3.31	3.35
March				3.36	2.97	2.99	3.52	3.23	3.27
April				3.29	2.91	2.93	3.50	3.20	3.24
May				3.32	2.92	2.94	3.58	3.30	3.34
June				3.60	3.21	3.24	3.69	3.42	3.47
July				3.82	3.43	3.45	3.71	3.45	3.49
Average 2/	4.02	3.79	3.85	3.37	3.01	3.03	3.40	3.08	3.10

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Simple average of weekly announced world market price.

Source: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

Last updated August 12, 2003.

Table 5--U.S. rice exports 1/

Country or region	2003/04	2002/03	2001/02	2000/01	1999/00
	Outstanding sales 8/1/03	Market year	Market year	Market year	Market year
1,000 metric tons					
European Union	38.8	375.2	336.3	363.5	386.7
Other Western Europe	4.5	26.1	14.6	13.2	18.3
Turkey	0.0	209.9	141.3	170.8	230.7
Eastern Europe	0.2	9.7	5.4	0.6	0.5
Former Soviet Union	0.3	55.8	59.7	0.7	56.8
Japan	3.9	387.8	349.3	296.4	374.3
Taiwan	33.9	104.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>OTHER ASIA &amp; MIDDLE EAST</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>352.3</b>	<b>238.2</b>	<b>318.1</b>	<b>394.7</b>
Indonesia	0.1	90.7	0.2	23.2	118.3
Jordan	0.2	18.7	23.7	13.7	21.2
Philippines	0.0	38.3	35.8	104.4	59.4
Saudi Arabia	7.0	115.7	101.0	140.1	150.5
South Korea	0.0	40.1	30.1	0.0	0.0
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>219.3</b>	<b>181.2</b>	<b>181.6</b>	<b>171.1</b>
Algeria	0.0	21.0	16.3	3.0	1.4
Cote d'Ivoire	0.0	29.9	13.7	12.3	20.4
Ghana	10.0	70.5	77.4	72.6	70.3
Liberia	7.9	8.9	8.0	9.3	2.9
South Africa	18.0	74.8	54.7	57.0	69.6
<b>WESTERN HEMISPHERE</b>	<b>379.0</b>	<b>2,336.4</b>	<b>1,936.3</b>	<b>1,305.3</b>	<b>1,410.1</b>
Brazil	90.6	327.0	0.2	2.0	4.4
Canada	51.0	157.1	105.5	99.8	101.9
Colombia	0.0	1.9	1.4	17.2	1.4
Costa Rica	0.1	161.3	160.7	81.6	84.0
Cuba	10.0	118.6	71.6	0.0	0.0
Dominican Republic	0.1	0.0	1.0	56.0	56.0
Guatemala	1.3	53.6	76.2	35.6	41.9
Haiti	49.5	297.6	249.7	157.9	144.4
Honduras	6.0	128.7	163.1	105.6	113.6
Jamaica	14.7	58.7	19.4	31.5	34.7
Leeward & Windward Is.	2.5	7.4	7.2	4.2	11.1
Mexico	91.1	694.7	740.3	582.6	629.2
Nicaragua	18.7	118.0	156.7	85.2	94.8
Panama	0.0	8.5	38.9	2.3	14.8
Peru	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.0	19.4
El Salvador	2.1	74.2	93.5	40.4	55.3
Trinidad	5.0	22.7	15.6	9.0	0.2
Venezuela	30.0	56.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Unknown	14.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>524.6</b>	<b>4,077.1</b>	<b>3,269.0</b>	<b>2,650.8</b>	<b>3,043.9</b>

1/ Columns labeled "Market year" are total August-July exports reported in *U.S. Export Sales*. Columns

labeled "as of" are combined exports and outstanding sales at a particular date.

*U.S. Export Sales* reports on a product-weight basis. Food donations are not included in *U.S. Export Sales*.

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

Last updated August 12, 2003.

Table 6--U.S., Thailand, and Vietnam milled rice prices

Month or marketing year 1/	U.S. 2/			Thailand 5/				Viet. 6/	
	Long grain 3/ Texas	Medium grain 4/ Calif.	Parboiled Texas	100% Grade B	5% parboiled	15% brokens	35% brokens	A.1 7/ Special	5% brokens
	\$/ metric ton 8/								
1995/96	414	445	456	362	344	335	302	265	N/A
1996/97	450	415	479	338	323	303	259	216	N/A
1997/98	415	396	455	302	292	275	237	197	269
1998/99	369	470	418	284	276	261	236	217	257
1999/2000	284	454	395	231	242	209	185	160	202
2000/01	272	313	357	184	187	167	149	132	165
Aug 2001	267	243	334	174	202	160	149	141	176
Sep 2001	243	231	287	178	214	167	157	148	173
Oct 2001	243	287	287	174	213	165	155	146	177
Nov 2001	226	287	287	178	198	168	157	134	191
Dec 2001	220	287	287	184	197	173	160	134	192
Jan 2002	220	287	287	197	193	184	170	143	193
Feb 2002	204	287	287	201	195	187	168	144	185
Mar 2002	201	287	282	198	190	182	166	146	172
Apr 2002	194	274	276	196	188	183	167	149	186
May 2002	193	265	276	207	192	192	172	150	193
June 2002	168	265	265	208	195	192	177	148	191
July 2002	176	265	265	205	194	190	175	152	189
2001/02	213	272	285	192	198	179	164	145	185
Aug 2002	176	265	265	197	195	183	171	148	190
Sep 2002	195	265	283	192	194	179	169	149	191
Oct 2002	198	265	287	192	195	179	171	157	187
Nov 2002	198	265	287	193	196	180	173	158	186
Dec 2002	198	265	287	191	190	180	171	154	182
Jan 2003	198	265	287	206	196	193	182	152	173
Feb 2003	198	282	287	204	196	191	179	150	172
Mar 2003	200	287	289	201	193	188	177	146	175
Apr 2003	229	287	306	200	191	186	175	141	178
May 2003	246	287	309	204	193	189	177	143	185
Jun 2003	254	331	309	209	200	195	183	151	184
Jul 2003	262	370	309	206	203	190	179	151	181
2002/03	213	286	292	199	195	186	175	150	182
Aug 2002 9/	282	419	326	200	199	184	175	149	180
2003/04 9/	282	419	326	200	199	184	175	149	180

N/A = Not available.

1/ Simple average of weekly quotes. 2/ 100-pound bags, domestic market. Lowest quote offered. 3/ Number 2, 4-percent brokens. 4/ Number 1, 4-percent brokens. 5/ Nominal price quotes f.o.b. Bangkok, long grain. U.S. 7/ 100-percent brokens. 8/ Bagged. 9/ Preliminary.

counselor, Bangkok. f.o.b. Bangkok, long grain. 6/ f.ob. Saigon. Price quotes from industry sources.

Last updated August 12, 2003.

Table 7-Global rice production, monthly revisions

	2002/03 1/			2003/04 1/		
	July	August	Monthly change	July	August	Monthly change
	1,000 metric tons					
Bangladesh	26,000	25,360	-640	26,500	26,000	-500
Brazil	7,250	7,250	0	7,000	7,300	300
China	122,180	122,180	0	120,000	118,000	-2,000
India	77,000	75,700	-1,300	91,000	90,000	-1,000
Japan	8,089	8,089	0	8,000	7,800	-200
Philippines	8,450	8,450	0	8,600	8,500	-100
United States	6,507	6,507	0	6,103	6,107	4
Vietnam	21,090	21,260	170	21,000	21,000	0
Others	104,839	104,839	0	126,878	126,878	0
World total	381,405	379,635	-1,770	394,081	390,585	-3,496

\_\_\_ = Not available. 1/ Projected.

Source: Global production projections are provided monthly by USDA's Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee (ICEC). Participating agencies include FAS, FSA, ERS, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board.  
*Last updated August 15, 2003.*

Table 8-Global rice trade, calendar years 2003 and 2004; major exporters and importers

	2003 1/			2004 1/		Monthly changes
	July	August	Monthly changes	July	August	
	1,000 metric tons (milled basis)					
<b>Exporters:</b>						
Argentina	200	200	0	200	200	0
Australia	300	300	0	250	250	0
Burma	500	500	0	500	500	0
China	2,250	2,250	0	2,500	2,500	0
Egypt	600	700	100	700	700	0
Guyana	175	175	0	175	175	0
India	4,000	4,000	0	3,500	3,500	0
Pakistan	1,600	1,600	0	1,600	1,600	0
Thailand	7,500	7,750	250	8,000	8,250	250
Uruguay	600	700	100	750	750	0
Vietnam	4,000	4,000	0	4,000	4,000	0
European Union	475	475	0	475	475	0
Others	1,069	1,069	0	536	934	398
United States	3,700	3,700	0	2,700	2,800	100
<b>World total</b>	<b>26,969</b>	<b>27,419</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>25,886</b>	<b>26,236</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>Importers:</b>						
Bangladesh	700	1,000	300	500	500	0
Brazil	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	850	-150
Canada	250	250	0	250	250	0
Chile	150	200		200	200	
China	300	300	0	300	300	0
Colombia	75	75	0	90	90	0
Costa Rica	100	100	0	100	100	0
Cote d'Ivoire	650	650	0	650	650	0
Cuba	600	500	-100	600	550	-50
El Salvador	75	75	0	75	75	0
Ghana	250	250	0	250	250	0
Guinea	300	300	0	300	300	0
Haiti	300	300	0	300	300	0
Honduras	90	90	0	100	100	0
Indonesia	3,500	3,500	0	3,500	3,500	0
Iran	750	750	0	1,500	1,500	0
Iraq	1,100	1,100	0	1,100	1,100	0
Jamaica	50	50	0	50	50	0
Japan	650	650	0	650	650	0
Korea, North	700	700	0	300	300	0
Korea, South	150	180	30	205	205	0
Malaysia	500	500	0	550	550	0
Mexico	550	550	0	600	600	0
Nigeria	1,250	1,250	0	750	1,000	250
Nicaragua	75	100	25	100	100	0
Peru	40	40	0	40	40	0
Philippines	1,200	1,200	0	500	500	0
Russia	350	350	0	350	350	0
Saudi Arabia	950	950	0	950	950	0
Senegal	750	750	0	750	750	0
Singapore	375	375	0	375	375	0
South Africa	650	650	0	650	650	0
Sri Lanka	90	90	0	90	90	0
Syria	150	150	0	170	170	0
Taiwan	125	125	0	125	125	0
Turkey	250	350	100	300	350	50
Uzbekistan	100	100	0	100	100	0
UAE	80	80	0	80	80	0
Yemen	250	250	0	250	250	0
European Union	875	875	0	875	875	0
Other Western Europe	50	50	0	50	50	0
Eastern Europe	379	379	0	368	368	0
United States	425	425	0	435	435	0
Other 2/	6,190	6,235	45	5,843	6,093	250
<b>World total</b>	<b>26,969</b>	<b>27,419</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>25,886</b>	<b>26,236</b>	<b>350</b>

All trade data reported on a calendar year basis.

\_\_\_ = Not available. 1/ Projected. 2/ Includes imports classified as "unaccounted" or not assigned a specific destination.

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

Last updated August 15, 2003.