



Rice Outlook: February 2023
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Rice Outlook monthly tables, in Excel format, can be found on the Rice Outlook report page on USDA's Economic Research Service website.

U.S. Rice Exports Forecast to be the Lowest Since 1985/86

There were several revisions this month to the U.S. 2022/23 rice balance sheet. On the supply-side, imports were lowered 3.0 million hundredweight (cwt) to 42.0 million, still the highest on record. At 242.1 million cwt, total U.S. rice supplies are forecast to be the lowest since 2003/04. On the 2022/23 use side, exports were lowered 4.0 million cwt to 62.0 million, the lowest since 1985/86. Reductions were made for both milled- and rough-rice exports and for both long-grain and medium- and short-grain rice exports. On balance, these supply and use revisions resulted in a 1.0-million cwt increase in the ending stocks forecast to 33.1 million, still 17 percent below a year earlier. The 2022/23 season-average farm-price (SAFP) forecast for long-grain rice was raised 20 cents to \$16.90 per cwt, the highest on record. The higher long-grain SAFP raised the all-rice SAFP 20 cents to a record \$19.40 per cwt.

In the global rice market, 2022/23 production remains forecast at 503.0 million tons, 2 percent below a year earlier. Upward production revisions for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Uzbekistan were offset by reductions for Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, the European Union, and Vietnam. The 2022/23 global consumption and residual use forecast was increased 1.1 million tons to 517.2 million, with Bangladesh, China, and Thailand accounting for the bulk of the upward revision. The 2022/23 global ending stocks forecast was lowered 0.85 million tons to 169.1 million tons, with China and India accounting for the bulk of the downward revision.

The global rice export forecast for calendar year 2023 was lowered 0.2 million tons to 54.2 million, as reduced forecasts for Pakistan, Thailand, and Vietnam more than offset a stronger forecast for India. Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's and Vietnam's trading prices for most grades of regular whole-grain milled rice rose 2–3 percent, while India's nominal price quotes (no offers) increased around 10 percent. U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled rice continued to increase over the past month, while quotes for California medium-grain milled rice remain record high.

Table A. U.S. all-rice supply and use at a glance, 2020/21–2022/23							
Balance sheet item	2020/21	2021/22	2021/22 Changes from previous year	2022/23 January	2022/23 February	2022/23 Changes from previous month	2022/23 Comments and analysis
Supply ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Beginning stocks	28.7	43.7	15.0	39.7	39.7	0.0	
Production	227.5	191.6	-35.9	160.4	160.4	0.0	
Imports	34.1	37.8	3.7	45.0	42.0	-3.0	Lowered based on trade data through December and expectations regarding purchases the remainder of 2022/23. Imports remain projected record high.
Total Supply	290.2	273.0	-17.2	245.1	242.1	-3.0	A smaller import forecast. Total supplies are the smallest since 2003/04.
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	153.1	151.1	-1.9	147.0	147.0	0.0	
Exports	93.5	82.2	-11.3	66.0	62.0	-4.0	A weaker-than-expected pace of sales and shipments through late January and expectations of continued uncompetitive prices.
Rough	34.6	28.3	-6.4	20.0	18.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected pace of sales to Latin America, the top market for U.S. rough rice.
Milled	58.9	53.9	-5.0	46.0	44.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected pace of sales to Northeast Asia, a major market for U.S. milled rice.
Total use	246.6	233.3	-13.3	213.0	209.0	-4.0	A smaller export forecast.
Ending stocks	43.7	39.7	-4.0	32.1	33.1	1.0	Reduced exports more than offset a smaller import forecast.
Price ----- Dollars per hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Season-average farm price (SAFP)	\$14.40	\$16.10	\$1.70	\$19.20	\$19.40	\$0.20	A higher long-grain SAFPF forecast. The all-rice SAFPF is record high.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Table B. U.S. rice supply and use at a glance, by class, 2021/22 and 2022/23							
Balance sheet item	2020/21	2021/22	2021/22 Changes from previous year	2022/23 January	2022/23 February	2022/23 Changes from previous month	2022/23 Comments and analysis
LONG-GRAIN							
Supply ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Beginning stocks	16.9	29.7	12.8	24.6	24.6	0.0	
Production	170.8	144.6	-26.2	128.2	128.2	0.0	
Imports	27.4	30.7	3.3	35.0	33.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected purchases through December from top supplier Thailand. Imports remain record high.
Total supply	215.1	205.0	-10.1	187.8	185.8	-2.0	A smaller import forecast.
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	120.3	119.7	-0.6	117.0	117.0	0.0	
Exports	65.0	60.6	-4.4	49.0	47.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected sales and shipments through late January and continued uncompetitive prices. Sales have been especially weak to Latin America, the top market for U.S. long-grain rice.
Total use	185.3	180.3	-5.0	166.0	164.0	-2.0	A smaller export forecast.
Ending stocks	29.7	24.6	-5.1	21.8	21.8	0.0	
Price 1/ ----- Dollars per hundredweight -----							
Season-average farm price (SAFP)	\$12.60	\$13.60	\$1.00	\$16.70	\$16.90	\$0.20	Reported cash prices and marketings through December and expectations regarding prices and marketings the remainder of 2022/23. The SAFP is record high.
MEDIUM- AND SHORT-GRAIN							
Supply ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Beginning stocks	10.7	11.5	0.7	13.0	13.0	0.0	
Production	56.7	47.0	-9.7	32.2	32.2	0.0	
Imports	6.7	7.1	0.4	10.0	9.0	-1.0	Slower-than-expected pace of imports through December. Imports remain forecast record high.
Total Supply	72.7	66.0	-6.7	55.3	54.3	-1.0	A smaller import forecast.
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	32.8	31.4	-1.4	30.0	30.0	0.0	
Exports	28.5	21.5	-6.9	17.0	15.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected sales and shipments through late January, tight supplies, and uncompetitive prices.
Total use	61.2	53.0	-8.3	47.0	45.0	-2.0	A smaller export forecast.
Ending stocks	11.5	13.0	1.6	8.3	9.3	1.0	A weaker export forecast more than offset reduced imports.
Price 1/ ----- Dollars per hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Southern medium- and short-grain	\$13.00	\$13.90	\$0.90	\$17.60	\$17.60	\$0.00	
California medium- and short-grain	\$22.60	\$31.90	\$9.30	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$0.00	
U.S. medium- and short-grain	\$20.10	\$26.40	\$6.30	\$29.20	\$29.20	\$0.00	

1/ Season-average farm price.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Table C. U.S. rice harvested area, yield, and production, by State and U.S. total

State and U.S. total	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change from previous year	
						Quantity	Percent
----- 1,000 acres -----							
Harvested area							
Arkansas	1,422	1,126	1,441	1,193	1,084	-109	-9.1
California	504	501	514	405	254	-151	-37.3
Louisiana	436	414	473	413	415	2	0.5
Mississippi	139	113	165	99	84	-15	-15.2
Missouri	220	173	214	194	149	-45	-23.2
Texas	189	150	179	181	186	5	2.8
U.S. total	2,910	2,477	2,986	2,485	2,172	-313	-12.6
South	2,406	1,976	2,472	2,080	1,918	-162	-7.8
----- Pounds per acre -----							
Yield							
Arkansas	7,520	7,480	7,500	7,630	7,410	-220	-2.9
California	8,620	8,460	8,720	9,050	8,760	-290	-3.2
Louisiana	7,130	6,380	6,820	6,870	6,660	-210	-3.1
Mississippi	7,350	7,350	7,420	7,540	7,370	-170	-2.3
Missouri	7,770	7,370	7,250	8,040	7,940	-100	-1.2
Texas	7,970	7,350	8,150	6,860	6,510	-350	-5.1
U.S. average	7,692	7,473	7,619	7,709	7,383	-326	-4.2
South	7,498	7,224	7,391	7,448	7,201	-247	-3.3
----- 1,000 cwt -----							
Production							
Arkansas	106,947	84,257	108,107	91,063	80,340	-10723	-11.8
California	43,425	42,362	44,810	36,653	22,251	-14402	-39.3
Louisiana	31,094	26,408	32,237	28,380	27,649	-731	-2.6
Mississippi	10,217	8,302	12,241	7,465	6,191	-1274	-17.1
Missouri	17,090	12,747	15,522	15,599	11,832	-3767	-24.1
Texas	15,060	11,028	14,597	12,421	12,105	-316	-2.5
U.S. total	223,833	185,104	227,514	191,581	160,368	-31213	-16.3
South	180,408	142,742	182,704	154,928	138,117	-16811	-10.9

These six States account for almost 100 percent of U.S. rice acreage and production. Production and yield are rough basis.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service; USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Domestic Outlook

U.S. 2022/23 Rice Import Forecast Lowered 3.0 Million Cwt

There were no revisions this month to the 2022/23 U.S. rice production estimates. In January, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released yearend area, yield, and production estimates for 2022/23 by class and by State that are reported in Table C.

However, the 2022/23 import forecast was lowered 3.0 million cwt to 42.0 million, still 11 percent above a year earlier and the highest on record. The downward revision was based on the delivery pace through December reported by the U.S. Census Bureau and expectations regarding purchases the remainder of the market year. In December, the United States imported 77,010 tons (product weight) of rice, down 4 percent from the previous month. Import forecasts were lowered for both classes of rice.

Long-grain rice imports were lowered 2.0 million cwt to 33.0 million, still 7.5 percent larger than a year earlier and the highest on record. The downward revision was largely based on weaker-than-expected shipments from Thailand since October. Thailand is the largest supplier of long-grain rice to the United States, with its premium jasmine rice accounting for the bulk of these imports. Despite the slower-than-expected pace of shipments this fall, Thailand's August–December total long-grain shipments to the United States were the highest on record, due to strong shipments in August and September.

U.S. 2022/23 medium- and short-grain imports are forecast at 9.0 million cwt, down 1.0 million from the previous forecast but still 27 percent above a year earlier and the highest on record. The current forecast assumes three more shipments of 21,000 tons each from China to Puerto Rico, plus additional shipments from Australia to offset the small California harvest. Through December, Australia had supplied two 10,000 ton-plus shipments of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States.

With carryin also unchanged from the previous estimate, total U.S. rice supplies in 2022/23 are now forecast at 242.1 million cwt, 3.0 million cwt below the previous forecast and 11 percent below a year earlier. These are the smallest total U.S. rice supplies since 2003/04. Long-grain supplies are projected at 185.8 million cwt, 2.0 million below the previous forecast and 9 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2017/18. Medium- and short-grain supplies are projected at 54.3 million cwt, 1.0 million cwt less than the previous forecast, 18 percent smaller than a year earlier and the lowest since 1988/89.

U.S. 2022/23 Rice Export Forecast Lowered Again

The U.S. 2022/23 all-rice export forecast was lowered 4.0 million cwt to 62.0 million cwt, down 24.5 percent from a year earlier and the lowest since 1985/86. The downward revision was largely based on sales and shipments through late January, expectations regarding sales and shipments for the remainder of the market year, and expectations of continued uncompetitive U.S. prices. The U.S. 2022/23 rough-rice export forecast was again lowered this month by 2.0 million cwt to 18.0 million cwt. Rough-rice exports are now projected to be 36 percent below a

year earlier and are the lowest since 1996/97. Virtually all U.S. rough-rice exports are shipped to Latin America.

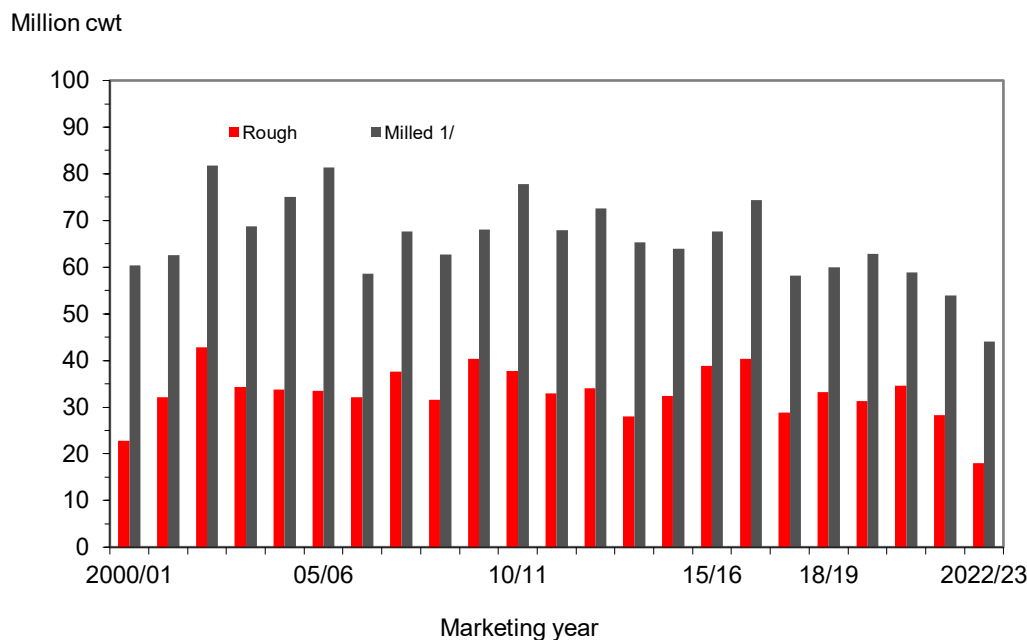
The expected substantial year-to-year decline in U.S. rough-rice exports is primarily due to strong price competition from several South American exporters—especially Brazil and Uruguay—that has sharply eroded the U.S. market share in Mexico and several Central American countries. Of these two South American exporters, Brazil is currently shipping the most rice to Mexico—the largest U.S. rough-rice single-country market—and to Central America. Brazil has currently replaced the United States as the top supplier of rice to Mexico and is also shipping substantial amounts of rice to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.

The U.S. 2022/23 milled-rice export forecast was lowered 2.0 million cwt to 44.0 million cwt, 18 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1965/66. Northeast Asia, the Middle East, and Canada are the top markets for U.S. milled rice exports. U.S. long-grain milled-rice exports are limited by high prices compared with those of suppliers in both South America and Asia. U.S. medium- and short-grain milled-rice exports are further limited by extremely tight supplies of California rice stemming from another year of severe drought, which has boosted U.S. prices record high.

The long-grain 2022/23 export forecast was lowered 2.0 million cwt to 47.0 million cwt, down 22 percent from a year earlier and the lowest since 1985/86. Latin America remains the largest market for U.S. long-grain exports, followed by the Middle East and Canada. The United States is facing increasing competition from several South American exporters in key Latin American markets. In December, the United States exported 173,159 tons (product weight) of long-grain rice, up 75 percent from a month earlier, largely due to a 44,000-ton shipment to Iraq and 27,500 tons shipped to Nicaragua.

The medium- and short-grain 2022/23 export forecast was lowered 2.0 million cwt to 15.0 million, 30 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1992/93. The United States is expected to make few sales of medium- and short-grain rice outside of its core milled-rice markets in Northeast Asia, Jordan, and Canada (plus smaller sales of rough-rice to Mexico) due to record-high prices and very tight supplies. Through late January, U.S. sales and shipments to both Japan and South Korea were well behind a year earlier, a result of tight supplies in California and record-high U.S. prices.

Figure 1
U.S. rough-rice exports projected to decline 36 percent in 2022/23



Cwt = Hundredweight. 2022/23 are forecasts. 1/ Milled- and brown-rice exports on a rough-rice basis.
 Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, *Rice Yearbook* dataset; 2000/01–2019/20; USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, 2020/21–2022/23.

All-rice total domestic and residual use in 2022/23 remains forecast at 147.0 million cwt, 3 percent below a year earlier. The decline is based on reduced supplies of U.S. rice and fewer post-harvest losses resulting from a smaller crop. Long-grain domestic and residual use remains forecast at 117.0 million cwt, 2 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 2017/18. Medium- and short-grain domestic and residual use remains forecast at 30.0 million cwt, the smallest since 2014/15, a decline largely due to a weak California harvest.

In late January, USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service revised monthly reported cash prices and marketings for 2021/22 that resulted in upward revisions for both the California medium- and short-grain season-average farm price (SAFP) and the U.S. medium- and short-grain SAFP. The California medium- and short-grain 2021/22 SAFP was raised \$3.40 to \$31.90 per cwt, up 41 percent from a year earlier. The U.S. 2021/22 medium- and short-grain SAFP was increased \$1.60 to \$26.40 per cwt, up 31 percent from a year earlier. The 2021/22 long-grain SAFP remains forecast at \$13.60 per cwt and the 2021/22 all-rice SAFP remains forecast at \$16.10 per cwt. NASS also revised August–December 2022 reported cash prices and marketings.

International Outlook

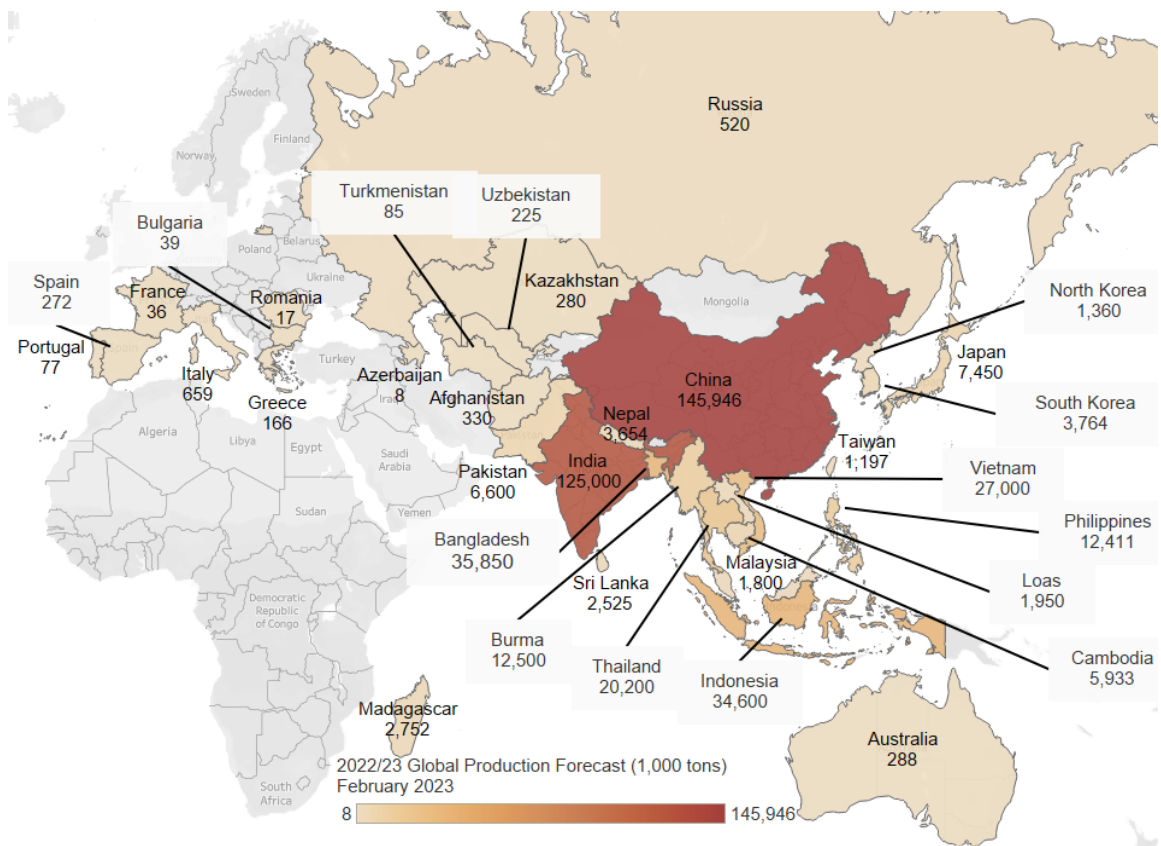
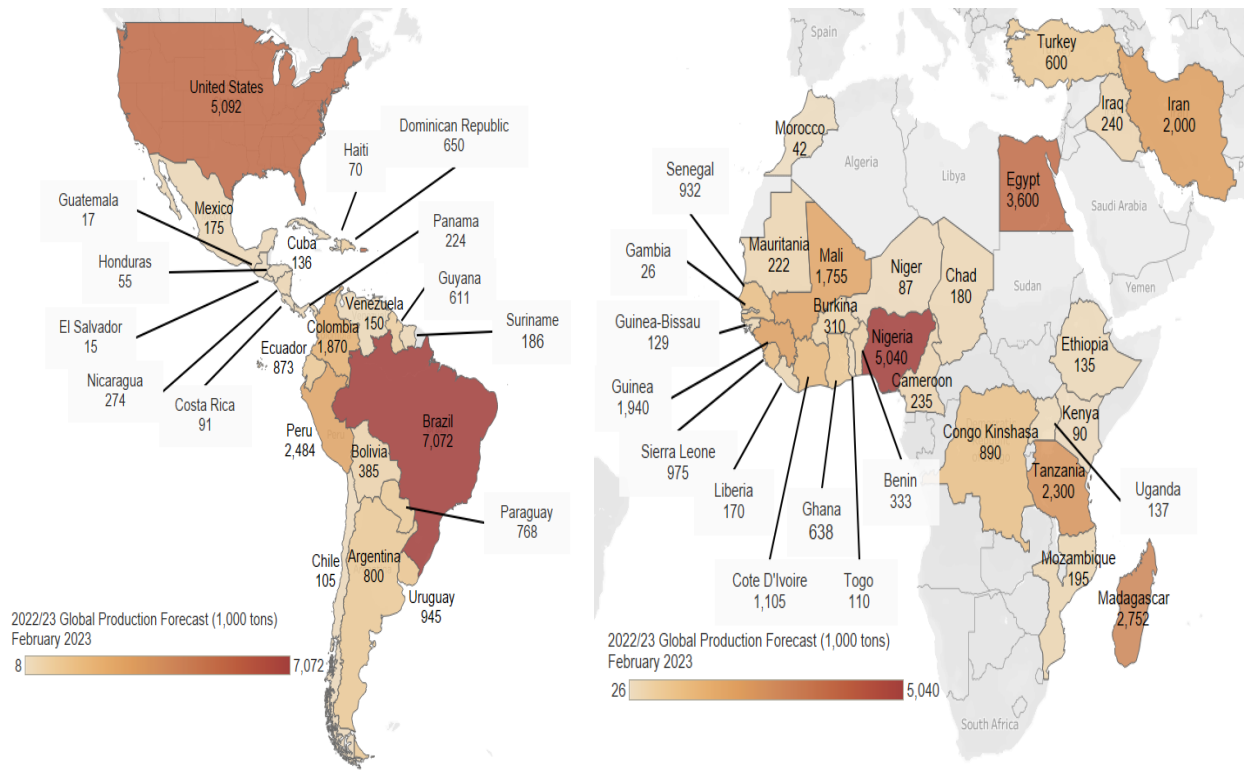
Rice Production Forecasts for 2022/23 Raised for Bangladesh and Sri Lanka but Lowered for Argentina, Brazil, and Vietnam

Global rice production in 2022/23 is forecast at 503.0 million tons (milled basis), virtually unchanged from the previous estimate but more than 2 percent below the year-earlier record and the first year-to-year decline since 2015/16. Global production is the smallest since 2019/20. This month, upward production revisions for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Uzbekistan were offset by reductions for Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, the European Union, and Vietnam.

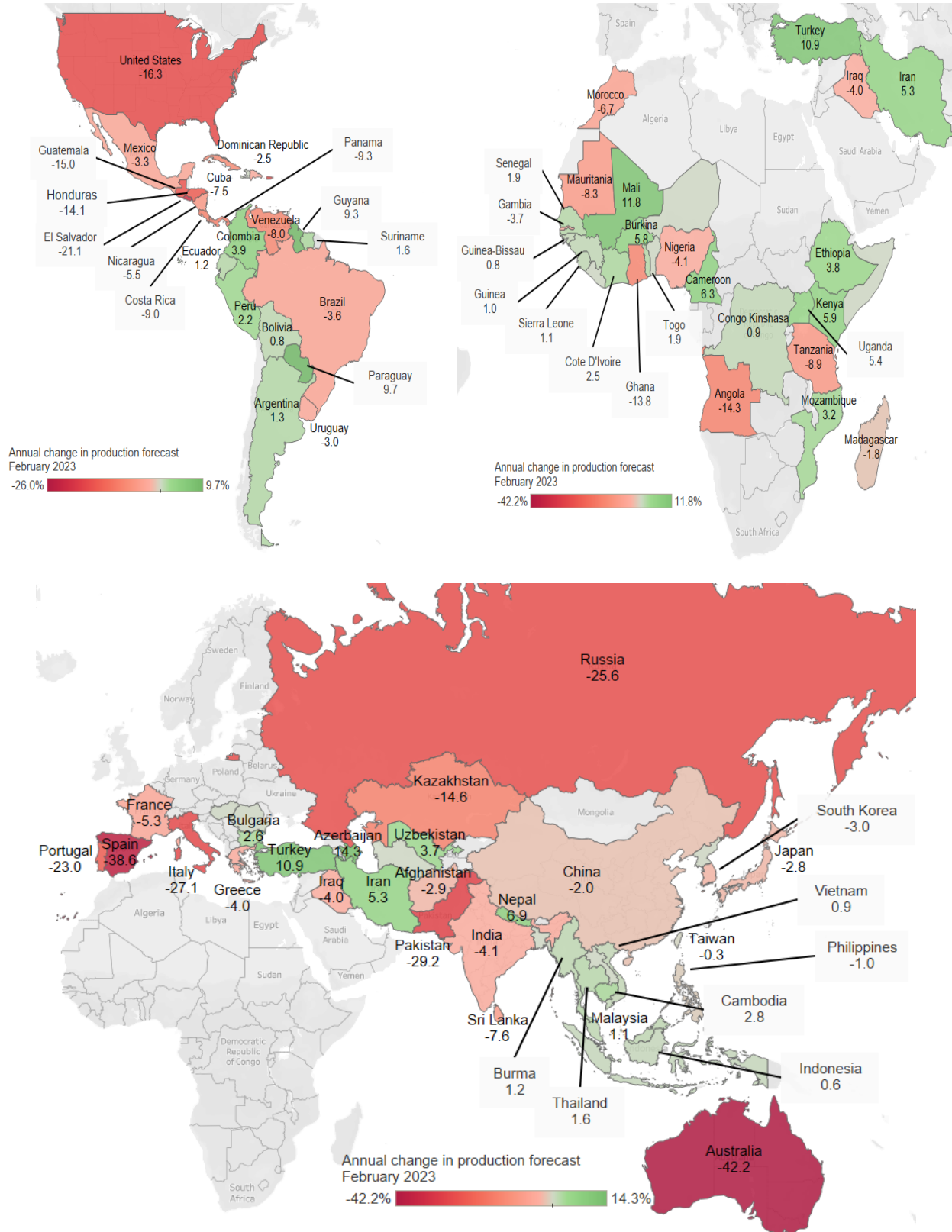
A slightly larger carryin estimate raised the 2022/23 global total supply forecast 0.2 million tons to 686.3 million tons, more than 2 percent below the year-earlier record and the smallest since 2019/20. This is the first decline in global rice supplies since 2004/05.

The 2022/23 global consumption and residual use forecast was increased 1.1 million tons this month to 517.2 million, still down 2.7 million tons from the year-earlier revised record. Bangladesh, China, and Thailand account for the bulk of the 2022/23 upward revision in global consumption and residual use, which more than offset reductions for Brazil, Indonesia, Mali, and Tanzania.

Map 1: Production forecasts (milled basis) 2022/23



Map 2: Annual percent change in production forecasts 2022/23



Source: Created by USDA, Economic Research Service with data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *Production, Supply and Distribution* database.

Table D. Global rice production, selected monthly revisions and year-to-year changes, February 2023						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from previous month	Percent change from previous year	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation and comments on month-to-month change
Rice production in 2022/23, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Argentina	800	-30	1.3	↓	↑	Reduced the production forecast based on a lower yield due to dry conditions and limited irrigation water. The yield was lowered almost 4 percent to 6.48 tons per hectare, the lowest since 2009/10.
Bangladesh	35,850	200	0.0	↑	→	The small increase in the production estimate is based on a larger-than-expected aman crop that was harvested November-December. Information for this revision was provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Dhaka.
Brazil	7,072	-163	-3.6	↓	↓	Lowered the production forecast based on a reduced harvested area estimate. At 1.47 million hectares, harvested area is 50,000 hectares below the previous forecast and the lowest since the 1940s. Production is projected to be the smallest since 2002/03.
Cuba	136	-14	-7.5	↓	↓	Reduced the production forecast based on a lower expected yield caused by a continued lack of inputs. Production is the smallest since 1993/94.
European Union	1,272	-13	-26.0	↓	↓	Production estimate was lowered based on a smaller-than-expected harvest in Spain, the EU's second largest rice producing country.
Sri Lanka	2,525	125	-7.6	↑	↓	Raised the production forecast based on an increase in the projected maha crop harvest due to larger-than-expected plantings reported by the Government of Sri Lanka. The maha is the largest of Sri Lanka's two annual rice crops, with harvest expected February-April.
Thailand	20,200	100	1.6	↑	↑	Increased the production forecast due to a higher expected yield for the dry-season harvest that begins in March. The higher yield is based on abundant supplies of irrigation water.
Uzbekistan	225	27	3.7	↑	↑	Raised the production estimate based on a higher yield reported by the Government of Uzbekistan. This is Uzbekistan's largest rice crop since 1999/2000.
Vietnam	27,000	-225	0.9	↓	↑	Lowered the production forecast based on a reduced harvested area estimate. At 7.17 million hectares, harvested area is 105,000 hectares below the previous forecast and the lowest since 1996/97.
Rice production in 2021/22, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Australia	498	-2	63.3	↓	↑	Reduced the crop estimate based on slightly lower harvested area reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
European Union	1,719	-4	-5.9	↓	↓	Lowered the production estimate based on a reduced crop estimate for Spain.
Uzbekistan	217	23	13.6	↑	↑	Raised the production estimate based on a higher yield reported by the Government of Uzbekistan.
Vietnam	26,796	-175	-2.2	↓	↓	Lowered the crop estimate largely based on a reduced harvested area estimate for the summer-autumn crop. Harvested area declined in 2021/22 for all three crops--the winter-spring, the summer autumn, and the 10th month crop--mostly due to high input costs and area shifts to more profitable crops.

Source: Created by USDA, Economic Research Service with data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *Production, Supply and Distribution* database.

This month, the 2022/23 global ending stocks forecast was lowered 0.85 million tons to 169.1 million tons, 8 percent below the year-earlier revised estimate and the second consecutive year of a decline. Global ending stocks in 2022/23 are forecast to be the lowest since 2017/18. Brazil, China, and India account for the bulk of this month's reduction in the 2022/23 global ending stocks forecast, which more than offset upward revisions for Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Export Forecasts for 2023 Raised for India but Lowered for Pakistan, Thailand, and Vietnam

Global rice trade in calendar year 2023 was lowered 0.2 million tons to 54.2 million tons, almost 4 percent below the year-earlier revised record and the first decline since 2019. On an annual basis, Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, the European Union, India, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Russia, Tanzania, the United States, Uruguay, and Vietnam are all expected to decrease exports in 2023. In contrast, Australia, Burma, and Thailand are projected to export more rice this year.

On the 2023 global import side, Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guinea, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam are projected to import less rice in 2023 than in 2022. In contrast, Congo (Kinshasa), Ecuador, the European Union, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Japan, North Korea, Kuwait, Libya, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Panama, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, the United States, and Venezuela are projected to import more rice in 2023. U.S. and European Union imports are projected record high in 2023.

Table F. Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2023

Country or region	Current forecast	Change from previous month	Percent change from previous year	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of month-to-month change
Rice importers, 2023						
Bangladesh	600	100	-33.3	↑	↓	Increased the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2022 and high wheat prices that are encouraging more consumption of rice.
Burkina Faso	600	-50	0.0	↓	→	Reduced the import forecast based on weaker-than-expected imports in 2022.
Guinea-Bissau	100	-30	100	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on weaker-than-expected imports in 2022.
Mauritania	80	-20	14.3	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on weaker-than-expected imports in 2022.
Sri Lanka	600	-100	-23.4	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on a larger crop. India is the largest supplier of rice to Sri Lanka.
Tanzania	200	-50	11.1	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on increased supplies due to larger-than-expected imports in late 2022.
Turkey	450	50	-5.9	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on recommendation from the U.S. Agricultural Office in Ankara. In late 2021, Turkey suspended its import duties on rice until August 31, 2023.
United Arab Emirates	900	-50	-10.0	↓	↓	Reduced the import forecast based on increased supplies due to larger-than-expected imports in 2022.
United States	1,375	-50	4.8	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on weaker-than-expected purchases in late 2022, especially purchases of jasmine rice from Thailand, the top supplier of rice to the United States. U.S. imports remain projected record-high.

Continued--

Table F - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2023--continued						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from previous month	Percent change from previous year	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of month-to-month change
Rice importers, 2022						
Afghanistan	500	125	56.7	↑	↑	Raised imports to a record-high based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in late 2022.
Bangladesh	900	100	-66.0	↑	↓	Increased the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in late 2022, with India the top supplier.
Burkina Faso	600	-50	-7.7	↓	↓	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data.
China	6,155	-45	25.1	↓	↑	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data. Despite the downward revision, imports were record high, with India, Pakistan, Vietnam, Burma, and Thailand the top suppliers.
Egypt	600	-100	84.0	↓	↑	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data. India and China are the top suppliers of rice to Egypt.
Ghana	650	-50	-38.1	↓	↓	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data. Vietnam is the largest supplier of rice to Ghana, followed by India and Pakistan.
Indonesia	650	-100	0.0	↓	→	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data. India is the largest supplier of rice to Indonesia, followed by Pakistan, Thailand, and Vietnam.
Iran	1,250	50	42.9	↑	↑	Raised the import estimate based on yearend trade data. India and Pakistan are the largest suppliers of rice to Iran.
Iraq	2,124	124	61.5	↑	↑	Increased the import estimate to a record-high based on yearend trade data. Thailand supplied the bulk of Iraq's rice imports in 2022.
Japan	634	-51	-4.2	↓	↓	Lowered the import estimate based on yearend trade data. The United States and Thailand were the largest suppliers of rice to Japan.
Mali	700	-100	133.3	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on a recent weaker-than-expected pace of purchases. Imports are still record high.
Mexico	825	50	8.7	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in late 2022, with Brazil now the largest supplier.
Tanzania	180	60	80.0	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases from Pakistan.
United Arab Emirates	1,000	100	33.3	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast to record-high based on a recent stronger-than-expected pace of purchases.
United States	1,315	15	34.5	↑	↑	Raised the import estimate based on yearend trade data.
Venezuela	450	-50	-25.0	↓	↓	Reduced the import estimate based on yearend trade data.

Source: Created by USDA, Economic Research Service with data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply, and Distribution database.

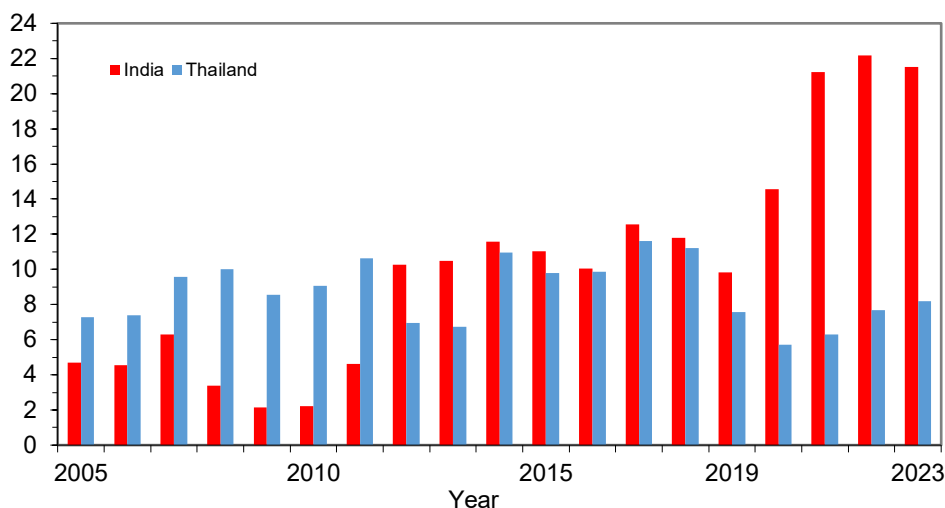
Table G - Selected rice exporters at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2023						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from previous month	Percent change from previous year	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of month-to-month change in forecast
Rice exporters, 2023						
India	21,500	1,000	-3.0	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on expectation of continued competitive prices compared with other Asian suppliers and recent stronger-than-expected sales.
Pakistan	3,800	-200	-16.0	↓	↓	Reduced the export forecast based on larger expected global exports from main-competitor India and a recent slower-than-expected pace of shipments in late 2022.
Senegal	90	-35	0.0	↓	→	Reduced the export forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases by Mali, the top market for Senegal rice.
Thailand	8,200	-300	6.7	↓	↑	Reduced the export forecast based on weaker-than-expected sales in late 2022 and on information provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Bangkok.
United States	2,075	-75	-4.9	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based on weaker-than-expected sales and shipments since the second half of 2022 and expectations of continued uncompetitive prices. These are the lowest exports since 1984/85.
Vietnam	6,800	-600	-4.2	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based largely on information provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Hanoi, rising prices, and slightly smaller crop estimates for 2021/22 and 2022/23.
Rice exporters, 2022						
Brazil	1,454	79	85.9	↑	↑	Raised the export estimate to a record-high based on yearend trade data, with sales to Mexico and Central America especially strong.
Burma	2,365	65	24.5	↑	↑	Increased the export estimate based on yearend trade data, with China and the European Union major buyers.
China	2,172	-78	-9.8	↓	↓	Reduced the export estimate based on yearend trade data. West Africa, Egypt, and Turkey are major export markets for China.
India	22,161	361	4.3	↑	↑	Raised the export estimate to a record-high based on yearend trade data, with Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East India's largest export markets.
Pakistan	4,525	-275	15.2	↓	↑	Lowered the export forecast based on weaker-than-expected sales in late 2022, largely due to crop damage from severe summer flooding.
Paraguay	752	32	17.5	↑	↑	Raised the export estimate based on yearend trade data. Brazil buys the bulk of Paraguay's rice exports.
Thailand	7,682	-218	22.3	↓	↑	Lowered the export estimate based on yearend trade data, with Sub-Saharan Africa, China, Iraq, and the United States the top buyers.
United States	2,181	21	-25.2	↑	↓	Raised the export estimate slightly based on yearend trade data.
Vietnam	7,100	-100	13.2	↓	↑	Reduced the export forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected shipment pace.

Source: Created by USDA, Economic Research Service with data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply, and Distribution database.

Figure 2

India's 2023 rice exports projected to decline; Thailand's 2023 exports projected to increase 7 percent

Million tons



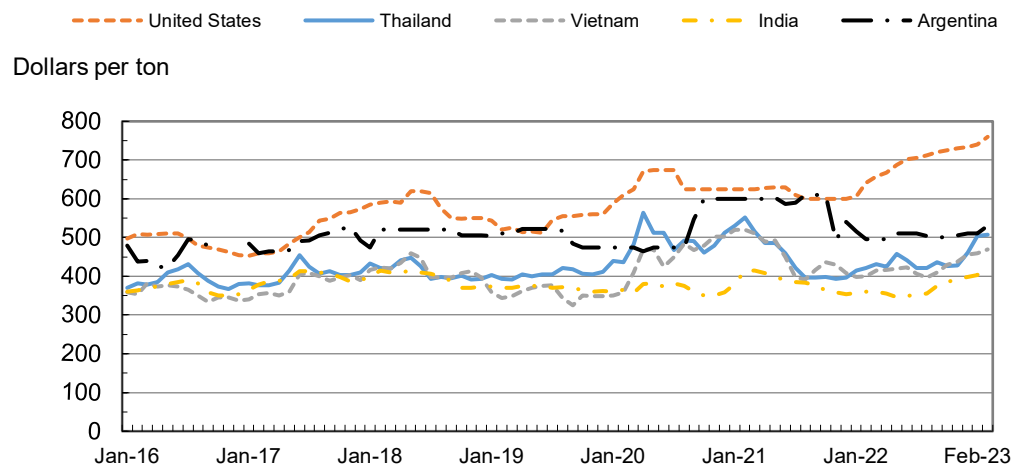
Notes: Rice exports are reported on a milled basis; 2023 are forecasts.

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *Production, Supply, and Distribution* database.

Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's trading prices for most grades of regular (neither parboiled nor aromatic) whole-grain milled rice rose 2–3 percent from a month earlier, mostly due to an increase in the value of the Thai baht during January. For the week ending February 7, Thailand's 100-percent Grade B long-grain milled rice for export was quoted at \$507 per ton, up \$12 from the week ending January 10 and the highest since March 2021. Price quotes for Vietnam's late-autumn crop harvested in the Mekong River Delta for the week ending February 7 were quoted at \$470 per ton, up \$10 from the week ending January 10 and the highest since May 2021. Vietnam's prices have risen on a tightening of the supply after the completion of the late-autumn harvest in 2022 and inquirers for purchases from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Philippines.

India's price quotes for 5-percent broken-kernel rice were reported at \$435 (nominal price quote, no actual offers) for the week ending February 7, up \$40 from the week ending January 10. India remains the most competitively-priced source of Asian rice. Pakistan's price quote for 5-percent broken-kernel rice for the week ending February 7 decreased \$25 per ton to \$495 from the week ending January 10. Argentina's 5-percent broken-kernel rice were quoted at \$530 per ton for the week ending February 7, up \$20 from the week ending January 10.

Figure 3
Global trading prices rose over the past month



February 2023 = First week only. Notes: Free on Board local port. Monthly average of weekly price quotes. Quotes used: Thailand, 100-percent grade B; India, 5-percent broken, container since February 2021, bulk prior months; Vietnam, 5-percent broken; Argentina, 5-percent broken; United States, No. 2, 4-percent broken.
 Sources: Thailand: *Rice Price*, U.S. Embassy, Bangkok; United States, India, Argentina, and Vietnam prices: *Creed Rice Market Report*.

U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled rice continued to increase over the past month. Prices for U.S. long-grain milled rice, Number 2 Grade, 4-percent broken kernels (Iraqi specifications) were quoted at \$760 per ton for the week ending February 7, up \$25 from the week ending January 10 and the highest since early October 2008. U.S. price quotes for Latin American markets also increased \$25 over the past month, quoted at \$725 per ton for the week ending February 7. Milled-rice nominal price quotes (no actual offers or sales) for California medium-grain Number 1 Grade, 4-percent broken, remain at \$1,650 per ton (free on board at a domestic mill) for the week ending February 7, unchanged since late December and the highest on record for this specification. For listings of trading prices by exporter and grade of rice, see table 10 in the Excel file.

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