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Rice Outlook: January 2022

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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. 2021/22 Rice Crop Estimated at 191.8 Million Hundredweight

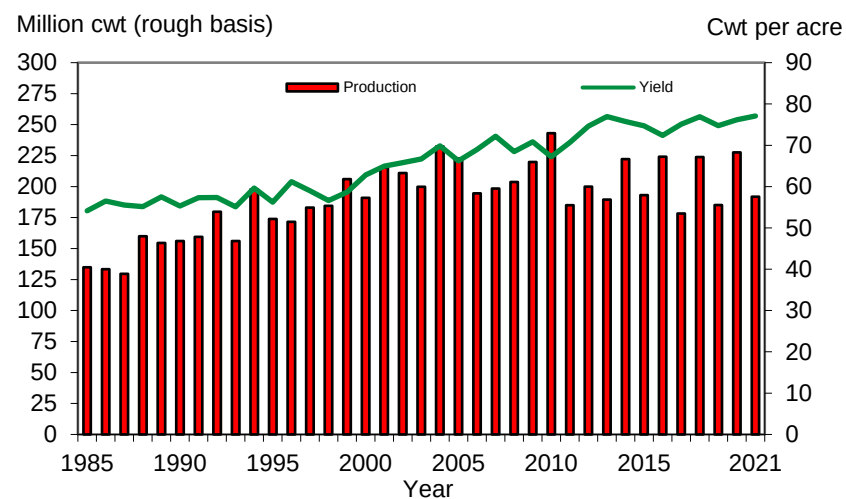
There were several revisions this month to the U.S. 2021/22 rice balance sheet. On the supply side, production was lowered 2.0 million cwt to 191.8 million based on yearend crop data reported by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. In addition, imports were lowered 2.5 million cwt to 31.0 million. Long grain accounted for all of the crop reduction and most of the import reduction. On the use side, exports were lowered 1.0 million cwt to 88.0 million and total domestic and residual use was lowered 2.0 million cwt to 145.5 million. These supply and use revisions resulted in a 1.5-million cwt reduction in the ending stocks forecast to 33.0 million cwt. Season-average price forecasts were raised for both long-grain rice and medium- and short-grain rice in the south and in California.

In the global rice market, production in 2021/22 is projected at 509.9 million tons, down 0.9 million from the previous forecast but still the highest on record. Production forecasts were lowered for Mali, Sri Lanka, and the United States, but raised for Colombia and Vietnam. Global rice consumption and residual use in 2021/22 is projected a 510.3 million tons, down 0.6 million tons from the previous forecast but also a record high. Global ending rice stocks are projected to drop 0.7 million tons to 186.1 million tons. Global rice trade in calendar year 2022 is projected at 49.5 million tons (milled basis), up almost 0.7 million tons from the previous forecast but still down 2 percent from the year-earlier record. India's export forecasts were raised for both 2021 and 2022.

Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's trading prices for most grades of milled rice were nearly unchanged from a month earlier, while price quotes for Vietnam's rice declined from a month earlier. In contrast, price quotes for both U.S. long-grain milled rice and California medium-grain milled-rice increased over the past month. Prices in India increased slightly but remain the lowest globally.

Figure 1

Despite a record yield, U.S. rice production in 2021 declined almost 16 percent



Cwt = Hundredweight.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service, *Rice Yearbook* dataset; 1985/86-2018/19; USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, 2019/20-2021/22.

Domestic Outlook

U.S. 2021/22 Rice Production Estimate Lowered 2.0 Million Cwt to 191.8 Million Cwt

This month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reported its yearend estimate of the U.S. 2021/22 rice crop at 191.8 million hundredweight (cwt), 2.0 million cwt below the previous forecast and 16 percent below a year earlier. This month's downward revision was based on slightly lower estimates for both harvested area and average yield reported in the NASS *Crop Production 2021 Summary* that was released on January 12.

Harvested area was lowered 11,000 acres to 2.49 million, almost 17 percent below a year earlier. Texas harvested area was lowered 7,000 acres, Arkansas harvested area was reduced 4,000 acres, and Mississippi harvested area was decreased 1,000 acres. These reductions more than offset a 1,000-acre increase in Louisiana harvested area. The U.S. average yield was reduced 47 pounds per acre to 7,709 pounds, 90 pounds above a year earlier and the highest on record. This month, USDA lowered its yield estimates for Texas, California, Louisiana, and Missouri, but raised its yield estimates for Arkansas and Mississippi.

These harvested area and yield revisions resulted in lower 2021/22 production estimates for all six reported rice-producing States except for Arkansas, which was raised fractionally. The Texas 2021/22 production estimate was lowered 1.3 million cwt and the California estimate was reduced 0.6 million cwt. Crop reductions for Louisiana, Mississippi, and Missouri were much smaller.

By class, the U.S. long-grain production estimate was lowered 2.1 million cwt to 144.6 million, 15 percent below a year earlier. Long-grain harvested area is estimated at 1.936 million acres, 16 percent below a year earlier. The long-grain average yield of 7,471 pounds per acre is 49 pounds above a year earlier and the second-highest on record. Combined medium- and short-grain harvested area is estimated at 552,000 acres, more than 19 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 1985/86. The medium- and short-grain average yield is estimated at 8,543 pounds per acre, 3 percent above a year earlier and the highest on record.

Harvested area is estimated below a year earlier in all reported States except Texas. In the Delta, harvested area in Arkansas is reported at 1.19 million acres, 17 percent below a year earlier. Long-grain, the dominant class of rice grown in Arkansas, accounts for the bulk of the harvested area decline. Mississippi's 2021/22 rice harvested area is reported at 100,000 acres—all long-grain—more than 39 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1973/74. In Missouri, 2021/22 harvested area is reported at 194,000 acres, down more than 9 percent from a year earlier. Long-grain accounts for most of Missouri's rice area and all of this year's decline.

On the Gulf Coast, Louisiana's harvested area is reported at 414,000 acres, almost 13 percent below a year earlier. Long-grain, the dominant class of rice grown in Louisiana, accounts for the bulk of the decline in harvested area. In Texas, 2021/22 harvested area is reported at 181,000 acres, up 1 percent from a year earlier. Long-grain accounts for all of the Texas expansion in harvested area in 2021/22 and almost all of the State's rice acreage. In much of the South, persistent rainfall nearly all spring prevented and delayed plantings. In March, growers in the South had already indicated they intended to plant less rice in 2021/22 than a year earlier due to higher expected returns for corn and soybeans. Finally, in California, 2021/22 rice harvested

area is reported at just 405,000 acres, 21 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1992/93. The sharp decline in California harvested area this year is the result of severe drought and abnormally low reservoir levels in northern California. Medium- and short-grain accounts for almost all of California's rice acreage.

Yields are projected to be above a year earlier in all reported States except Texas, with record yields reported for all States except Louisiana and Texas. The Arkansas yield is forecast at a record 7,630 pounds per acre, up almost 2 percent from a year earlier. At 8,040 pounds per acre, Missouri's 2021/22 yield is up almost 11 percent from a year earlier and is the highest on record for the State. Mississippi's record yield of 7,540 pounds per acre is up almost 2 percent from a year earlier. Louisiana's yield of 6,870 pounds per acre is up almost 1 percent from a year ago. Despite a severe drought and record-low reservoir levels, the California, the 2021/22 rice yield is forecast at a record 9,050 pounds per acre, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

In contrast, the Texas 2021/22 average yield of 6,860 pounds per acre is down almost 16 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 2007/08. Persistent rainfall, both in amount and timing, was the main factor behind the abnormally low Texas yields this year for both the main crop harvest (typically harvested July-August) and the smaller second—or ratoon-crop—harvest (typically harvested October-November). Late-season rainfall hindered and delayed the main crop harvest, with many fields muddied and rutted. The delay—with ratoon crop harvest going into December—and rutted fields reduced the ratoon yield.

Production is estimated below a year earlier in all reported States except Missouri. The Arkansas 2021/22 rice crop is estimated at 91.1 million cwt, down 16 percent from a year earlier, a result of smaller area. Mississippi's production is estimated at 7.54 million cwt, down more than 38 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 1983/84, due entirely to reduced plantings. Missouri's rice crop is estimated at 15.6 million cwt, up 0.5 percent from a year earlier as a record yield more than offset an area decline. Louisiana's production is estimated at 28.4 million cwt, 12 percent below a year earlier, a result of smaller plantings. Texas rice production is estimated at 12.4 million cwt, a decline of 15 percent from 2020/21, a result of a much weaker yield; harvested area actually expanded this year in Texas. Finally, California's production is estimated at 36.7 million cwt, 18 percent below a year earlier, a result of a sharp drop in area caused by the severe drought in the State. This is the smallest California rice crop since 1998/99.

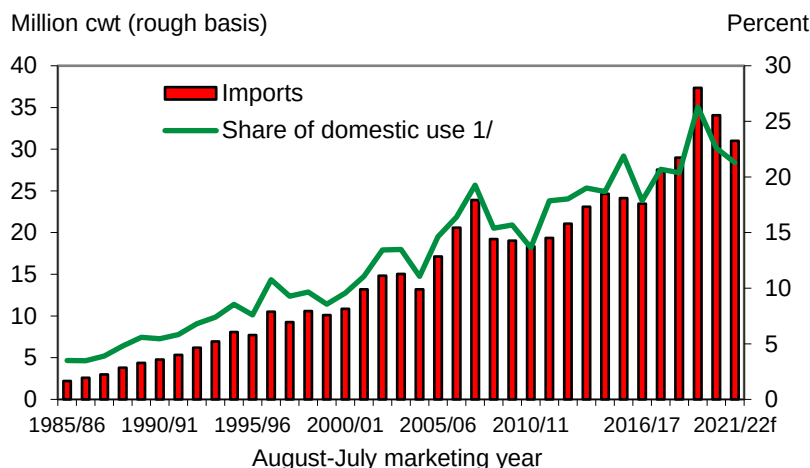
This month, NASS made slight revisions to its 2020/21 crop estimates. Harvested area was lowered 1,000 acres to 2.986 million. The 2020/21 production estimate was reduced 0.07 million cwt to 227.5 million. Louisiana long-grain accounted for all of the 2020/21 harvested area and production revisions. The U.S. 2021/21 all-rice average yield remains estimated at 7,619 pounds per acre.

U.S. 2021/22 Rice Import Forecast Lowered 2.5 Million Cwt to 31.0 Million

The U.S. 2021/22 all-rice import forecast was lowered 2.5 million cwt to 31.0 million, 9 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2018/19, the last full market year prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Import forecasts were lowered this month for both classes of rice, with long-grain accounting for the bulk of the downward revision.

Figure 2

U.S. rice imports in 2021/22 projected to decline for the second consecutive year



Cwt = Hundredweight. 2021/22f = forecasts. 1/ Does not include seed use.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service, *Rice Yearbook* dataset 1985/86-2018/19; USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply*

At 24.0 million cwt, the U.S. 2021/22 long-grain import forecast is down 2.0 million cwt from the previous forecast, 12 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 2018/19. The reduced forecast was based on a slower-than-expected pace of imports through November and expectations regarding imports the remaining 8 months of the market year. Through November, the United States imported 240,909 tons (actual shipment weight) of long-grain rice, down 21 percent from a year earlier. In November, the United States imported 63,169 tons of long-grain rice, down fractionally from a year earlier but little changed from September and October.

From August-November 2021, Thailand shipped 155,238 tons of long-grain rice to the United States, 1 percent above a year earlier but 3 percent below the pre-pandemic August-November 2019 level. Thailand remains the largest supplier of long-grain rice to the United States. Almost all of this rice was Thailand's premium jasmine rice, an aromatic. In contrast, number two long-grain supplier India shipped just 53,051 tons to the United States from August-November 2021, down more than 39 percent from a year earlier. Almost all U.S. imports from India are its premium basmati rice, also an aromatic. Like most exporting countries, India's agricultural export sector is facing reduced availability of containers and ships that has resulted in a dramatic rise in shipping rates, as well as leading to port congestion and increased processing time for shipping. This effect is largely global, impacting most aspects of trade. Number three U.S. long-grain supplier Pakistan shipped 9,183 tons of rice to the United States from August-November 2021, down 17 percent from a year earlier. Almost all of Pakistan's exports to the United States are its premium basmati rice. Although the United States produces and markets several aromatic rice varieties, these are not the same varieties grown in Asia, with somewhat different consumer qualities.

Combined medium- and short-grain U.S. imports are projected at 7.0 million cwt, down 0.5 million cwt from the previous forecast but still 4 percent above a year earlier and only slightly below the 2019/20 record of 7.586 million cwt. For August-November 2021, the United States imported 55,998 tons of medium- and short-grain rice, down 19 percent from a year earlier. Thailand, India, and China are the top suppliers of medium- and short-grain rice to the United

States, accounting for well over 90 percent of these U.S. imports. This month's import reduction is based on a slower-than-expected pace of imports from Thailand and India through November, and expectations regarding purchases from these two major suppliers the remainder of the market year.

For the first 4 months of the 2021/22 marketing year, the United States imported 19,898 tons of medium- and short-grain rice from Thailand, virtually unchanged from a year earlier. Most of the medium- and short-grain rice imported from Thailand by the United States is a specialty rice classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as medium- and short-grain rice. India shipped 8,670 tons of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States for August-November 2021, down 59 percent from a year earlier, with much of the decline due to high freight costs, container shortages, and other supply chain disruptions.

China shipped 21,285 tons of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States for August-November 2021, virtually unchanged from a year earlier. Virtually all of China's shipments go to Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory. In recent years, Puerto Rico has imported three or four shipments of 21,000 tons annually from China, a result of extremely low prices for purchases of older Government-held stocks of rice. In September 2021, Puerto Rico imported 21,000 tons of rice from China, but imported no rice from China in October or November. China is expected to make two or three more 21,000-ton sales of medium- and short-grain rice to Puerto Rico in the 2021/22 market year. Italy is the next- largest supplier of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States, typically supplying 3,500-4,000 tons of arborio rice each year. Italy has been a consistent long-term supplier of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States.

The 2021/22 U.S. all-rice carryin remains estimated at 43.7 million cwt, more than 52 percent above the year-earlier abnormally low level. The 2021/22 long-grain carryin remains estimated at 29.7 million cwt, 76 percent larger than in 2020/21. In contrast, the 2021/22 medium- and short-grain carryin remains estimated at 11.5 million cwt, 7 percent larger than a year earlier.

U.S. 2021/22 Milled-Rice Export Forecast Lowered to 54.0 Million Cwt

U.S. rice exports in 2021/22 are projected at 88.0 million cwt, 1.0 million cwt below the previous forecast, 6 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2017/18. This month's downward revision was largely based on monthly U.S. Bureau of the Census trade data through November, shipment and outstanding sales data through December 30 reported in the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report, and expectations regarding shipments and sales the remainder of the 2021/22 market year.

Long-grain exports in 2021/22 are projected at 64.0 million cwt, unchanged from the previous forecast but nearly 2 percent smaller than a year earlier. The year-to-year decline is primarily based on smaller supplies and higher U.S. prices. Through November, the United States exported 903,650 tons of long-grain rice in 2021/22, up 29 percent from the year-earlier abnormally low level, but still 4 percent below the first 4 months of the 2019/20 market year. In November, the United States exported 318,676 tons of long-grain rice, up 107 percent from October and the largest since December 2020.

Through November 2021, U.S. long-grain exports were well ahead of a year earlier to Mexico and sharply ahead to Central America. In fact, U.S. long-grain shipments to Central America through November 2021 of about 265,000 tons were the second-highest on record, with the

U.S. shipping about 153,000 tons to Central America in November. These two top markets take mostly long-grain rough-rice.

By spring, the United States is expected to face stronger competition from South American long-grain suppliers in these key Latin American markets. Most South American exporters are expected to harvest larger crops this spring compared with their 2020/21 crops, which in several countries were adversely impacted by drought. For more than a decade, South American exporters have been increasing sales and market shares in Mexico, Central America, and northern South America.

Shipments to Haiti, the top market for U.S. long-grain milled rice exports, were reported at 125,843 tons through November 2021, 8 percent below a year earlier and lowest for this date since 2013. As of December 30, *U.S. Export Sales* reported just 22,450 tons of remaining outstanding sales to Haiti for the 2021/22 marketing year, which is 64 percent lower than outstanding sales at this point in the marketing year in 2020/21. Political instability, increased gang violence, and a magnitude 7.2 earthquake in mid-August have all hindered trade with Haiti. In late July 2021, the United States sold 120,000 tons of long-grain milled-rice to Iraq, with all of this rice shipped September-November 2021. There have been no additional sales of U.S. rice to Iraq in 2021/22.

Combined medium- and short-grain exports in 2021/22 are projected at 24.0 million cwt, down 1.0 million cwt from the previous forecast and 17 percent below 2020/21. This month's downward revision was based on U.S. Bureau of the Census shipment data through November, shipments and sales reported in the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report through December 30, and expectations regarding shipments and sales the remainder of the market year. According to *U.S. Export Sales*, through December 30, shipments of medium- and short-grain rice were almost 24 percent behind a year-earlier pace, and outstanding sales were down 26 percent. Combined shipments and outstanding sales through December 30 were 9 percent behind a year earlier to Japan and more than 39 percent behind to South Korea. These are the two largest markets for U.S. medium- and short-grain rice.

The year-to-year decline in medium- and short-grain exports is based on expectation of few sales outside the core U.S. markets in Northeast Asia— Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan— where the bulk of U.S. medium- and short-grain exports are shipped. U.S. medium- and short-grain sales to the Middle East are expected to be lower than in 2020/21, with Jordan and Saudi Arabia the main buyers. The United States is not expected to sell any rice to North Africa. The tighter U.S. supplies of medium- and short-grain rice are expected to reduce exportable sales and boost U.S. trading prices. In addition, by late spring, Australia is expected to be in position to increase its exports due to a strong area expansion in 2021/22, partly a response to higher expected global trading prices for medium-grain rice. Australia is expected to increase its market share in Northeast Asia and Oceania. China is expected to again have abundant supplies of extremely low-priced Government-held stocks of medium- and short-grain rice available for export, with North Africa, the Middle East, and Oceania the major market destinations.

By type, U.S. rough-rice exports in 2021/22 remain projected at 34.0 million cwt, down almost 2 percent from a year earlier. Based on data from the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* through December 30, combined U.S. rough-rice shipments and outstanding sales were well ahead of a year earlier to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, but slightly behind to Mexico. Almost all U.S. rough-rice exports are currently shipped to Latin America. Long-grain accounts for the vast majority of U.S. rough-rice exports.

Milled-rice exports (milled-and brown-rice exports on a rough-rice basis) are projected at 54.0 million cwt, down 1.0 million from the previous forecast, 9 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 1973/74. The monthly downward revision was largely based on expectations of weaker U.S. sales to Haiti—the largest market for U.S. milled rice—and a reduced U.S. medium- and short-grain export forecast.

The United States is expected to make few sales of milled rice beyond Northeast Asia, Haiti, Canada, Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. However, Mexico, although primarily a rough-rice market, regularly imports small quantities of U.S. milled rice. Exports of U.S. milled-rice are limited by cheaper rice from Asia, as well as by growing competition from several South American exporters.

Total domestic and residual use in 2021/22 is projected at 145.5 million cwt, down 2.0 million cwt from the previous forecast and almost 5 percent smaller than the year-earlier record. This month's downward revision in total domestic and residual use was based on the reduced import forecast. The year-to-year projected reduction is based on smaller U.S. supplies—primarily a much smaller crop—which implies smaller post-harvest losses in marketing and milling and smaller imports. Long-grain domestic and residual use is projected at 113.0 million cwt, 2.0 million below the previous forecast and 6 percent below the year-earlier record. Combined medium- and short-grain domestic and residual use remains projected at 32.5 million cwt, nearly unchanged from a year earlier.

Total use of all-rice in 2021/22 is projected at 233.5 million cwt, down 3.0 million cwt from the previous forecast and 5 percent smaller than a year earlier. Both exports and combined domestic and residual use are expected to be lower than a year earlier in 2021/22. Long-grain total use is projected at 177.0 million cwt, down 2.0 million cwt from the previous forecast due to the weaker domestic and residual forecast and almost 5 percent smaller than a year earlier. Combined medium- and short-grain total use is forecast at 56.5 million cwt, down 1.0 million from the previous forecast due to a smaller export forecast and 8 percent below 2020/21.

U.S. Ending Stocks Projection for 2021/22 Lowered

The above supply and use revisions result in a 2021/22 ending stocks forecast of 33.0 million cwt, down 1.5 million cwt from the previous forecast and almost 25 percent less than a year earlier. The all-rice stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 14.2 percent, down from 17.7 percent a year earlier. Long-grain ending stocks are projected at 21.4 million cwt, down 2.1 million from the previous forecast and 28 percent below a year earlier. The long-grain stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 12.1 percent, down from 16.0 percent a year earlier. Combined medium- and short-grain ending stocks are projected at 9.1 million cwt, up 0.6 million cwt from the previous forecast but more than 20 percent smaller than a year earlier. The 2021/22 medium- and short-grain stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 16.1 percent, down from 18.7 percent a year earlier.

Based on data reported in the NASS *Rice Stocks* released on January 12, U.S. rice stocks on December 1 are estimated at 134.85 million cwt (combined milled- and rough-rice stocks on a rough basis), down 5.5 percent from a year earlier. By class, long-grain stocks are estimated at 91.0 million cwt, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Combined medium- and short-grain stocks are estimated at 41.2 million cwt, 9 percent below a year earlier. Stocks of broken—reported by class—are estimated at 2.6 million cwt, up 68 percent from a year earlier.

As of December 1, rice stocks were smaller than a year earlier in all reported States except Missouri and Texas. For that date, rice stocks in Arkansas are estimated at 65.2 million cwt

(combined milled- and rough-rice stocks on a rough basis), down 4 percent from a year earlier. California's rice stocks are estimated at 34.7 million cwt, down 14 percent from a year earlier, and Louisiana's stocks at 14.0 million cwt, a decline of 2 percent from a year earlier. In Mississippi, rice stocks on December 1 are estimated at 3.3 million cwt, 30 percent below a year earlier. In contrast, rice stocks in Missouri of 8.1 million cwt are up 20 percent from a year ago, and in Texas they are estimated at 8.6 million cwt, an increase of 18 percent from a year earlier.

There were several upward revisions this month to the 2021/22 season-average farm price (SAFP) forecasts. The revisions were based on USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service's monthly reported cash prices and marketings through November and expectations regarding prices and marketings the remainder of the market year. The 2021/22 long-grain SAFP was raised 10 cents to \$13.20 per cwt, up 60 cents from a year earlier. The southern medium- and short-grain SAFP forecast was raised 10 cents to \$13.80 per cwt, up \$0.70 from 2020/21 and the highest since 2014/15. The California medium- and short-grain 2021/22 SAFP is forecast at \$24.00, up \$1.00 from the previous forecast and up \$3.10 from 2020/21, the highest since the 2008/09 record of \$27.40 per cwt. The U.S. 2021/22 medium- and short-grain SAFP forecast was raised 70 cents to \$20.70 per cwt, \$1.90 higher than a year earlier. The 2021/22 U.S. all-rice SAFP is forecast at \$15.10 per cwt, up 30 cents from the previous forecast and \$1.10 above a year earlier.

International Outlook

Production Forecasts for 2021/22 lowered for Guyana, Mali Paraguay, and Sri Lanka, Raised for Colombia and Vietnam

Global rice production in 2021/22 is forecast at a record 509.9 million tons (milled basis), down 0.9 million tons from the previous forecast but 2.6 million tons larger than a year earlier. The largest downward revisions were made for Mali and Sri Lanka, more than offsetting upward production revisions for Colombia and Vietnam.

On an annual basis, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nigeria, Paraguay, Senegal, South Korea, Tanzania, and Thailand account for the bulk of the projected global production increase in 2021/22, with Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, and Thailand showing the largest year-to-year increases. India's 2021/22 projected rice production of 125.0 million tons is up 2.7 million tons from a year earlier and would be the sixth consecutive record rice crop for India. China's 2021/22 projected production of almost 149.0 million tons is up 0.7 million tons from a year earlier and is also the highest on record. China and India are the two largest rice producing countries in the world and account for more than half of annual global rice production.

In contrast, crops are projected to be smaller than a year earlier in Colombia, Egypt, EU, Guyana, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Mali, the Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, the United States, Uruguay, and Vietnam. The United States and Egypt are projected to show the largest production declines in 2021/22. Egypt's crop is projected to decline 1.1 million tons in 2021/22 to 2.9 million due to a 29-percent reduction in harvested area to 0.5 million hectares. The area decline is the result of stricter enforcement of Government-mandated area limits implemented to conserve water. U.S. production of 6.1 million tons is 16 percent below a year earlier, also result of a contraction in harvested area. The U.S. rice harvested-area decline was due to more favorable price expectations for corn and soybeans at planting time in the Delta, severe drought in California, and persistent rainfall nearly all spring in much of the South.

Global rice consumption and residual use in 2021/22 is projected to be a record 510.3 million tons, down 0.6 million tons from the previous forecast but nearly 7.8 million tons larger than a year earlier. The consumption and residual forecast was lowered this month for Canada, Libya, Peru, Tanzania, Mali, and the United States. Mali's consumption and residual use forecast was lowered 0.2 million tons to 2.25 million based on a much smaller 2021/22 rice crop. The remaining reductions in the consumption and residual use forecast were much smaller. In contrast, domestic and residual use forecasts were raised this month for Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mozambique, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

Table A - Global rice production, selected monthly revisions and year-to-year changes, January 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation and comments on year-to-year change or month-to-month revision
Rice production in 2021/22, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Colombia	1,904	104	-4.8	↑	↓	Raised the production forecast based on a larger area estimate. At 560,000 hectares, harvested area is up 30,000 hectares from the previous forecast but still 5 percent below a year earlier. The average yield of 4.99 tons per hectare is virtually unchanged from the previous forecast but is 5 percent above a year earlier. These revisions were largely based on information and data reported by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.
Guyana	577	-66	-16.1	↓	↓	Lowered the production forecast based on a reduced yield. At 5.55 tons per hectare, the average yield is down 10 percent from the previous forecast and 2 percent below a year earlier. The Guyana Rice Association reported a strong first crop, although area was down slightly. However, the second crop has had problems with heavy rains and flooding. Total harvested area remains estimated at 160,000 hectares, more than 14 percent below a year earlier.
Indonesia	35,400	50	0.0	↑	→	Production forecast was raised slightly based on a higher harvested area estimate. At 11.83 million hectares, rice harvested area is up 30,000 hectares from the previous forecast and fractionally above a year earlier. The increased harvested area is due to La Nina weather conditions providing sufficient rainfall to grow rice. Data and information for these revisions were provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Jakarta.
Mali	1,658	-487	-15.4	↓	↓	Reduced the production forecast based on a smaller harvested area estimate and a much lower yield. Harvested area was reduced 50,000 hectares to 880,000, down 3 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 2016/17. Harvested area declined in 2021/22 due to adverse weather, reduced access to inputs, and a deterioration of the security situation in parts of important rice growing regions. The weak security situation limited farmers' access to fields and reduced the availability of inputs and labor. In addition, many farm families have been displaced and have abandoned their crops. Erratic rainfall in parts of central and northern regions also impacted planting operations, contributing to the contraction of the sown area. The average yield of 2.90 tons per hectare is 18 percent below the previous forecast and almost 13 percent below a year earlier and weakest since 2011/12.
Mexico	210	-14	4.5	↓	↑	Production forecast was lowered based on a slightly smaller harvested area estimate. The harvested area estimate was lowered 1,000 hectares to 49,000, still up 2,000 hectares from a year earlier. Rice growers in the state of Nayarit reduced planted area for the spring-summer crop due to lower-than-normal water availability after maintenance on irrigation canal infrastructure. At 6.22 tons per hectare, the 2021/22 average yield is down 4.5 percent from the previous forecast and fractionally below a year earlier. Data and information for these revisions was provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Mexico City.
Paraguay	700	-87	13.6	↓	↑	Production forecast was lowered based on both a reduced area estimate and a lower average yield. At 164,000 hectares, harvested area is 6 percent below the previous forecast but still 6 percent above a year earlier. The average yield of 6.37 tons per hectare is 5 percent below the previous forecast but still more than 7 percent above a year earlier. Since 2019, Paraguay has experienced severe drought that has sharply curtailed waterflows on both the Parana and Paraguay Rivers.
Sri Lanka	3,060	-408	-9.7	↓	↓	Production forecast was reduced based on both a smaller harvested area estimate and a weaker yield. Total harvested area was lowered 100,000 hectares to 1.0 million, 8 percent below a year earlier. The average yield of 4.5 tons per hectare is 3 percent below the previous forecast and almost 2 percent below a year earlier. These reductions are the result of the Government of Sri Lanka's decision in April to ban the use of chemical fertilizers. However, there are inadequate supplies of organic fertilizers, which has adversely impacted the maha crop that was planted August-October. The previously harvested yaha crop was not impacted by the fertilizer ban. The ban was lifted in November, but fertilizer supplies remain inadequate.
United States	6,090	64	-15.7	↑	↓	Reduced the production estimate based on slightly lowered harvested area and yield estimates reported by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service in its <i>Crop Production 2021 Summary</i> that was released on January 12.
Vietnam	27,194	94	-0.7	↑	↓	Production forecast was lowered based on a 50,000-hectare reduction in harvested area to 7.30 million hectares, 5,000 hectares below a year earlier and the fourth consecutive year of decline. Harvested area forecasts were lowered this month for both the summer-autumn crop and the winter crop. The reductions are based on concerns over water availability. Vietnam's farmers continue to shift rice area to other crops and non-agriculture uses, largely due to reduced water availability and increased salinity. The average all-rice yield of 5.96 tons per hectare is up 1 percent from the previous forecast, but still fractionally below a year earlier. Data and information for these revisions were provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Hanoi.

Continued--

Table A - Global rice production, selected monthly revisions and year-to-year changes, January 2022--continued						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation and comments on year-to-year change or month-to-month revision
Rice production in 2020/21, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Mexico	201	2	14.9	↑	↑	Crop forecast was raised slightly based on a higher yield reported by the Government of Mexico. The average yield of 6.23 tons per hectare is 1 percent above the previous estimate, but nearly 5 percent below the year earlier record. Harvested area remains estimated at 47,000 hectares, up almost 21 percent from a year earlier and the highest since 2009/10. Data and information for these revisions was provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Mexico City.
Vietnam	27,381	37	1.0	↑	↑	Production estimate was raised slightly based on a higher yield estimate. Yield estimates were revised up this month for the summer-autumn and winter crops, with yields higher than a year earlier for all 3 crops, including the spring crop. At 6.00 tons per hectare, Vietnam's average yield was up 2 percent from a year earlier and the highest on record. Strong yields in 2020/21 were due to favorable weather conditions, appropriate seedling schedule, good farming techniques, quality seeds, and applications of disease and pest prevention. In contrast, the harvested area estimate was lowered 25,000 hectares to 7.305 million, down 75,000 hectares from a year earlier. The year-to-year harvested area decline was due to both continued salinity problems caused by saltwater intrusion and moderate flooding from typhoons in late October. Data and information for these revisions were provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Hanoi.

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

On a year-to-year basis, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, India, Liberia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tanzania, and Thailand account for the bulk of the expected increase in global consumption and residual use in 2021/22. In contrast, consumption and residual use is projected to decline in 2021/22 in Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, South Korea, and the United States. The decline in the two Northeast Asian countries is due to continued long-term shifts in diet away from rice to a more a Western diet and to a declining population in Japan and only negligible population growth in South Korea. Egypt's decline is based on a much smaller crop and resulting tighter supplies, despite record imports. The projected decline in the United States is based on a much smaller crop, which indicates a smaller residual use that includes post-harvest losses. Mali's reduction is based on smaller supplies.

In 2021/22, global ending rice stocks are forecast at 186.1 million tons, more than 0.7 million below the previous forecast and 0.4 million tons below the year-earlier record. Ending stocks forecasts were lowered this month for Burma, Cambodia, Guyana, India, South Korea, Mali, Paraguay, Peru, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the United States. Burma's ending stocks were lowered 150,000 tons to 1.2 million, largely due to an upward revision for exports. India's stocks were lowered 250,000 tons to 38.25 million—still the highest on record—based on stronger exports. Sri Lanka's ending stocks were reduced almost 0.5 million tons to 0.74 million based on a much smaller crop. Thailand's ending stocks were lowered 0.2 million tons to 4.4 million based on stronger exports. These ending stock reductions were partially offset by upward revisions in ending stocks for Brazil, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

Table B - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), January 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice importers, 2022						
Brazil	600	-50	-13.0	↓	↓	Reduced the import forecast based on larger supplies that are the result of reduced export forecasts for 2021 and 2022. These are the lowest imports since 2018.
China	4,600	100	-3.2	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on expectations of increased imports from Burma resulting from the opening of the border for trade in November and expectations of continued imports of broken rice from India.
Cote d'Ivoire	1,450	150	0.0	↑	→	Raised the import forecast based on expectations that the recent stronger-than-expected pace of imports will continue in 2022. Purchases from top-suppliers India and Vietnam have been consistent, while shipments from Thailand and China rose in late 2021.
Libya	100	-20	17.6	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on expectations that the recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022.
Mali	550	250	83.3	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast based on expectations of much smaller rice production in 2021/22.
Mozambique	700	25	0.0	↑	→	Higher import forecast is based on the expectation that the recent faster-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022. Purchases from Thailand increased in late 2021.
Panama	100	-20	300.0	↓	↑	Import forecast was lowered based on a lack of purchases from the United States, Panama's largest supplier.
Peru	250	-70	13.6	↓	↑	Lowered the import forecast based on expectations that the recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022. In 2021, imports from the main supplier Uruguay were slower than expected.
Philippines	2,500	100	-10.7	↑	↓	Higher import forecast is based on the expectation that the recent faster-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022. Purchases from the main supplier Vietnam were larger than expected from September through November.
Russia	220	10	15.8	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a larger 2021/22 production estimate.
Sri Lanka	150	130	114.3	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a smaller 2021/22 production forecast and the announcement in September by the Government of Sri Lanka authorizing up to 100,000 tons of rice imports.
Tanzania	120	-30	20.0	↓	↑	Lowered the import forecast based on expectations that the recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022.
United States	1,000	-100	0.0	↓	→	Lowered the import forecast based on expectations that the recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases will continue in 2022. U.S. rice imports dropped substantially in June and have shown no upward trend since. The slower pace of imports is largely due to supply-chain constraints and high freight rates.
Vietnam	600	100	-66.7	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on expectations that India will continue to export rice to Vietnam in 2022. Cambodia had supplied almost all of Vietnam's rice imports in recent years, supplying mostly rough rice. India began to ship large amounts of rice to Vietnam in early 2021.

Continued--

Table B - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), January 2022--Continued						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice importers, 2021						
Angola	450	25	-10.0	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on larger-than-expected shipments from Thailand in the fourth quarter.
Brazil	690	-10	-21.2	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast slightly based on shipment date through November and expectations regarding shipments in December.
Canada	410	-20	14.0	↓	↑	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
China	4,750	250	48.4	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on the opening of the border for trade with Burma in November and strong imports of broken rice from India.
Congo (Kinshasa)	220	-20	10.0	↓	↑	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Cote d'Ivoire	1,450	200	31.8	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on consistent purchases from top-suppliers India and Vietnam in November and December, and an increase in purchases from China and Thailand for those two months as well.
Guinea	850	100	26.90	↑	↑	Import forecast was increased to a near-record high based on consistent purchases from India and an uptick in purchases from China.
Jordan	200	-20	-13.0	↓	↓	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
South Korea	410	-40	-11.8	↓	↓	Reduced the import forecast based on a slow pace of purchases and smaller-than-expected purchases from the United States.
Kuwait	200	-25	-18.0	↓	↓	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Libya	85	-45	21.4	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Mexico	800	50	-5.1	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases. The United States is the largest supplier of rice to Mexico, shipping mostly unmilled long-grain rice.
Morocco	45	-10	-25.0	↓	↓	Import forecast lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Mozambique	700	75	6.9	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on uptick in purchases from Thailand in late 2021.
Panama	25	-25	-76.2	↓	↓	Reduced the import forecast based on a lack of purchases from the United States, typically the largest supplier of rice to Panama.
Peru	220	-20	-29.0	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on slower-than-expected purchases from Uruguay, Peru's main supplier of imported rice.
Philippines	2,800	200	14.3	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on the delivery-pace through November, with purchases from top-supplier Vietnam especially strong in late 2021.
Saudi Arabia	1,200	-100	-25.6	↓	↓	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases. India is the largest supplier of rice to Saudi Arabia, with Pakistan and the United States supplying much smaller quantities.
Sierra Leone	400	-20	-9.1	↓	↓	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Sri Lanka	70	50	337.5	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast based on the Government of Sri Lanka's authorization in September of up to 100,000 tons of rice imports. Trade data show 20,000 tons have already been purchased from Burma and a smaller amount from India.
Tanzania	100	-50	-33.3	↓	↓	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
United States	1,000	-125	-17.4	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on delivery data through November and expectations regarding imports in December. Since early spring, imports have generally been below a year earlier, largely a result of the global container shortage, historically high freight costs, and other supply chain constraints.
Venezuela	540	-10	1.9	↓	↑	Import forecast was lowered based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Vietnam	1,800	150	350.0	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on expectations of around 1 million tons (milled basis) of rice imported from Cambodia in 2021 and 740,000 tons reported imported from India through November.
Yemen	550	25	-1.8	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on increased purchases from Thailand in late 2021.

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

Table C - Selected rice exporters at a glance (1,000 metric tons), January 2022.						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice exporters, 2022						
Brazil	900	-150	26.8	↓	↑	Reduced the export forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected pace of sales.
China	2,200	100	-6.4	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on the expectation that the recent stronger-than-expected pace of shipments will continue in 2022.
Guyana	440	-30	0.0	↓	→	Lowered the export forecast based on a much smaller crop. The 2021/22 rice crop is projected to be the smallest since 2016/17.
India	18,750	750	-8.5	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on the expectation that continued competitive prices in 2022 will enable India to export more rice to China, Vietnam, and Sub-Saharan Africa in 2022, partially offsetting weaker shipments to Bangladesh.
Paraguay	630	-70	1.6	↓	↑	Lowered the export forecast based on a reduced crop forecast for 2021/22 and the resulting tight stocks situation. These are the weakest exports for Paraguay since 2017.
Russia	140	-10	0.0	↓	→	Export forecast was lowered based on a smaller 2021/22 rice crop estimate.
Uruguay	820	-30	7.9	↓	↑	Lowered the export forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected pace of shipments to Brazil, Peru, and Mexico, Uruguay's key rice export markets
Vietnam	6,500	100	4.0	↑	↑	Raised the export forecast based on a larger crop projection for 2021/22 and abundant supplies of rice for export.
Rice exporters, 2021						
Brazil	710	-90	42.7	↓	↑	Export forecast was lowered based on extremely weak shipments in November. Exports in 2021 were the lowest since 2017.
Burma	1,950	150	-15.2	↑	↓	Export forecast was raised based on stronger-than-expected shipments in October and November.
Cambodia	1,850	150	37.0	↑	↑	Raised the export forecast to a record high based on record shipments of 1 million tons in 2021 to Vietnam, as well as more than 250,000 tons to China and more than 100,000 tons to EU.
China	2,350	50	3.8	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of shipments.
Guyana	440	-30	-15.2	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based on the shipment pace through November and a reduced 2021/22 production forecast.
India	20,500	300	40.6	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised to a record high based on the shipment pace through October. Bangladesh, Nepal, Senegal, Benin, China, and Saudi Arabia were the top markets.
Senegal	70	10	250.0	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on stronger-than-expected pace of shipments. Nearly all exports are shipped to Mali.
Thailand	5,900	200	3.4	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of shipments through November, with shipments to Sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq, China, and the Philippines especially strong.
United States	2,925	-25	2.3	↓	↑	Lowered the export forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of shipments through November and reported U.S. sales in December. Medium- and short-grain exports, nearly all milled- or brown-rice, were particularly weak. In contrast, U.S. long-grain rough-rice exports were quite strong in November.
Vietnam	6,250	50	1.3	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of shipments, with shipments to the Philippines and China especially strong in 2021.

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

China accounts for the bulk of the expected decline in global ending rice stocks in 2021/22. At 113.0 million tons, China's ending stocks are 3.5 million below the year-earlier record. U.S. ending stocks are projected to decline 0.34 million tons to about 1.0 million. In contrast, India's ending stocks are projected to increase 2.25 million tons to a record 38.25 million. In 2021/22, China is projected to account for 61 percent and India for almost 21 percent of global ending rice stocks. The 2021/22 global stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 36.5 percent, down from the record 37.1 percent in 2020/21.

India's 2021 and 2022 Export Forecasts Raised Again

Global rice trade in calendar year 2022 is projected at 49.5 million tons (milled basis), up almost 0.7 million tons from the previous forecast but down 2 percent from the year-earlier record. Much of the expected year-to-year decline in global trade is the result of weaker imports of Indian rice by Bangladesh and Vietnam. India's 2022 exports are projected to drop 1.75 million tons from the 2021 record to 18.75 million, still the second-highest on record. Cambodia's exports are projected to drop 0.45 million tons from the 2021 record to 1.4 million tons, and China's exports are projected to decline 0.15 million tons to 2.2 million tons. U.S. exports are forecast to drop almost 0.08 million tons in 2022 to 2.85 million tons due to tighter supplies and resulting higher prices.

These declines in exports in 2022 are expected to be partially offset by increased exports from Australia, Brazil, Pakistan, Thailand, Uruguay, and Vietnam, with Thailand's exports projected to increase the most, up 0.6 million tons to 6.5 million. Australia's exports are projected to increase 210,000 tons to 270,000 tons based on an expected recovery from drought. Brazil's exports are projected to increase 190,000 tons to 0.9 million based on larger supplies. Pakistan's exports are projected to increase 100,000 tons to 4.0 million, also a result of larger supplies. Vietnam's 2022 exports are projected to increase 100,000 tons to 6.5 million tons, a result of large supplies.

On the global 2022 import side, Bangladesh's imports are projected to drop almost 2.1 million tons to 0.6 million due to a larger crop and rising supplies. Vietnam's imports are projected to decline 1.2 million tons to 0.60 million from last year's abnormally large 1.8 million tons. The bulk of Vietnam's imports had typically been border shipments from Cambodia, with Vietnam taking mostly rough rice. In 2021, however, Vietnam imported large quantities of broken-kernel rice from India for feed use, food processing, and beer and around 1.0 million tons of rice from Cambodia—a record high. These purchases are expected to be much smaller in 2022. Imports are also projected to decline in 2022 for Australia, Brazil, China, Guinea, the Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, and Venezuela. Although China's imports are projected to drop 0.15 million tons to 4.6 million in 2022, China is expected to remain the largest rice importer.

In contrast, imports are projected to increase in 2022 for Angola, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, EU, Gambia, Haiti, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, North Korea, Kuwait, Liberia, Madagascar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. Egypt is expected to show the largest import growth in 2022, with its imports projected to increase 480,000 tons to a record 0.8 million due to a much smaller crop.

Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's trading prices for most grades of milled rice were nearly unchanged from a month earlier as a slight strengthening of the Thai baht offset weak demand over the holiday period. Thailand's 100-percent Grade B long-grain milled rice for export was quoted at \$397 per ton for the week ending January 10, up \$2 from the week ending December 6. Prices for Thailand's 5-percent broken parboiled rice—a specialty rice—were

quoted at \$383 per ton for the week ending January 10, unchanged from the week ending December 6. Prices for Thailand's jasmine rice—a premium aromatic—were quoted at \$649 per ton for the week ending January 10, up \$2 from the week ending December 6.

Price quotes for Vietnam's rice for the late-autumn crop have declined from a month earlier, mostly due to low demand going into the holiday season. For the week ending January 11, prices for Vietnam's 5-percent broken-kernel long-grain milled rice were quoted at \$400 per ton, down \$10 from the week ending December 7.

Pakistan's price quotes for 5-percent broken rice increased \$15 per ton from the week ending December 7 to \$365 for the week ending January 11. India's 5-percent broken nonparboiled white rice was quoted at \$345 per ton (bulk) for the week ending January 11, up \$5 from the week ending December 7. India remains the most competitively priced rice exporter in Asia.

Movements in South American exporter price quotes varied by source and grade. Uruguay's generic 5-percent broken-kernel long-grain milled rice was quoted at \$545 per ton for the week ending January 11, unchanged from the week ending December 7. The price quote is \$20 below the current U.S. price for long-grain milled rice for Latin American markets. In contrast, price quotes for higher priced nongeneric shipments from Uruguay declined \$50 per ton to \$610. Argentina's 5-percent broken-kernel rice were quoted at \$540 per ton for the week ending January 11, unchanged from the week ending December 7. Prices for Brazil's generic 5-percent broken-kernel rice were quoted at \$440 per ton for the week ending January 11, down \$35 from the week ending December 6.

U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled rice increased over the past month. Prices for U.S. long-grain milled rice, Number 2 Grade, 4-percent broken kernels (free on board a vessel at a Gulf port, Iraqi specifications) remain quoted at \$605 per ton for the week ending January 11, up \$5 from the week ending December 7. U.S. prices for Latin American milled-rice markets—Haiti, Colombia, and Mexico—were quoted at \$565 per ton for the week of January 11, up \$15 from the week ending December. In contrast to the milled-rice prices, U.S. rough-rice long-grain export price quotes remain quoted at \$345 per ton from the week ending January 11, unchanged from the week ending December 7.

Milled-rice prices in California increased over the past month. Prices for California Number 1 Grade, 4-percent broken kernels for the week ending January 11 were quoted at \$1,200 per ton (free on board at a domestic mill, Mediterranean specifications), up \$75 from the week ending December 7. These are the highest prices since June 2009. Prices for delivery to the Port of Oakland, California, medium-grain milled-rice (Korean specifications) were quoted at \$1,350 per ton for the week ending January 11, up \$110 from the week ending December 7. For listings of trading prices by exporter and grade of rice, see table 9 in the Excel file.

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