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Rice Outlook

Nathan Childs

U.S. 2003/04 Export Forecast Raised 3 Million Cwt to 99 Million

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The next release is
May 13, 2004

Approved by the
World Agricultural
Outlook Board.

The only supply-side revision this month to the 2003/04 (August-July) U.S. supply and use projections was a 1-million hundredweight (cwt) (rough rice basis) drop in total imports to 14 million, down almost 6 percent from the year-earlier record. The lower import forecast reduced total supplies fractionally to 239.9 million, down 9 percent from the year earlier record.

On the use side, a 3-million-cwt increase in exports to 99 million cwt—21 percent below the year-earlier record—was offset by a weaker *total domestic and residual use* forecast. Rough rice exports were raised 2 million cwt; combined milled and brown rice exports (on a rough basis) were increased 1 million cwt. Total use remains forecast at 218 million cwt, down 8 percent from a year earlier.

These revisions resulted in a 1-million-cwt drop in the ending stocks forecast to 21.9 million, the smallest since 1980/81. At 10 percent, the stocks-to-use ratio is the smallest in 3 decades.

The U.S. season-average farm price remains projected at \$7.45-\$7.75 per cwt, well above the 2002/03 average of \$4.49 and highest since 1998/99. Smaller supplies and expectations of very tight ending stocks account for much of the increase in U.S. rice prices this year.

Global rice production for 2003/04 is projected at 390.2 million tons (milled basis), down 600,000 tons from last month's forecast but 3 percent larger than a year earlier. Crop forecasts were lowered this month for India, Indonesia and Thailand, but increased for Burma and Brazil. Ending stocks are projected at 85.1 million tons, up 2 percent from last month's forecast, but 21 percent below a year earlier. Global ending stocks are the lowest since 1983/84.

Global rice trade for calendar year 2004 is projected at 25.1 million tons (milled basis), down 3 percent from last month's forecast and 9 percent smaller than 2003 trade. Export forecasts for 2004 were lowered for Vietnam, China, and Burma. Among importers, projections were reduced for Indonesia, Bangladesh, Turkey, Venezuela, and the Philippines, but raised for China and Peru.

Thailand's export price quotes for regular-milled white rice have decline about \$10 per ton since mid-March, a result of a slowdown in new sales. Prices had risen sharply in early March based on expected large purchases by China, upcoming sales to Iraq, and tight exportable supplies in Asia. Tight supplies are severely limiting Vietnam's ability to make new sales. Vietnam's prices are up \$40 per ton from late February and the highest since early 1999. Price quotes for U.S. regular-milled long grain rice have increased since last month after being flat in March.

U.S. 2003/04 Import Projection Lowered to 14 Million cwt

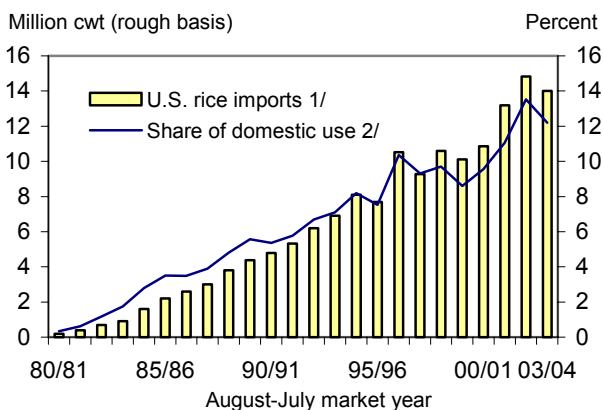
The only supply-side revision this month to the 2003/04 (August-July) U.S. supply and use projections was a 1-million-hundredweight (cwt) drop in total imports to 14 million, down almost 6 percent from the year-earlier record. Long grain accounted for all of this month's downward revision. The reduction was based on U.S. Census data through January 2004.

Nearly all U.S. long grain imports are aromatic rices from Asia, with Thailand accounting for the bulk of the shipments and India and Pakistan supplying most of the remainder. Puerto Rico is the primary market for most U.S. medium/short grain imports. China has supplied virtually all the U.S. medium/short grain imports since August 2003. In 2002/03 both Australia and China shipped medium/short grain rice to Puerto Rico.

The reduced import forecast lowered 2003/04 total supplies fractionally to 239.9 million cwt, more than 9 percent below a year earlier. Beginning stocks, production, and imports for 2003/04 are all below a year earlier. Beginning stocks remain estimated at 26.8 million cwt, a 31-percent drop from a year earlier. The 2003/04 crop remains estimated at 199.2

Figure 1

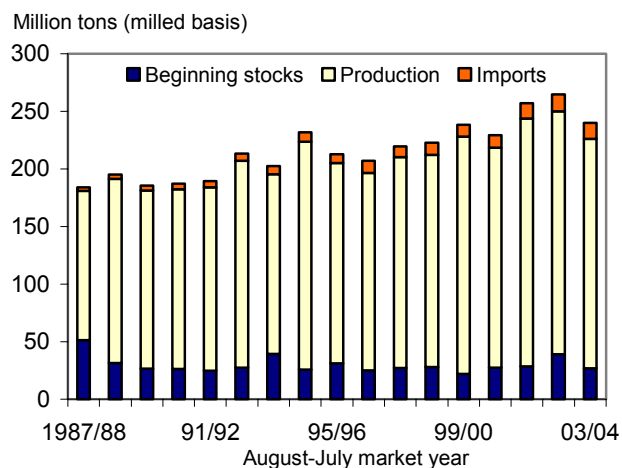
U.S. rice imports are projected to decline to 14 million cwt in 2003/04



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

Figure 2

Total U.S. rice supplies are projected to drop more than 9 percent in 2003/04



2004 forecasts.
Source: ERS/USDA.

million cwt, down almost 6 percent from a year earlier. Both long and combined medium/short grain crops were smaller in 2003/04.

U.S. 2003/04 Export Projection Raised 3 Million cwt to 99 Million

Total use for 2003/04 is projected at 218 million cwt, virtually unchanged from last month's forecast, but 8 percent below the year-earlier record. This month, a 3-million-cwt increase in exports—all long grain—was almost exactly offset by a reduction in total domestic use. The 2003/04 export forecast was raised 3 percent to 99 million cwt—21 percent below the year-earlier record—based on U.S. Census data through January and data from USDA's weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report through late March. By class, long grain accounted for all of this month's upward revision in exports.

Rough rice exports were raised 2 million cwt to 40 million, still 7 percent below the year-earlier record. Latin America is the primary market for U.S. rough rice exports, taking almost exclusively southern long grain. Turkey also imports U.S. rough rice, purchasing mostly medium grain, typically from California. U.S. milled and brown rice exports (on a rough basis) were raised 1 million cwt to 59 million, still 28 percent below a year earlier.

Figure 3
Weaker exports are projected to pull total U.S. rice use down 8 percent in 2003/04

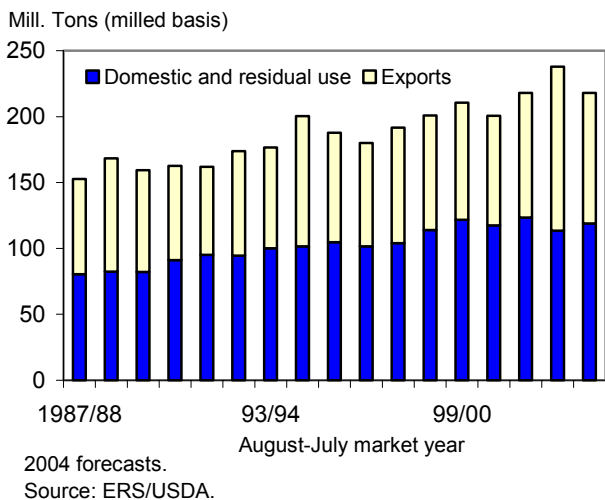
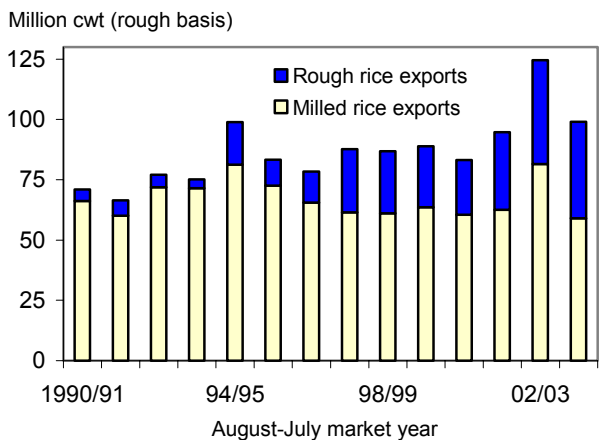
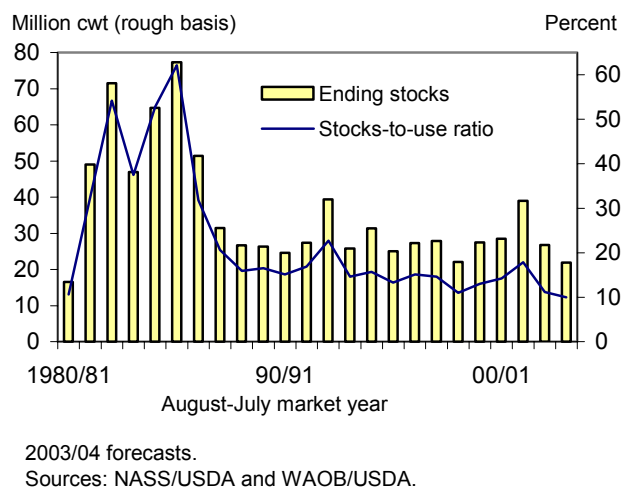


Figure 4
Milled rice accounts for the bulk of the decline in U.S. rice exports in 2003/04



Total domestic and residual use was reduced nearly 3 million cwt to 119 million cwt, still 5-percent larger than a year earlier. *Food, industrial, and residual use* is forecast at 115 million cwt, down 3 percent from last month's forecast, but up nearly 5 percent from a year earlier. The downward revision was based on March 1, 2004, stocks data indicating weaker-than-expected domestic rice use. *Seed use* for the 2004 crop was raised fractionally to slightly more than 4 million cwt.

Figure 5
U.S. ending stocks are projected to be the smallest since 1980/81

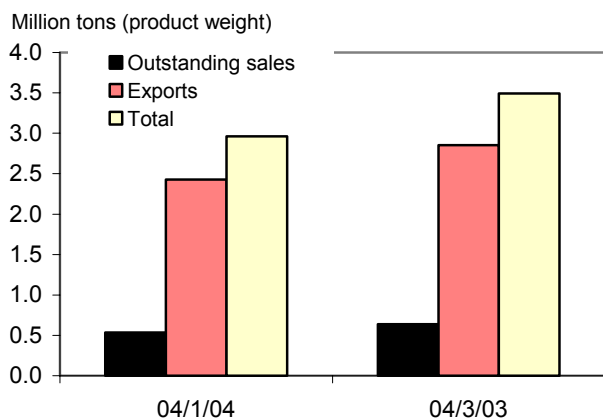


Ending stocks for 2003/04 are projected at 21.9 million cwt, down more than 4 percent from last month's forecast and 18 percent below a year earlier. These are the smallest ending stocks since 1980/81. Medium/short grain accounts for all of this month's downward revision in ending stocks. The resulting stocks-to-use ratio for total rice is 10 percent, down a half-of-a-percentage point from last month and below the 11.2 percent calculated for a year earlier. This is the lowest stocks-to-use ratio for rice in three decades.

According to the *U.S. Export Sales* report (Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA), for the week ending April 1, 2004, combined outstanding sales and commercial exports of U.S. rice totaled 2.96 million tons (product-weight), more than 15 percent below a year earlier. Outstanding sales were reported at 533,900 tons, 16 percent below a year earlier. Exports were reported at 2.43 million tons, nearly 15 percent below a year earlier. Commercial shipments through April 1 were behind last year's pace to the European Union (EU), Turkey, the former Soviet Union, Saudi Arabia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. In contrast, commercial shipments were ahead of last year's pace to the Philippines, Mexico, and Brazil.

Figure 6

U.S. rice exports were 15 percent behind a year earlier through April 1



Source: *U.S. Export Sales*, FAS, USDA. Data do not include donations.

Based on data from the March 2004 *Rice Stocks* report, U.S. rice stocks on March 1, 2004, are estimated at 96.9 million cwt (rough basis), down 15.2 million cwt from a year earlier. Long grain stocks are estimated at 63.5 million cwt, down 17.5 million from a year earlier. Combined medium/short grain stocks are estimated at 31.5 million cwt, up 2.6 million cwt from a year earlier. Ending stocks of brokens (which are not classified by class) are calculated at 1.9 million cwt, down from 2.2 million a year earlier.

March 1 stocks are estimated lower this year in all reporting States except California where stocks of 26.5 million cwt are up nearly 1.2 million from a year earlier. Arkansas, with stocks estimated at 47 million cwt, a drop of 9.4 million cwt, accounts for more than half of the annual decline in March 1 stocks.

U.S. 2003/04 Long Grain Export Forecast Raised 3 Million cwt to 79 Million

Total U.S. 2003/04 long grain supplies are projected at 173.9 million cwt, down a million from last month's forecast and more than 10 percent below a year earlier. A 1-million cwt drop in imports to 9.25 million cwt accounts for all of this month's downward revision in long grain supplies. Beginning stocks, production, and imports are all smaller than a year earlier. Beginning stocks of long grain rice remain

estimated at 15.7 million cwt, nearly 42 percent below a year earlier. The long grain crop of 149 million cwt is down 5 percent from last year, a result of an 8-percent drop in plantings.

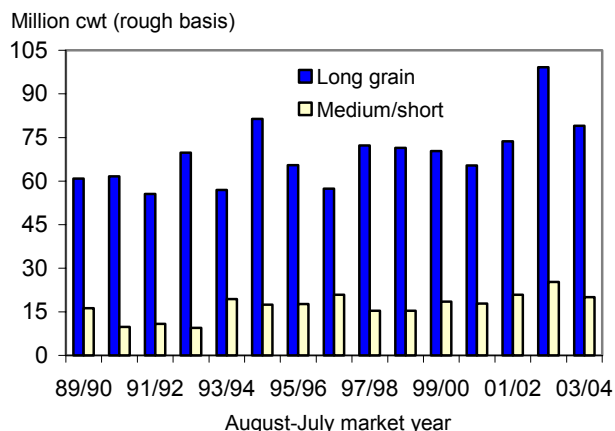
Total long grain use is projected at 162.8 million cwt, down 1 million from last month and 9 percent below the year-earlier record. A stronger long grain export forecast was more than offset by a downward revision in domestic and residual use. Long grain exports were raised 3 million cwt to 79 million, still 20 percent below the year-earlier record. Total domestic and residual use of long grain rice is projected at 83.8 million cwt, 4 million cwt below last month's forecast but still 6 percent above a year earlier.

Ending stocks of long grain rice remain projected at 11.2 million cwt, down 29 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 1995/96. The stocks-to-use ratio—projected at 6.9 percent—is virtually unchanged from last month, but nearly 2 percentage points below a year earlier.

There were no revisions this month to the combined medium/short grain supply projections. Combined medium/short grain supplies for 2003/04 remain projected at 64.2 million cwt, nearly 7 percent below a year earlier. Beginning stocks, production, and imports are all projected to be smaller than a year earlier.

Figure 7

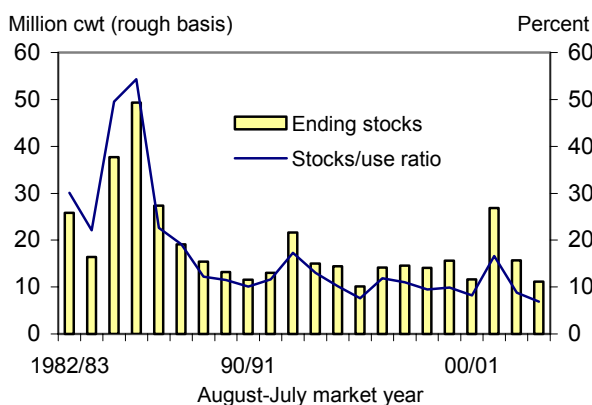
U.S. long grain exports are projected to decline 20 percent in 2003/04



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

Figure 8

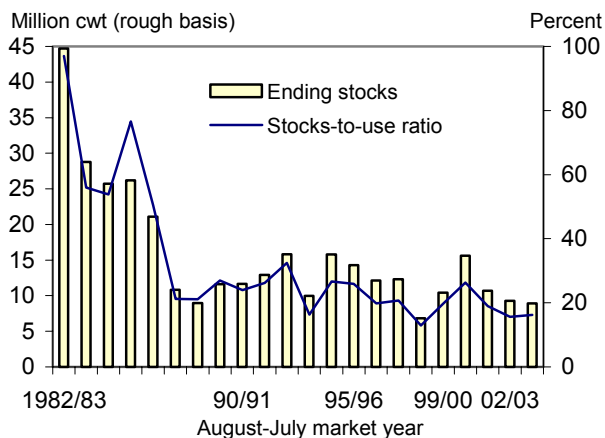
U.S. long grain ending stocks are projected to be the smallest since 1995/96



2003/04 forecasts.
Sources: NASS/USDA and WAOB/USDA.

Figure 9

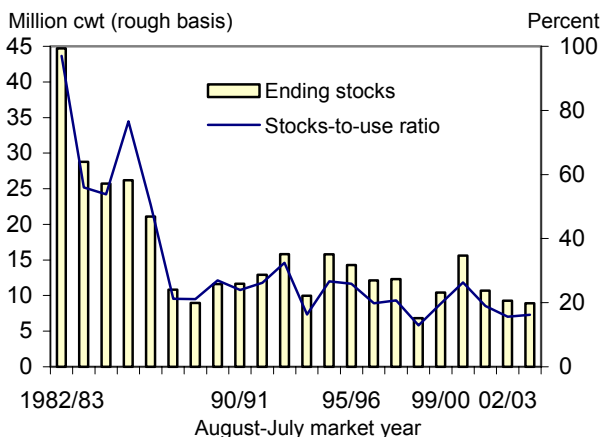
U.S. medium/short grain ending stocks are projected to decrease 4 percent in 2003/04



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

Figure 9

U.S. medium/short grain ending stocks are projected to decrease 10 percent in 2003/04



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

Combined medium/short grain total use for 2003/04 remains projected at 55.2 million cwt, up 1 million cwt from last month's forecast but 7 percent below a year earlier. Domestic and residual use accounts for all of this month's upward revision. Total domestic and residual use of medium/short grain rice is projected at 35.2 million cwt, 3 percent higher than a year earlier. Exports remain projected at 20 million cwt, 21 percent below a year earlier. Northeast Asia is the top market for U.S. medium/short grain exports.

Annual rice imports by these three countries—Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan—are the result of World Trade Organization commitments. Turkey and Jordan also import U.S. medium/short grain rice.

Ending stocks of medium/short grain rice are projected at nearly 9 million cwt, down a million cwt from last month's forecast and 4 percent smaller than a year earlier. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected to be 16.2 percent, down 2 percentage points from last month but up slightly from a year earlier.

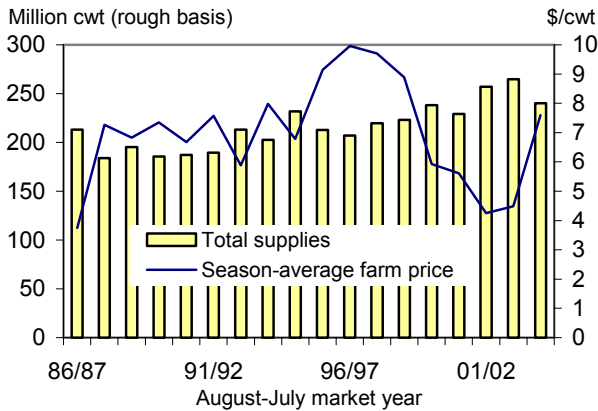
U.S. Season-Average Farm Price Projected at \$7.45-\$7.75 per cwt

The 2003/04 season-average farm price (SAFP) remains projected at \$7.45-\$7.75 per cwt, well above the year-earlier's \$4.49 and the highest since 1998/99. Last month, USDA raised the February reported cash price to \$7.72 per cwt from a preliminary \$7.55 and reported a preliminary \$7.72 for March.

Rough rice price quotes for long grain rice have increased along the Gulf Coast but declined slightly in the Delta over the past month. In Southwest Louisiana, rough cash prices for long grain rice were quoted at \$9.90 per cwt for the week ending April 6, up a dollar from early March. In Texas, long grain rice was quoted at \$10.20 per cwt, also up a dollar from early March. In the Delta, long grain rough rice

Figure 10

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



2003/04 mid-point of \$7.45 to \$7.75 projection range.
 Sources: 1986/87 to 2002/03 NASS/USDA; 2003/04
 USDA projections.

was quoted at \$9.25 per cwt, down fractionally from early March. In all three regions, prices had been slightly higher in mid-March. A recent slowdown in new export activity accounts for the slight drop in prices since mid-March. On an annual basis, the mid-March prices were the highest long grain price quotes in all three regions since September 1998.

Price quotes for California medium grain rough rice for the week ending April 6 were calculated around \$12.25 per cwt, down 50 cents from a month earlier, but more than \$5 above a year earlier. In 2003/04,

California medium grain prices have been the highest in a decade. 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 nearly all southern U.S. medium grain rice is produced, prices for medium grain rough rice were quoted at \$8.50 per cwt for the week ending April 6, down a dollar from a month earlier. As with long grain rice, a recent slowdown in new export sales is behind the price decline.

The March 2004 *Prospective Plantings* report indicated producers intended to plant 3.26 million acres of rice in 2004, up 8 percent from a year earlier. Long grain acreage was indicated to increase more than 8 percent while producers indicated they would expand combined medium/short grain plantings more than 6 percent in 2004. Rice plantings were indicated higher in all reported States for 2004 except Mississippi, with Arkansas, Louisiana, and California accounting for more than 90 percent of the annual increase. No change from 2003 was reported for Mississippi's intended rice acreage. The planting intentions were based on a survey of producers conducted during the first 2 weeks of March. The first USDA survey of actual plantings will be released on June 30, 2004.

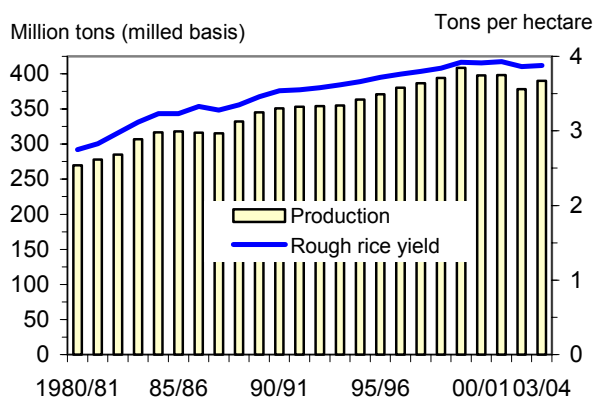
2003/04 Production Forecasts Lowered for India, Indonesia, and Thailand

Global rice production for 2003/04 is projected at 390.2 million tons (milled basis), down 700,000 tons from last month's forecast but 3 percent larger than a year earlier. The 2003/04 crop is more than 4 percent below the 1999/2000 record. Global rice consumption is projected at a record 412.5 million tons. Ending stocks are projected at 85.1 million tons, up 2 percent from last month's forecast but 21 percent below a year earlier. Burma and Vietnam account for the largest share of this month's upward revision in global ending stocks. This is the third consecutive year of declining global ending stocks, and stocks are the lowest since 1983/84. China accounts for most of the decline in global ending stocks since 2001/02.

There were five downward revisions this month to 2003/04 global production forecasts; three in Asia and two in South America. India accounts for the bulk of the decline. India's 2003/04 production forecast was lowered 1 million tons to 88 million, still 21-percent larger than the 2002/03 crop. Indonesia's 2003/04 production forecast was lowered 258,000 tons to 34.25 million, also due to a weaker yield. Thailand's production was reduced 100,000 tons to 17.7 million. Despite the downward revisions, these are record

Figure 11

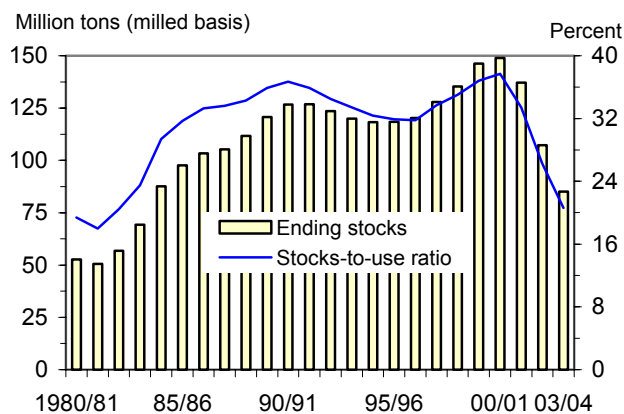
Despite a 3-percent increase in 2003/04, global rice production remains below record



2003/04 forecasts.
Sources: FAS/USDA and ERS/USDA.

Figure 12

Global ending stocks are projected to decline for the third consecutive year



2003/04 forecasts.
Sources: FAS/USDA and ERS/USDA.

cropped for both Indonesia and Thailand. All three Asian production revisions were based on a weaker yield. Production forecasts for Ecuador and Chile were lowered slightly this month, a result of smaller plantings.

Nearly offsetting the downward revisions were several upward revisions in 2003/04 rice production forecasts. A higher yield raised Burma's production forecast 290,000 tons to 10.73 million, a near-record. Brazil's production forecast was raised 200,000 tons to a record 8.3 million, also based on a slightly higher yield. Larger plantings increased Egypt's production 72,000 tons to a record 3.97 million. Mexico's 2003/04 production forecast was raised 50,000 tons to 168,000, a result of both larger area and a higher yield. Smaller production increases were made this month for Argentina, Turkey, and Japan.

In 2003/04, a strong production recovery in India, a bigger Pakistani crop, and record production in Indonesia, Bangladesh, Thailand, the Philippines, Brazil, and Egypt more than offset a sixth consecutive year of declining rice production in China and smaller crops in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United States. In addition, while production is forecast to decline slightly in 2003/04 in Burma and the

Philippines, their crops are only fractionally below 2002/03 records. In 2003/04, the 3-percent increase in global rice production was driven by a near-5-million-hectare increase in rice plantings. The average yield was fractionally below a year earlier. The average global yield has been essentially flat since 1999/2000.

This month, USDA fractionally lowered its 2002/03 global rice production estimate 2.4 million tons to 378.2 million, about 5 percent below a year earlier. India accounts for virtually all of this month's downward revision in the 2002/03 production estimate. India's crop was reduced 3 million tons to 72.7 million based on a weaker yield. The crop is more than 20 million tons smaller than a year earlier and is the smallest rice crop for India since 1988/89. India accounts for most of the decline in global rice production in 2002/03.

This reduction was partially offset by four upward revisions. First, Burma's 2002/03 production estimate was increased 348,000 tons to a record 10.79 million, a result of a higher yield. Second, Pakistan's crop was raised 251,000 tons to 4.48 million, also based on higher yield. Larger plantings increased Thailand's production 74,000 tons to 17.2 million. And finally, Chile's crop estimate was raised 10,000 tons to 90,000 based on a stronger yield. Area in Chile was actually lowered.

Global 2004 Rice Trade Forecast Lowered 865,000 Tons to 25.1 Million

Global rice trade for calendar year 2004 is projected at 25.1 million tons (milled basis), down 3 percent from last month's forecast and 9 percent smaller than 2003 trade. This is the second consecutive year of declining global rice trade, with trade well below the 2002 record of 27.9 million tons.

On the export side, reduced trade forecasts for Vietnam, China, and Burma more than offset upward revisions in export forecasts for the United States and Venezuela. This month, USDA lowered Vietnam's 2004 export forecast 500,000 tons to 3.75 million based on tight supplies. China's export forecast was lowered 300,000 tons to 1.2 million—the smallest since 1997—a result of tight domestic supplies as well. Despite a bumper crop, Burma's export forecast was reduced 200,000 tons to 300,000 tons, a result of

Figure 13
Global rice imports in 2004 are projected to decline 9 percent

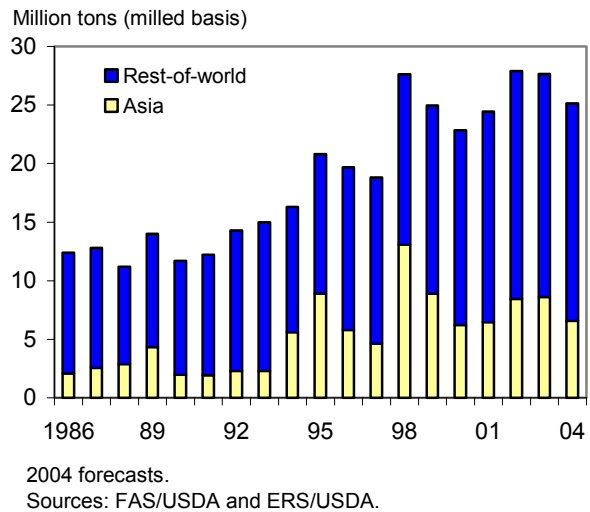
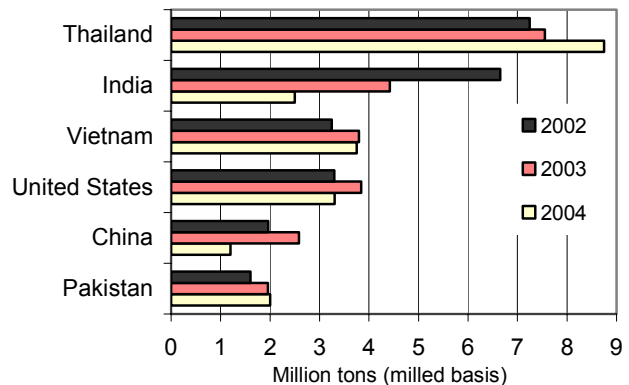


Figure 14
India, the United States, and China are projected to export less rice in 2004



2004 projected. These six countries account for more than 85 percent of global rice exports.
Source: FAS/USDA.

a government ban on exports. In contrast, U.S. exports for 2004 were raised 100,000 tons to 3.3 million based on reduced competition in global markets. Finally, Venezuela's 2004 export forecast was raised 35,000 tons to 60,000 based on adequate domestic supplies.

There were several major import revisions for 2004 this month. First, Indonesia's imports were lowered 750,000 tons to 1.25 million—the smallest since 1997—based on large domestic supplies. Second,

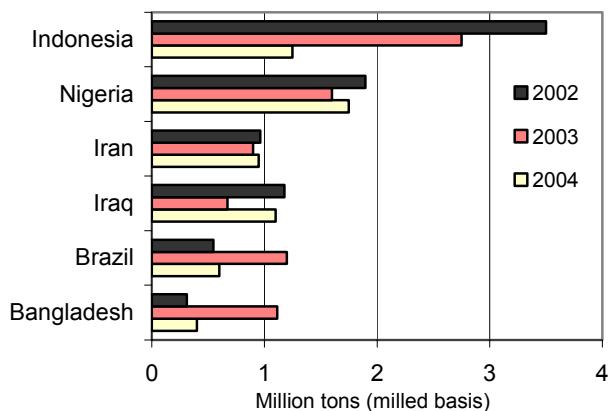
Turkey's import forecast was lowered 150,000 tons to 200,000. The Government of Turkey has placed a ban on new purchases. Adequate domestic supplies are behind a 120,000-ton drop in Venezuela's imports to 80,000 tons. Imports by the Philippines were lowered 100,000 tons to 900,000 due to very large domestic supplies. Large domestic supplies were also responsible for a 100,000-ton cut in Bangladesh's imports to 400,000. Import forecasts for 2004 were also lowered this month for Senegal, Iran, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

Nearly offsetting these 2004 import reductions were several increases. First, China's 2004 import forecast was raised 250,000 tons to 1 million based on recent purchases, announcements regarding import needs this year, and a very tight domestic supply situation. China's stocks have declined 50 percent since 2000/01. Peru's imports were raised 160,000 tons to 200,000 based on concerns over potential drought damage in 2004/05. Finally, the import forecast for the Dominican Republic was raised 40,000 tons to 75,000 based on purchases to date and a much smaller crop in 2003/04.

On an annual basis, a big decline in exports in 2004 from India, China, and the United States—as well as smaller reductions in 2004 in shipments from Burma and Vietnam—are expected to more than offset greater shipments from Thailand, Argentina, Australia, Uruguay, Egypt, and the EU. Despite no

Figure 15

Indonesia, Brazil, and Bangladesh are projected to sharply cut rice imports in 2004



2004 projected. These six countries account for about a third of global rice imports.
Source: FAS/USDA.

weather problems severely hindering 2003/04 production in any of the top six rice-exporting countries, exportable supplies are currently very tight, especially in Asia. This is a major factor behind recent increases in global trading prices.

Global rice trade for 2003 is estimated at 27.7 million tons, up fractionally from last month's estimate but 1 percent below the 2002 record. On the export side, 2003 forecasts were raised for Venezuela, Egypt, and Argentina. Revisions were based on shipment data. There was only one significant 2003 import revision. Venezuela's import forecast was lowered 49,000 tons to 76,000 based on sufficient domestic supplies.

Thailand's Export Prices Drop Slightly Following Big Boosts in March

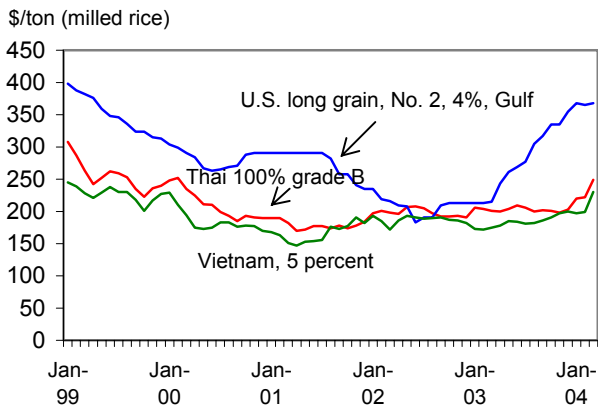
Thailand's export price quotes for most grades of regular-milled white rice have declined about \$10 per ton since mid-March, a result of a slowdown in new sales. Prices had risen sharply from January through late March, a result of large buying by China, announcements of upcoming food aid and commercial sales to Iraq, and tight exportable supplies in Asia. This was the first substantial increase in global rice trading prices since 1997/98 when El Nino damaged rice crops in Asia and South America.

For the week ending April 5, price quotes for high-quality Thai white rice (100-percent, Grade B, f.o.b. vessel, Bangkok) were reported at \$247 per ton, down \$10 from mid-March but up \$20 from a month earlier. Prices for Thailand's 5-percent regular milled white rice were quoted at \$241 per ton, also down \$10 from mid-March but up \$20 from early March. Prices for Thailand's 35-percent broken were quoted at \$227 per ton for the week ending April 5, down \$11 from mid-March but \$18 higher than a month earlier. All price quotes for Thailand are from the U.S. agricultural counselor in Bangkok.

Unlike other grades of Thailand's rice, export prices for broken have not declined much since mid-March, a result of tight supplies. Prices for Thailand's A-1 Special (100-percent broken) were quoted at \$216 per ton for the week ending April 5, down a few dollars from mid-March but up \$24 from a month earlier.

Figure 16

U.S. export prices for long grain milled rice are the highest in 5 years



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.

Tight supplies are severely limiting Vietnam’s ability to make new sales. Supplies from the winter-spring harvest—which was delayed about a month this year due to weather problems—are just starting to move into the market. Prices for Vietnam’s 5-percent broken (f.o.b. vessel Ho Chi Minh City) were quoted at \$243 per ton for the week ending April 5, up \$40 from late February and the highest since early 1999.

Price quotes for U.S. regular-milled long grain rice have increased since last month. Prices were flat in March. Price quotes for U.S. southern long grain

milled rice (No. 2, 4-percent broken, Houston) were reported at \$364 per ton for the week ending April 5, up \$11 from a month earlier. Prices are up about \$155 per ton from a year earlier and are the highest since April 1999. This year’s high prices are primarily due to much tighter U.S. supplies and a continued strong export pace through March. After adjusting the U.S. price to reflect a “free-on-board vessel” quote, U.S. prices are nearly \$132 per ton above prices for similar grades of Thai rice, up about \$20 from mid-March but nearly unchanged from a month earlier.

Price quotes for U.S. Texas parboiled rice are unchanged from a month earlier. For the week ending April 5, prices for long grain milled parboiled rice were quoted at \$397 per ton, up \$33 from a month earlier and \$88 higher than a year earlier.

Prices for high-quality California medium grain milled rice (No. 1, 4-percent broken, bagged, f.o.b. Sacramento) were quoted at \$573 per ton for the week ending April 5, up \$64 from a month earlier and \$286 above a year earlier, primarily due to a smaller California crop this year. These are the highest prices for California medium grain since the spring of 1994 when Japan began its emergency import purchases after harvesting a very weak rice crop in 1993.

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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

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

Item	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04 2/
TOTAL RICE						
Area	Million acres					
Planted	3.285	3.531	3.060	3.334	3.240	3.022
Harvested	3.257	3.512	3.039	3.314	3.207	2.997
	Pounds per harvested acre					
Yield	5,663	5,866	6,281	6,496	6,578	6,645
	Million cwt					
Beginning stocks	27.9	22.1	27.5	28.5	39.0	26.8
Production	184.4	206.0	190.9	215.3	211.0	199.2
Imports	10.6	10.1	10.9	13.2	14.8	14.0
Total supply	223.0	238.2	229.2	256.9	264.8	239.9
Food, industrial, & residual 3/	109.7	118.1	113.4	119.3	109.7	115.0
Seed	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.7	4.0
Total domestic use	114.0	121.9	117.5	123.3	113.4	119.0
Exports	86.8	88.8	83.2	94.7	124.6	99.0
Rough	25.8	25.2	22.8	32.2	43.0	40.0
Milled 4/	61.1	63.6	60.4	62.5	81.5	59.0
Total use	200.9	210.7	200.7	218.0	238.0	218.0
Ending stocks	22.1	27.5	28.5	39.0	26.8	21.9
	Percent					
Stocks-to-use ratio	11.0	13.0	14.2	17.9	11.2	10.0
	\$/cwt					
Average farm price 5/	8.89	5.93	5.61	4.25	4.49	7.45 to 7.75
	Percent					
Average milling rate	69.3	69.6	68.6	68.8	68.3	70.0

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

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

Updated April 9, 2004.

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

Item	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04 2/
LONG GRAIN						
Million acres						
Planted	2.589	2.731	2.206	2.713	2.537	2.332
Harvested	2.568	2.718	2.189	2.697	2.512	2.310
Pounds per harvested acre						
Yield	5,426	5,587	5,882	6,213	6,260	6,451
Million cwt						
Beginning stocks	14.5	14.1	15.6	11.6	26.8	15.7
Production	139.3	151.9	128.8	167.6	157.2	149.0
Imports	8.4	7.6	8.8	9.2	10.0	9.3
Total supply	162.2	173.5	153.1	188.3	194.1	173.9
Domestic use 3/	76.7	87.6	76.2	87.7	79.2	83.8
Exports	71.4	70.3	65.3	73.8	99.2	79.0
Total use	148.2	157.9	141.5	161.6	178.4	162.8
Ending stocks	14.1	15.6	11.6	26.8	15.7	11.2
Percent						
Stocks-to-use ratio	9.5	9.9	8.2	16.6	8.8	6.9
MEDIUM & SHORT GRAIN						
Million acres						
Planted	0.696	0.800	0.854	0.621	0.703	0.690
Harvested	0.689	0.794	0.850	0.617	0.695	0.687
Pounds per harvested acre						
Yield	6,548	6,822	7,308	7,733	7,729	7,299
Million cwt						
Beginning stocks	12.3	6.8	10.4	15.6	10.7	9.3
Production	45.1	54.2	62.1	47.7	53.7	50.1
Imports	2.2	2.5	2.1	4.0	4.8	4.8
Total supply 4/	59.6	63.3	74.8	67.1	68.9	64.2
Domestic use 3/	37.4	34.3	41.3	35.5	34.3	35.2
Exports	15.4	18.6	17.9	20.9	25.3	20.0
Total use	52.8	52.9	59.2	56.4	59.6	55.2
Ending stocks	6.8	10.4	15.6	10.7	9.3	8.9
Percent						
Stocks-to-use ratio	12.9	19.7	26.3	18.9	15.6	16.2
Ending stocks difference 1/	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.8

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

2/ Projected. 3/ Includes residual. 4/ 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 April 9, 2004.

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

Month	2003/04		2002/03		2001/02	
	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt	\$/cwt	1,000 cwt
August	5.27	9,692	3.94	10,892	5.01	12,443
September	6.13	15,923	4.09	12,313	4.67	9,496
October	6.44	19,247	4.03	14,429	4.39	12,415
November	6.99	11,750	4.24	12,338	4.25	11,093
December	7.57	16,424	4.46	15,059	4.29	11,215
January	8.19	19,884	4.66	19,860	4.30	16,415
February	7.74	12,921	4.24	13,141	4.16	11,694
March	7.72 1/	15,120 1/	4.31	14,553	3.99	9,718
April			4.61	14,502	3.94	11,270
May			4.84	10,113	3.98	9,841
June			5.43	9,691	3.92	8,884
July			5.31	11,755	3.81	8,288
Average 2/	7.10 1/	15,120 1/	4.49	13,221	4.25	11,064
Total 3/	7.45-7.75 4/			158,646		132,772

N/A = Not available.

1/ Preliminary mid-month estimate. 2/ Price is market year weighted average; 2003/04 is weighted average through current month only. 3/ Total volume marketed; 2003/04 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 April 9, 2004.

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	4.02	3.79	3.85	3.32	2.99	3.00	2.97	2.57	2.58
September	3.95	3.72	3.77	3.29	2.96	2.97	3.09	2.69	2.70
October	3.96	3.74	3.79	3.28	2.95	2.96	3.18	2.80	2.81
November	4.03	3.80	3.86	3.24	2.91	2.92	3.22	2.86	2.87
December	4.16	3.94	4.00	3.22	2.93	2.94	3.37	3.02	3.02
January	4.12	3.91	3.96	3.29	2.96	2.98	3.40	3.06	3.06
February	4.37	4.19	4.21	3.40	3.01	3.03	3.59	3.31	3.35
March	4.91	4.72	4.74	3.36	2.97	2.99	3.52	3.23	3.27
April 1/	5.50	5.29	5.32	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/	4.34	4.12	4.17	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 April 9, 2004.

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

Country or region	2003/04 as of 4/01/04	2002/03 as of 4/03/03	2002/03 Market year	2001/02 Market year	2000/01 Market year	1999/00 Market year
1,000 metric tons						
European Union	218.7	335.1	375.2	336.3	363.5	386.7
Other Western Europe	16.7	18.4	26.1	14.6	13.2	18.3
Turkey	76.1	207.2	209.9	141.3	170.8	230.7
Eastern Europe	1.2	9.5	9.7	5.4	0.6	0.5
Former Soviet Union	1.5	55.6	55.8	59.7	0.7	56.8
NORTHEAST ASIA	469.8	498.2	532.6	379.4	296.4	374.3
Japan	352.6	362.5	387.8	349.3	296.4	374.3
South Korea	55.2	40.0	40.1	30.1	0.0	0.0
Taiwan	62.0	95.7	104.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
OTHER ASIA & MIDDLE EAST	209.9	300.3	352.3	238.2	318.1	394.7
Indonesia	0.3	90.6	90.7	0.2	23.2	118.3
Jordan	6.2	19.2	18.7	23.7	13.7	21.2
Philippines	117.8	38.3	38.3	35.8	104.4	59.4
Saudi Arabia	63.1	110.2	115.7	101.0	140.1	150.5
AFRICA	59.9	201.2	219.3	181.2	181.6	171.1
Algeria	0.0	20.9	21.0	16.3	3.0	1.4
Cote d'Ivoire	0.8	21.9	29.9	13.7	12.3	20.4
Ghana	25.8	61.6	70.5	77.4	72.6	70.3
Liberia	10.7	16.9	8.9	8.0	9.3	2.9
South Africa	18.1	65.7	74.8	54.7	57.0	69.6
WESTERN HEMISPHERE	1,908.3	1,831.3	2,336.4	1,936.3	1,305.3	1,410.1
Brazil	221.1	190.7	327.0	0.2	2.0	4.4
Canada	133.5	168.1	157.1	105.5	99.8	101.9
Colombia	5.0	1.1	1.9	1.4	17.2	1.4
Costa Rica	133.5	168.1	161.3	160.7	81.6	84.0
Cuba	105.7	112.7	118.6	71.6	0.0	0.0
Dominican Republic	35.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	56.0	56.0
El Salvador	78.6	57.8	74.2	93.5	40.4	55.3
Guatemala	69.8	34.6	53.6	76.2	35.6	41.9
Haiti	213.3	240.6	297.6	249.7	157.9	144.4
Honduras	94.9	90.4	128.7	163.1	105.6	113.6
Jamaica	46.3	35.2	58.7	19.4	31.5	34.7
Leeward & Windward Is.	7.5	6.1	7.4	7.2	4.2	11.1
Mexico	645.3	566.9	694.7	740.3	582.6	629.2
Nicaragua	120.8	80.1	118.0	156.7	85.2	94.8
Panama	0.2	0.2	8.5	38.9	2.3	14.8
Peru	4.6	1.3	1.3	0.7	1.0	19.4
Trinidad	25.0	22.7	22.7	15.6	9.0	0.2
Venezuela	39.0	46.0	56.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Unknown	0.0	42.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	2,961.9	3,491.7	4,077.1	3,269.0	2,650.8	3,043.9

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 April 9, 2004.

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	Long grain parboiled Texas	Medium grain 4/ California	100% Grade B	5% parboiled	15% brokens	35% brokens	A.1 7/ Special	5% brokens
\$ / metric ton 8/									
1995/96	414	456	445	362	344	335	302	265	N/A
1996/97	450	479	415	338	323	303	259	216	N/A
1997/98	415	455	396	302	292	275	237	197	269
1998/99	369	418	470	284	276	261	236	217	257
1999/2000	284	395	454	231	242	209	185	160	202
2000/01	272	357	313	184	187	167	149	132	165
2001/02	267	334	243	174	202	160	149	141	176
Aug 2002	176	265	265	197	195	183	171	148	190
Sep 2002	195	283	265	192	194	179	169	149	191
Oct 2002	198	287	265	192	195	179	171	157	187
Nov 2002	198	287	265	193	196	180	173	158	186
Dec 2002	198	287	265	191	190	180	171	154	182
Jan 2003	198	287	265	206	196	193	182	152	173
Feb 2003	198	287	282	204	196	191	179	150	172
Mar 2003	200	289	287	201	193	188	177	146	175
Apr 2003	229	306	287	200	191	186	175	141	178
May 2003	246	309	287	204	193	189	177	143	185
June 2003	254	309	331	209	200	195	183	151	184
July 2003	262	309	370	206	203	190	179	151	181
2002/03	213	292	286	199	195	186	175	150	182
Aug 2003	290	334	425	200	199	185	175	150	182
Sep 2003	302	342	430	202	203	187	177	155	186
Oct 2003	320	342	485	201	204	187	178	157	191
Nov 2003	320	342	485	198	201	185	176	158	197
Dec 2003	340	349	511	203	198	189	181	162	200
Jan 2004	353	364	521	220	209	204	195	171	197
Feb 2004	350	364	507	222	215	207	197	183	199
Mar 2004	353	372	507	249	247	236	227	212	230
Apr 2004 9/	364	397	573	247	250	234	227	216	243
2003/04 9/	332	356	494	216	214	201	193	174	203

N/A = Not available. N/Q = No quote.

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. Agricultural counselor, Bangkok. 6/ f.o.b. Saigon. Price quotes from industry sources. 7/ 100-percent brokens.

8/ Bagged. 9/ Preliminary.

Last updated April 9, 2004.

Table 7--Global rice production, monthly revisions

	2002/03			2003/04 1/		
	March	April	Monthly change	March	April	Monthly change
	1,000 metric tons					
Argentina	467	467	0	579	596	17
Brazil	6,935	6,935	0	8,100	8,300	200
Burma	10,440	10,788	348	10,440	10,730	290
Chile	80	90	10	80	77	-3
Ecuador	450	450	0	440	420	-20
Egypt	3,705	3,705	0	3,900	3,972	72
India	75,700	72,700	-3,000	89,000	88,000	-1,000
Indonesia	33,411	33,411	0	34,508	34,250	-258
Japan	8,089	8,089	0	7,080	7,091	11
Mexico	133	133	0	114	168	54
Pakistan	4,228	4,479	251	4,900	4,900	0
Thailand	17,124	17,198	74	17,800	17,700	-100
Turkey	234	234	0	240	255	15
Ukraine	50	49	-1	55	55	0
Others	219,507	219,507	0	213,706	213,706	0
World total	380,553	378,235	-2,318	390,942	390,220	-722

1/ Projected.

Source: Global production projections are provided monthly by USDA's Interagency Commodity Estimates

Last updated April 14, 2004.

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

	2003			2004 1/		
	March	April	Monthly changes	March	April	Monthly changes
	1,000 metric tons (milled basis)					
Exporters:						
Argentina	160	170	10	350	350	0
Australia	141	141	0	300	300	0
Burma	388	388	0	500	300	-200
China	2,583	2,583	0	1,500	1,200	-300
Egypt	550	579	29	700	700	0
Guyana	175	175	0	175	175	0
India	4,421	4,421	0	2,500	2,500	0
Pakistan	1,958	1,958	0	2,000	2,000	0
Thailand	7,552	7,552	0	8,750	8,750	0
Uruguay	675	675	0	750	750	0
Venezuela	25	60	35	25	60	35
Vietnam	3,795	3,795	0	4,250	3,750	-500
European Union	325	325	0	350	350	0
Others	985	985	0	662	662	0
United States	3,843	3,843	0	3,200	3,300	100
World total	27,576	27,650	74	26,012	25,147	-865
Importers:						
Bangladesh	1,112	1,112	0	500	400	-100
Brazil	1,200	1,200	0	600	600	0
Canada	242	242	0	250	250	0
China	258	258	0	750	1,000	250
Colombia	75	75	0	90	90	0
Costa Rica	95	95	0	100	100	0
Cote d'Ivoire	750	750	0	750	750	0
Cuba	371	371	0	550	550	0
Dominican Republic	8	8	0	35	75	40
El Salvador	74	74	0	75	75	0
Ghana	357	357	0	300	300	0
Guinea	350	350	0	300	300	0
Haiti	345	345	0	300	300	0
Honduras	88	88	0	100	100	0
Indonesia	2,750	2,750	0	2,000	1,250	-750
Iran	900	900	0	1,000	950	-50
Iraq	672	672	0	1,100	1,100	0
Jamaica	47	47	0	50	50	0
Japan	654	654	0	650	650	0
Korea, North	633	633	0	300	300	0
Korea, South	179	179	0	205	205	0
Malaysia	500	500	0	550	550	0
Mexico	575	575	0	600	600	0
Nigeria	1,600	1,600	0	1,750	1,750	0
Nicaragua	101	102	1	100	100	0
Peru	32	32	0	40	200	160
Philippines	1,300	1,300	0	1,000	900	-100
Russia	385	385	0	350	350	0
Saudi Arabia	1,150	1,150	0	950	950	0
Senegal	750	750	0	825	750	-75
Singapore	375	375	0	375	375	0
South Africa	725	725	0	650	650	0
Sri Lanka	29	29	0	50	30	-20
Syria	190	190	0	170	170	0
Taiwan	135	135	0	125	125	0
Turkey	350	350	0	350	200	-150
Uzbekistan	25	25	0	50	25	-25
UAE	80	80	0	80	80	0
Venezuela	125	76	-49	200	80	-120
Yemen	250	250	0	250	250	0
European Union	975	975	0	975	975	0
Other Western Europe	65	65	0	50	50	0
Eastern Europe	348	348	0	350	350	0
United States	442	442	0	470	450	-20
Other 2/	5,909	6,031	122	5,697	5,792	95
World total	27,576	27,650	74	26,012	25,147	-865

All trade data reported on a calendar year basis.

1/ Projected. 2/ Includes countries not listed separately as well as imports not assigned a specific destination.

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

Last updated April 14, 2004.