

1. Winter-spring ending, southern provinces start seeding for summer-autumn season.
2. Stability in domestic rice price
3. Export rice price is stable in the Asian market

Vietnam rice market

By the end of March, 2007, the winter-spring crop had basically completed in the Mekong River Delta. Soc Trang which is one of last harvesting provinces urgently completed harvesting of 140,700 ha. Provinces are in-depth instructing the cultivation for the summer-autumn for cockchafer avoidance, particularly An Giang province, most of assessing variety samples in whole province are infected by the brown backed rice plant hopper, rice grassy stunt virus. Southern provinces have planned and initially implemented the cultivation for the 2007 summer-autumn season, typically, Tra Vinh province has completed the plan for producing summer-autumn rice crop, Bac Lieu has implemented for production of 25,368 ha of high-quality rice (CLC). From experiences of the winter-spring crop, the southern provinces have been bias towards utilizing high-quality and short-live varieties of rice such as OM567, IR 50404, OM4498... in summer-autumn season for ending up uninterrupted crop connection, creating land relaxation, breaking up harming immigration cycle of Ray Nau and increasing the efficiency of agricultural production.

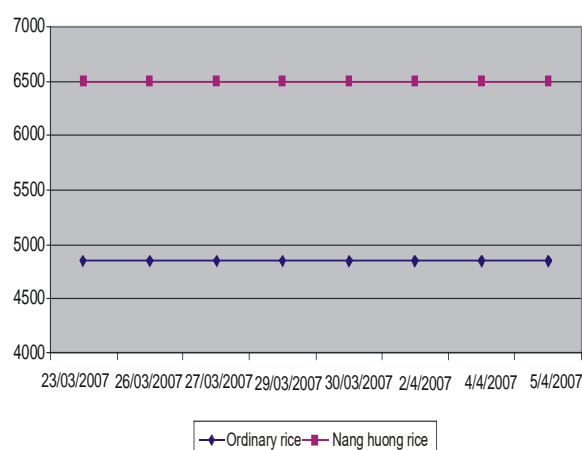
Rice price a little bit has increase in some areas. Currently, rice price in Can Tho, Hau Giang is 2,800 VND/kg, increasing by 100-150 VND/kg, good material rice's price increasing to 3,666 - 3,700 VND/kg, more than 100 VND/kg comparing to last week. Nevertheless, rice price has not generally raised in whole nation, it kept the price level at 3500 VND/kg. This price level is the one which has been sustained for nearly two weeks in provinces of the Mekong River Delta.

Area of seeding and harvesting the 2006-2007 winter-spring Season in some provinces of the Mekong River Delta at 15/3/2006

Provinces	Seeding areas (ha)	Harvesting areas (ha)
Dong Thap	208,679	112,302
Tien Giang	83,407	58,598
Can Tho	92,059	67,971
Hau Giang	81,205	37,765
Tra Vinh	50,982	31,705
Soc Trang	140,731	120,244
Bac Lieu	28,203	9,715

Source: www.agro.gov.vn

Domestic rice price - An Giang province (VND/kg)



Vietnam export rice price (USD/ton, FOB - Source: AGROINFO)

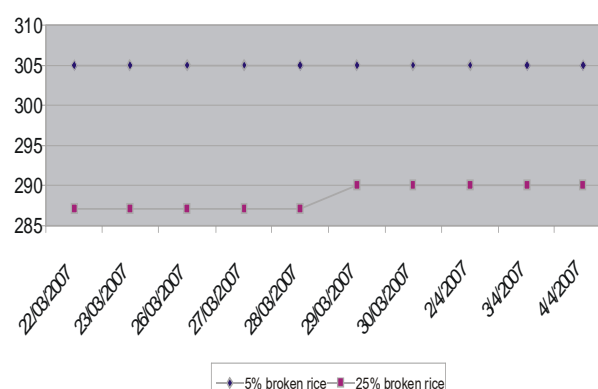
Date	29/3	30/3	02/4	03/4	04/4	05/4	06/4
25% broken rice	290	290	290	290	290	290	290
5% broken rice	305	305	305	305	305	308	308

It is predicted that rice price will have the tendency of slightly fall which results from the impact of simultaneously completing the winter-spring crop in the southern provinces.

Vietnam export rice price seemed to be unchanged in last week while the volume of domestic supply continuously increases because of urgently reaping the winter-spring in southern provinces (key rice exporting granary of the country). In HCM city, price of 5% of the broken rice is 305 USD/ton, 25% of the broken rice's price standing at 285USD/ton, meaning that it has been no change to last week. The prediction is that in the coming time rice price will have the bias towards decrease which causes of an increase in supply (resulting in over supply to demand.)

According to the reports of the provincial departments of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Mekong River Delta, presently, 6 million tons of paddy (equivalent to 3 million tons of rice) are ready for exporting. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam has signed contracts for exporting 3 million tons of rice in total 4 - 4,5 million tons tending to be exported this year. Last week, two vessels caring total 21.000 tons of 15% broken rice left the port to Indonesia. At the same time, three vessels caring 30.300 tons of 25% broken rice also left the port to Philippine. According to Information Center for Agriculture & Rural Development (www.agro.gov.vn), 4.5 million-tonne rice exporting is in-hand target.

Vietnam export rice price (USD/ton)



World rice market

Rice price in the Asian market has been rather stable for the last week. Export price of 5% of the broken rice keeps at the level of 310 USD /ton, more than 2 USD/ton to last week. 5% broken rice price is 305 USD/ton, it has little change in comparison with last two weeks.

Thailand: Government is making the effort to sustain the position of rice export leader. Thailand currently concerns China as the core exporting rice market, they export 600 - 700 thousand tons of rice into this country per year. After a visit to Quang Chau province of Thailand rice exporters, an order of 275 thousand tons of exporting rice from Thailand into China has been signed. It is obvious that Thailand rice is meeting the consumption taste of Chinese people.

Indonesia: Indonesian market gradually becomes more fastidious to rice exporters. Formerly, Indonesia mainly imports rice from Thailand and

Vietnam. Nevertheless, since 2004, the country has issued the law to ban rice importation for private sector in order to prevent speculation. Last week, Indonesian Government established fixed price level for rice to restrict inflation and bring the benefit for farmers. Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has indicated that Indonesian rice output of this year could be unstable because many regions of the country has not yet harvested, the government would conduct market solutions for price stability. In January, Indonesia imported 250.000 tons of rice, and continuously imports about 500.000 tons in April. Also in last week, International Rice Research Institute and Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture signed a research cooperation dealing to promote rice quality of this country. In the near future, Indonesia will cut down rice importation from countries such as Vietnam and Thailand.

Table 1: Prices of ordinary rice in provinces (VND/kg- Source: AGROINFO)

Market	Week	Retail price	Unit
An Giang	14 (2-7/4/07)	4850	VND/kg
Kien Giang	13 (24-30/3/07)	4500	VND/kg
Tra Vinh	14 (2-7/4/07)	4500	VND/kg

Table 2: Prices of aromatic rice in An Giang market (VND/kg- Source: AGROINFO)

Market	Week	Retail price	Unit
An Giang	13 (24-30/3/07)	6100	VND/kg
An Giang	14 (2-7/4/07)	6100	VND/kg
An Giang	15 (9-14/4/07)	6100	VND/kg

Table 3: Prices of sticky rice and high-quality paddy in An Giang market (Source: AGROINFO)

Item	Week	Unit	Wholesale price	Item	Wholesale price
Sticky rice (fresh)	13 (24-30/3/07)	VND/kg	2550	High-quality paddy	2781.25
Sticky rice (fresh)	14 (02-07/4/07)	VND/kg	2700	High-quality paddy	2875
Sticky rice (fresh)	15 (09-14/4/07)	VND/kg	2850	High-quality paddy	2900

Table 4: Price of ordinary paddy of provinces (VND/kg-Source: AGROINFO)

Market	Week	Retail price	Market	Week	Retail price
Bac Lieu	13 (24-30/3/07)	2800	Tay Ninh	14 (2-7/4/07)	3150
Bac Lieu	14 (2-7/4/07)	2850	Tay Ninh	15 (9-14/4/07)	3150
Bac Lieu	15 (9-14/4/07)	2850	Tra Vinh	13 (24-30/3/07)	2800
Ca Mau	13 (24-30/3/07)	2750	Tra Vinh	14 (2-7/4/07)	2800
Đong Nai	13 (24-30/3/07)	3100	Tra Vinh	15 (9-14/4/07)	2900
Đong Nai	14 (2-7/4/07)	3000	Vinh Long	15 (9-14/4/07)	2850

Table 5: Price of ure fertilizer in provinces (VND/kg-Source: AGROINFO)

Market	Week	Retail price	Market	Week	Retail price
An Giang	14 (2-7/4/07)	5200	Giang	14 (2-7/4/07)	5400
An Giang	15 (9-14/4/07)	5200	Kien Giang	15 (9-14/4/07)	5400
Đong Nai	14 (2-7/4/07)	5500	Lam Dong	14 (2-7/4/07)	5680
Đong Nai	15 (9-14/4/07)	5700	Tay Ninh	14 (2-7/4/07)	5400
Đong Thap	14 (2-7/4/07)	5560	Tay Ninh	15 (9-14/4/07)	5900
Đong Thap	15 (9-14/4/07)	5500	Tra Vinh	14 (2-7/4/07)	5500
Ha Noi	14 (2-7/4/07)	5550	Tra Vinh	15 (9-14/4/07)	5500

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