



Rice Outlook: December 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.

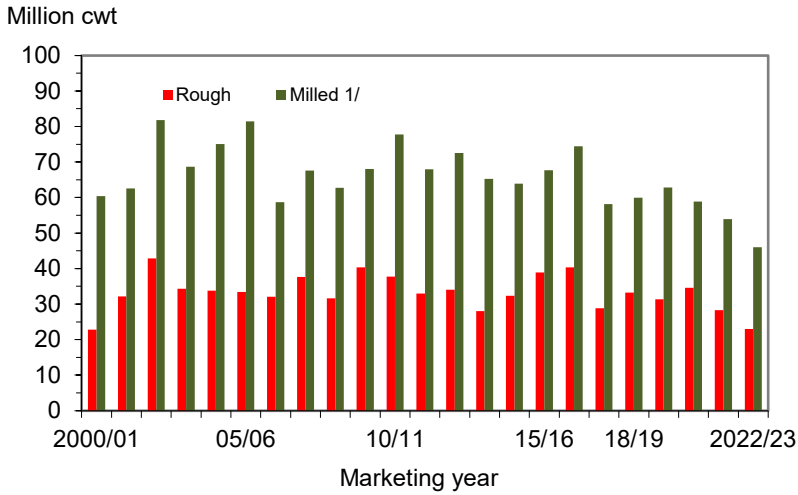
U.S. Export Forecast Lowered to 69.0 Million Hundredweight

There were no supply-side revisions this month to the 2022/23 U.S. rice balance sheet. On the use-side, the all-rice export forecast was lowered 2.0 million cwt—all long-grain rough-rice—to 69.0 million cwt, the lowest since 1991/92. The lower export forecast raised the 2022/23 ending stocks forecast 2.0 million cwt to 38.1 million cwt, still 4 percent below a year earlier. The 2022/23 U.S. season-average farm price (SAFP) forecasts for medium- and short-grain and for all-rice were lowered this month based on a smaller share of marketings accounted for by the higher-priced California medium- and short-grain rice. The 2022/23 all-rice SAFP was lowered 90 cents to \$19.00 per cwt, still 18 percent above a year earlier and the highest on record.

In the global rice market, the 2022/23 world production forecast was lowered 0.4 million tons to 503.3 million tons (milled basis), more than 2 percent below the year-earlier record and the smallest since 2019/20. Production forecasts were lowered for Australia, Brazil, the European Union, Panama, and South Korea. The 2022/23 global consumption and residual use forecast was lowered almost 0.9 million tons to 516.9 million, down almost 3.9 million tons from the year-earlier revised record. Brazil, India, and Thailand account for the bulk of the downward revision in 2022/23 global consumption and residual. The 2022/23 global ending stocks forecast was lowered 0.4 million tons to 168.6 million tons, the second consecutive year of a decline, with Thailand and Vietnam accounting for most of the downward revision.

Global rice trade in calendar year 2023 was raised 0.8 million tons to 53.8 million tons. Upward export revisions for India, Thailand, and Vietnam more than offset reductions for Australia, Brazil, the European Union, and the United States. Over the past month, price quotes for regular milled rice from most Asian sources increased from a month earlier. In contrast, U.S. long-grain milled-rice prices were unchanged from the previous month's record high.

Figure 1
U.S. milled-rice and rough-rice exports projected to continue to decline 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.

Table A. U.S. all-rice supply and use at a glance, 2020/21—2022/23							
Balance sheet item	2020/21 December	2021/22 December	2021/22 Changes from previous year	2022/23 November	2022/23 December	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	191.8	-35.7	164.3	164.3	0.0	
Imports	34.1	37.8	3.7	45.0	45.0	0.0	
Total Supply	290.2	273.2	-17.0	249.1	249.1	0.0	
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	153.1	151.4	-1.7	142.0	142.0	0.0	
Exports	93.5	82.2	-11.3	71.0	69.0	-2.0	Slower-than-expected pace of shipments and sales through late November and expectations regarding shipments the remainder of the market year.
Rough	34.6	28.3	-6.4	25.0	23.0	-2.0	Weaker-than-expected sales to key Latin American markets, especially Mexico, the largest U.S. rough-rice market.
Milled	58.9	53.9	-5.0	46.0	46.0	0.0	
Total use	246.6	233.5	-13.0	213.0	211.0	-2.0	Smaller export forecast.
Ending stocks	43.7	39.7	-4.0	36.1	38.1	2.0	Smaller total use.
Price ----- Dollars per hundredweight ----- August–July marketing year							
Season-average farm price (SAFP)	\$14.40	\$16.10	\$1.70	\$19.90	\$19.00	-\$0.90	A smaller share of total marketings accounted for by the higher-priced medium- and short-grain rice. The all-rice SAFR 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 November	2022/23 December	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	-26.1	131.7	131.7	0.0	
Imports	27.4	30.7	3.3	35.0	35.0	0.0	
Total supply	215.1	205.1	-10.0	191.3	191.3	0.0	
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August-July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	120.3	119.8	-0.5	113.0	113.0	0.0	
Exports	65.0	60.6	-4.4	53.0	51.0	-2.0	Slower-than-expected pace of sales and shipments through late November, especially to Latin America, and uncompetitive prices.
Total use	185.3	180.4	-4.9	166.0	164.0	-2.0	Smaller exports.
Ending stocks	29.7	24.6	-5.1	25.3	27.3	2.0	Reduced total use.
Price 1/ ----- Dollars per hundredweight ----- August-July marketing year							
Season-average farm price (SAFP)	\$12.60	\$13.60	\$1.00	\$16.50	\$16.50	\$0.00	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	47.2	-9.6	32.7	32.7	0.0	
Imports	6.7	7.1	0.4	10.0	10.0	0.0	
Total Supply	72.7	66.2	-6.5	55.7	55.7	0.0	
Demand ----- Million hundredweight ----- August-July marketing year							
Domestic and residual use	32.8	31.6	-1.2	29.0	29.0	0.0	
Exports	28.5	21.5	-6.9	18.0	18.0	0.0	
Total use	61.2	53.1	-8.1	47.0	47.0	0.0	
Ending stocks	11.5	13.0	1.6	8.7	8.7	0.0	
Price 1/ ----- Dollars per hundredweight ----- August-July marketing year							
Southern medium- and short-grain	\$13.00	\$13.90	\$0.90	\$17.40	\$17.40	\$0.00	
California medium- and short-grain	\$22.60	\$28.50	\$5.90	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$0.00	Record high.
U.S. medium- and short-grain	\$20.10	\$24.80	\$4.70	\$30.00	\$29.10	-\$0.90	Smaller share of marketings accounted for by the higher-priced California rice. Record high.

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	1,194	1,083	-111	-9.3
California	504	501	514	405	255	-150	-37.0
Louisiana	436	414	473	414	416	2	0.5
Mississippi	139	113	165	100	84	-16	-16.0
Missouri	220	173	214	194	149	-45	-23.2
Texas	189	150	179	181	190	9	5.0
U.S. total	2,910	2,477	2,986	2,488	2,177	-311	-12.5
South	2,406	1,976	2,472	2,083	1,922	-161	-7.7
	----- Pounds per acre -----						
Yield							
Arkansas	7,520	7,480	7,500	7,630	7,450	-180	-2.4
California	8,620	8,460	8,720	9,050	8,700	-350	-3.9
Louisiana	7,130	6,380	6,820	6,870	6,700	-170	-2.5
Mississippi	7,350	7,350	7,420	7,540	7,400	-140	-1.9
Missouri	7,770	7,370	7,250	8,040	7,800	-240	-3.0
Texas	7,970	7,350	8,150	6,860	8,300	1440	21.0
U.S. average	7,692	7,473	7,619	7,709	7,549	-160	-2.1
South	7,498	7,224	7,391	7,448	7,397	-51	-0.7
	----- 1,000 cwt -----						
Production							
Arkansas	106,947	84,257	108,107	91,136	80,684	-10452	-11.5
California	43,425	42,362	44,810	36,653	22,185	-14468	-39.5
Louisiana	31,094	26,408	32,237	28,447	27,872	-575	-2.0
Mississippi	10,217	8,302	12,241	7,540	6,216	-1324	-17.6
Missouri	17,090	12,747	15,522	15,599	11,622	-3977	-25.5
Texas	15,060	11,028	14,597	12,421	15,770	3349	27.0
U.S. total	223,833	185,104	227,514	191,796	164,349	-27447	-14.3
South	180,408	142,742	182,704	155,143	142,164	-12979	-8.4

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

Total 2022/23 Rice Supplies Projected To Drop 9 Percent

There were no supply-side revisions this month to the 2022/23 U.S. rice balance sheet. Production remains forecast at 164.3 million hundredweight (cwt), 14 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1993/94. Total rice harvested area remains estimated at 2.18 million acres, 12.5 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 1983/84. Harvested area is estimated to be less than a year earlier in all reported States except Louisiana and Texas, where harvested area is up slightly from 2021/22. California's acreage declined the most, a result of long-term drought, low reservoir levels, and resulting water restrictions.

The average yield of 7,549 pounds per acre is 2 percent below the year-earlier record. Average yields in 2022/23 are projected to be lower than a year earlier in all reported rice producing States except Texas, which is expecting a near-record yield.

Long-grain 2022/23 production remains forecast at 131.7 million cwt, 9 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2019/20. Medium- and short-grain production remains forecast at 32.7 million cwt, 31 percent smaller than a year earlier and the lowest since at least 1972/73, when NASS first reported U.S. rice production by class. In January, NASS will report yearend area, yield, and production estimates by State and class in its *Crop Production 2022 Summary*, to be released on January 12, 2023.

U.S. rice imports in 2022/23 remain forecast at a record 45.0 million cwt, 19 percent above a year earlier. Imports are expected to account for more than 30 percent of total domestic and residual use (excluding seed use) in 2022/23, the highest share on record. In October, the United States imported 70,651 tons (product weight) of rice, down 58 percent from the month-earlier near-record. Brazil, China, India, and Thailand account for most of the month-to-month import decline. Almost all U.S. imports from Thailand and India are aromatics classified as long-grain. The bulk of Brazil's exports to the United States are broken kernels, also classified as long-grain, typically used in processed products.

Long-grain imports remain projected at a record 35.0 million cwt, 14 percent larger than a year earlier. The record long-grain import forecast is based on expectations of larger imports of Asian aromatic varieties and increased imports of broken kernel rice due to a smaller U.S. crop and domestic millings. In October, the United States imported 61,335 tons of long-grain rice, with Thailand and India the largest suppliers.

Medium- and short-grain imports remain forecast at a record 10.0 million cwt, up 41 percent from a year earlier, with most of the projected increase due to an extremely weak California harvest. In October, the United States imported 10,189 tons of medium- and short-grain rice, with Thailand and India supplying the bulk and the European Union supplying a much smaller amount. Puerto Rico, an American territory, is expected to import 4 or 5 shipments of 21,000 tons of medium- and short-grain rice in 2022/23, with China the primary supplier. Puerto Rico took one of these shipments in September which was supplied by China.

With carryin also unchanged from the previous estimate, total U.S. rice supplies in 2022/23 remain forecast at 249.1 million cwt, 24.2 million cwt below a year earlier. Long-grain supplies are projected to drop 7 percent to 191.3 million cwt, while medium- and short-grain supplies are projected to decline 15 percent to 55.7 million cwt, the lowest since 1989/90.

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

U.S. 2022/23 all-rice exports are forecast at 69.0 million cwt, 2.0 million below the previous forecast, 16 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 1991/92. The downward revision was largely based on sales and shipments through late November, expectations regarding shipments for the remainder of the market year, and uncompetitive prices. The U.S. rough-rice export forecast was again lowered 2.0 million cwt and is now projected at 23.0 million cwt. Rough-rice imports are projected to be almost 19 percent below a year earlier and are the lowest since 2000/01. Long-grain shipments to Latin America are expected to again account for the bulk of these exports. However, the United States is facing increasing competition from South American suppliers in the region, especially in Mexico, the top U.S. rough-rice export market, as well as in several Central American markets.

U.S. 2022/23 milled-rice exports remain forecast at 46.0 million, nearly 15 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1965/66. United States sales through late November to both Haiti—the largest market for U.S. long-grain milled rice—and Japan—the largest market for U.S. medium- and short-grain milled rice—were well below a year earlier. U.S. milled rice exports in 2022/23 are limited by high prices compared with those of suppliers in both South America and Asia.

Long-grain 2022/23 exports are forecast at 51.0 million cwt, 2.0 million below the previous forecast, nearly 16 percent smaller than a year earlier and the lowest since 1987/88. Latin America is 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. Medium- and short-grain exports remain forecast at 18.0 million cwt, 16.5 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 2000/01. The United States is expected to make few sales of medium- and short-grain rice outside of its core markets in Northeast Asia, Jordan, and Canada due to record-high prices and very tight supplies. Through late November, 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.

All-rice total domestic and residual use in 2022/23 remains forecast at 142.0 million cwt, 6 percent below a year earlier. The year-to-year decline is based on reduced supplies of U.S. rice and fewer post-harvest losses resulting from a smaller crop. The U.S. 2022/23 ending stocks forecast was raised 2.0 million cwt this month to 38.1 million cwt, still 4 percent below a year earlier.

U.S. 2022/23 All-Rice and U.S. Medium- and Short-Grain Season-Average Farm Price Forecasts Lowered

The 2022/23 U.S. season-average farm price (SAFP) forecasts for medium- and short-grain and for all-rice were lowered this month. The 2022/23 U.S. medium- and short-grain SAFP is forecast at \$29.10 per cwt, 90 cents below the previous forecast but still 17 percent above a year earlier and highest on record. The SAFP reduction is based on an expected smaller share of total medium- and short-grain marketings accounted for by the higher-priced California rice based on the NASS-reported substantial decline in California production this year. The 2022/23 all-rice SAFP was also lowered 90 cents, to \$19.00 per cwt, still 18 percent above a year earlier and the highest on record. The decline in the all-rice SAFP forecast is based on an expected

smaller share of total all-rice marketings accounted for by the higher-priced medium- and short-grain rice based on the smaller than typical share of production accounted for by medium- and short-grain rice in 2022/23.

The California 2022/23 medium- and short-grain SAFP remains forecast at a record \$36.00 per cwt, up 26 percent above a year earlier. The extremely high California SAFP is due to a second consecutive year of a drought-reduced California harvest. The 2022/23 southern medium- and short-grain SAFP remains forecast at \$17.40 per cwt, 25 percent above a year earlier and the highest since the 2008/09 record. The 2022/23 SAFP forecast for long-grain rice remains at a record \$16.50 per cwt, more than 21 percent above a year earlier.

International Outlook

Rice Production Forecasts for 2022/23 Lowered for Australia, Brazil, the European Union, and South Korea

The 2022/23 global rice production forecast was lowered 0.4 million tons to 503.3 million tons (milled basis), 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. The month-to-month reduction is due to smaller production forecasts for Australia, Brazil, the European Union, Panama, and South Korea. Australia grows and exports almost exclusively medium- and short-grain rice, and the European Union produces and exports mostly medium- and short-grain rice. Thus, these two production revisions further tighten an already very limited supply situation for this class of rice, as California's production is the lowest since 1977/78 and Egypt no longer exports any significant amounts of rice. Additional detail on production revisions this month are reported in Table D.

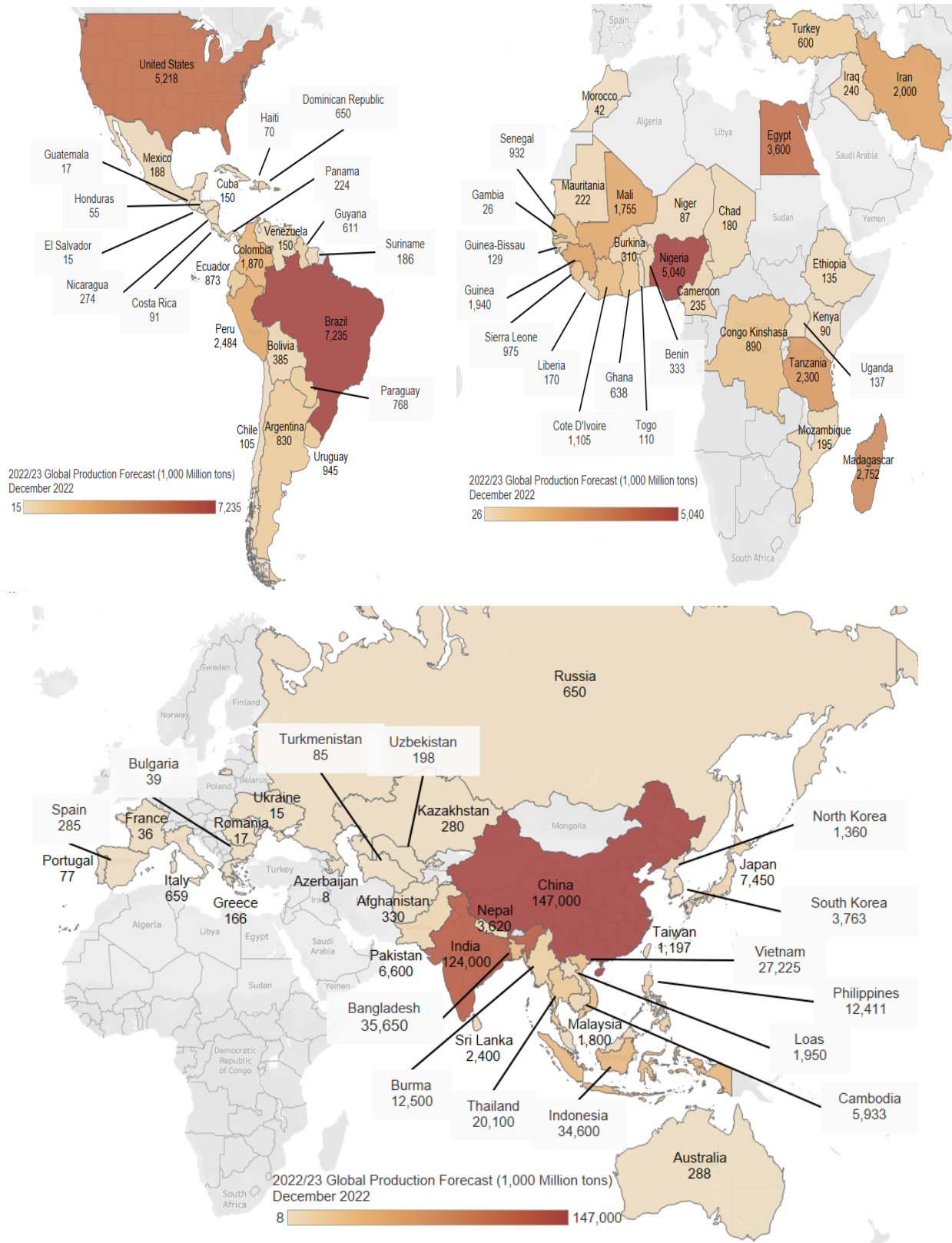
These production revisions and a reduced global carryin estimate resulted in a 1.2-million ton decrease in the 2022/23 total global supply forecast this month to 685.6 million tons, more than 2 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2019/20. This is the first decline in global rice supplies since 2004/05.

On an annual basis, India—the second-largest rice producing country in the world—accounts for the bulk of the expected global production decline, with its production projected to drop 6.3 million tons to 124.0 million. Number-one global producer China is projected to produce 147.0 million tons of rice, a drop of 2.0 million from the 2021/22 record. Pakistan's 2022/23 production is projected to drop 2.5 million tons, and the U.S. crop is projected to decline almost 0.9 million tons. In addition, rice production is projected to decline at least 100,000 tons in 2022/23 in Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, the European Union, Ghana, Japan, South Korea, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania.

In contrast, production in 2022/23 is projected to be up at least 100,000 tons from a year earlier in Burma, Cambodia, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Mali, Thailand, and Vietnam. Egypt's crop is projected to achieve the largest increase, up 0.7 million tons to 3.6 million based on a larger harvested area and a higher expected yield. Cambodia is projected to harvest a record crop in 2022/23.

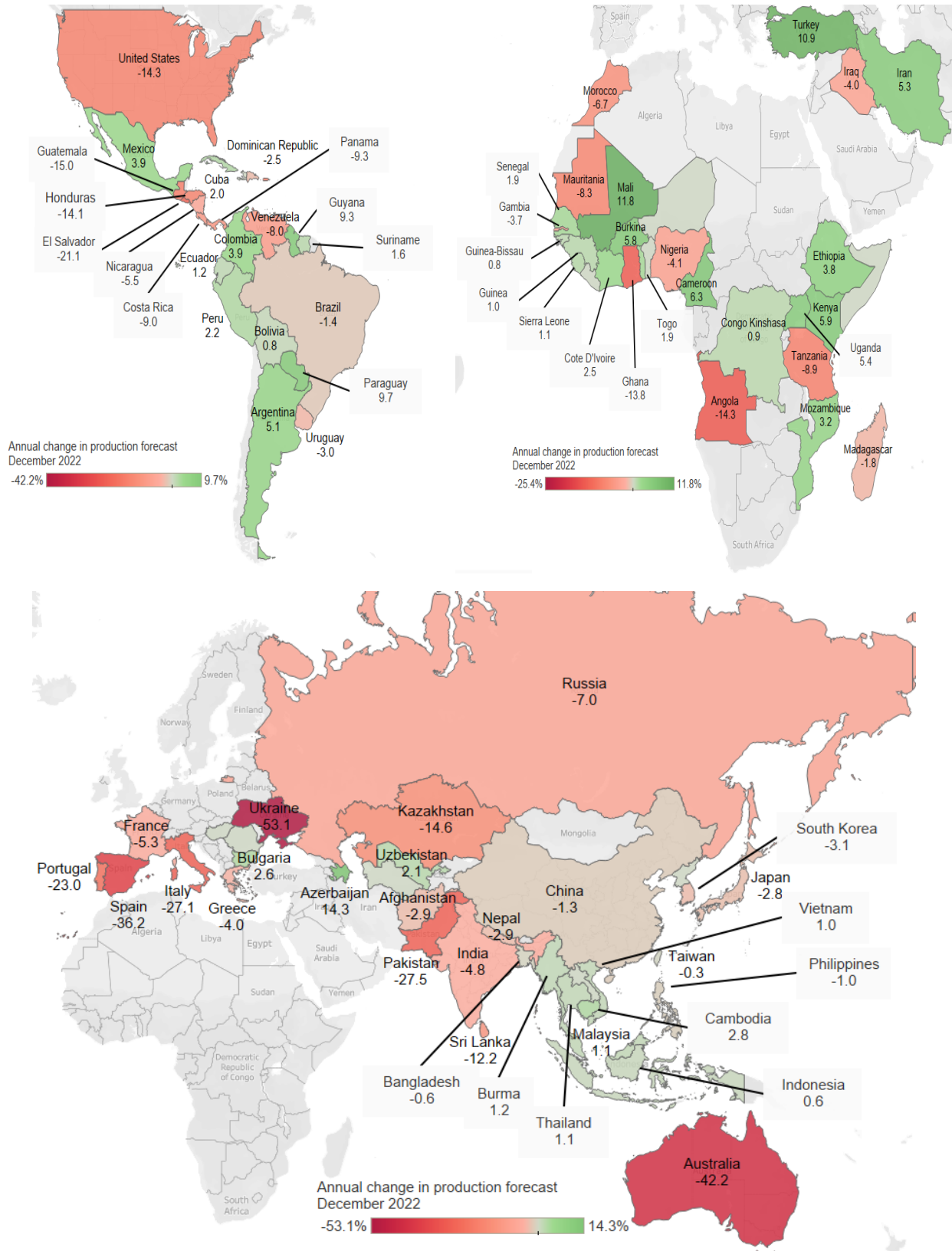
The 2022/23 global consumption and residual use forecast was lowered almost 0.9 million tons this month to 516.9 million, down 3.9 million tons from the year-earlier revised record. Brazil, India, and Thailand account for the bulk of the downward revision. India's domestic and residual use forecast was lowered 0.5 million tons to 108.5 million tons, 2.8 million tons below a year earlier but still the second-highest on record. In contrast, 2022/23 domestic and residual use forecasts were raised this month for Canada, Cuba, and Somalia.

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



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

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



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, December 2022						
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)						
Australia	288	-251	-42.2	↓	↓	Reduced the crop forecast based on a 35,000-hectare reduction in harvested area to 40,000 hectares, 41 percent below a year earlier. The substantial area reduction is due to an extremely wet October followed by heavy rainfall in November that caused widespread flooding in southern New South Wales. Much of the information used in developing the revised forecasts was obtained from the December 6 Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Science's <i>Agricultural Crop Report</i> .
Brazil	7,235	-65	-1.4	↓	↓	Crop forecast was lowered based on a smaller harvested area estimate reported by the Government of Brazil. At 1.52 million hectares, harvested area is 80,000 hectares below the previous forecast, 6 percent below a year earlier, and lowest since the mid-1940s.
European Union	1,285	-63	-25.4	↓	↓	Lowered the production forecast based on revised area and crop estimates provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Madrid. Total harvested area was lowered 26,000 hectares to 331,000, 18 percent below a year earlier. Both harvested area and production are the lowest since the mid-1980s. Hot and dry weather adversely impacted the EU's rice-growing regions this year, with Italy, Portugal, and Spain reporting the largest production declines.
Panama	224	-5	-9.3	↓	↓	Crop forecast was reduced based on a slightly lower area estimate. Harvested area was lowered 2,000 hectares to 90,000 due to higher production costs.
South Korea	3,763	-37	-3.1	↓	↓	Lowered the production forecast based on a slightly lower yield estimate reported by the Government of South Korea.
Rice production in 2021/22, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Colombia	1,800	-50	-10.0	↓	↓	Production estimate was reduced based on a slightly smaller harvested area estimate and a weaker yield reported by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Bogota.
European Union	1,723	9	-5.6	↑	↓	Raised production based on a larger crop estimate for Portugal more than offsetting a reduced estimate for Spain.

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 0.4 million tons to 168.6 million tons, 7.5 percent below the year-earlier revised forecast and the second consecutive year of a decline. Global ending stocks in 2022/23 are forecast to be the lowest since 2017/18. Vietnam's 2022/23 ending stocks were lowered 0.6 million tons to 1.1 million, down 47 percent from a year earlier and the lowest since 2018/19. Thailand's 2022/23 ending stocks were reduced 0.5 million tons to 2.53 million, the lowest since 2006/07. For both countries, ending stocks were lowered this month, due primarily to stronger exports in both 2021/22 and 2022/23. Ending stocks forecasts for 2022/23 were also lowered this month for Australia, Brazil, South Korea, Oman, and Syria. These downward revisions were partially offset by upward 2022/23 ending stocks revisions for China, Cote d'Ivoire, the European Union, Indonesia, Iraq, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

Table E. Global rice balance sheet for 2021/22 and 2022/23, December 2022 (in million tons, milled basis)								
Balance sheet item	2021/22 November	2021/22 December	2021/22 change from previous month	2022/23 November	2022/23 December	2022/23 change from previous month	2022/23 change from previous year	Percent change from previous year
Supply								
Beginning stocks	187.9	188.0	0.1	183.1	182.3	-0.8	-5.7	-3.0
Production	515.1	515.0	0.0	503.7	503.3	-0.4	-11.8	-2.3
Total supply	703.0	703.1	0.1	686.8	685.6	-1.2	-17.5	-2.5
Trade year imports 1/	55.0	55.9	0.9	53.0	53.8	0.8	-2.2	-3.9
Demand								
Consumption and residual use	519.9	520.8	0.9	517.8	516.9	-0.9	-3.9	-0.7
Trade year exports	55.0	55.9	0.9	53.0	53.8	0.8	-2.2	-3.9
Ending stocks	183.1	182.3	-0.8	169.0	168.6	-0.4	-13.6	-7.5
Trade year 2021/22 is calendar year 2022. 1/ Includes imports not assigned to a specific country. Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, <i>Production, Supply and Distribution</i> database.								

Export Forecasts for 2023 Raised for India, Thailand, and Vietnam, but Lowered for Australia, Brazil, and the United States

Global rice trade in calendar year 2023 was raised 0.8 million tons to 53.8 million tons, down 4 percent from the year-earlier revised record and the first decline since 2019. For 2023, upward export revisions for India, Thailand, and Vietnam more than offset export reductions for Australia, Brazil, the European Union, and the United States. On the 2023 import side, forecasts were increased for Angola, Australia, Canada, China, Cuba, the European Union, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, the Philippines, Somalia, and Sri Lanka that were not fully offset by reductions for Liberia, Libya, Panama, Qatar, and Syria.

On an annual basis, Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, China, the European Union, India, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Russia, Senegal, Tanzania, Turkey, and Uruguay are all expected to decrease exports in 2023. India's exports are projected to decrease 1.20 million tons and Pakistan's 0.80 million tons, mostly due to smaller crops. In contrast, Australia, Burma, Guyana, and Thailand are projected to export more rice in 2023. Thailand's exports are projected to increase 0.6 million tons to 8.5 million—the highest since 2018, mostly due to weaker shipments from top competitors India and Pakistan. U.S. 2023 exports are forecast at 2.25 million tons, unchanged from 2022, which are the lowest since 1992.

On the 2023 global import side, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Iraq, South Korea, Madagascar, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Turkey, and Vietnam are projected to import less rice in 2023 than in 2022. Partially offsetting these expected import declines are increased imports in 2023 projected for Afghanistan, Cameroon, Congo (Kinshasa) Cuba, Ecuador, the European Union, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Panama, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela, and Yemen. U.S. and European imports are projected record high.

Table F. Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), December 2022						
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						
Australia	250	50	-3.8	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on a much smaller 2022/23 crop forecast.
Canada	525	50	-4.5	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in 2022 through October.
China	5,200	200	-16.1	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in 2022 through October.
Cuba	430	30	4.9	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in 2022 through October and expected higher consumption in 2022/23.
European Union	2,650	150	6.0	↑	↑	Increased imports to a record high based on a reduced 2022/23 production forecast.
Indonesia	750	200	0.0	↑	→	Increased the import forecast based on the announcement last month by the State-owned procurement agency BULOG, that it plans to import 500,000 tons of rice to replenish its depleted Government stocks, with purchases likely to occur in both 2022 and 2023.
Iraq	1,600	100	-15.8	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in 2022 through October, with Thailand the main supplier.
Panama	80	-30	33.3	↓	↑	Lowered the import forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of purchases through October in 2022.
Philippines	3,400	100	-2.9	↑	↓	Import forecast raised to a near-record based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2022 through October, with Vietnam the main supplier.
Somalia	575	50	-4.2	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2022 through October, with India the main supplier.
Sri Lanka	700	200	-15.2	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2022 through October and high domestic rice prices.

Continued--

Table F - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), December 2022--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						
Angola	700	50	40.0	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast to a record-high based on recent larger-than-expected purchases from Thailand and India.
Canada	550	105	34.1	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October, with the United States, Thailand, and India the top suppliers.
China	6,200	500	26.0	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast to a record-high based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October, with India, Vietnam, Burma, Thailand, Pakistan, and Cambodia the major suppliers.
Cote d'Ivoire	1,600	100	10.3	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October, with India and Vietnam the top suppliers.
Cuba	410	60	-1.4	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October.
European Union	2,500	100	34.3	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October, with Burma and Pakistan the largest suppliers.
Guatemala	150	30	48.5	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October, with the United States the largest supplier followed by Brazil.
Indonesia	750	200	15.4	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast based on the announcement last month by the State-owned procurement agency BULOG, that it plans to import 500,000 tons of rice to replenish its depleted Government stocks, with purchases likely to occur in both 2022 and 2023.
Iraq	1,900	200	48.4	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast to a record-high based on stronger-than-expected purchases through October, with Thailand supplying the bulk.
Liberia	250	-100	-30.6	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of purchases through October.
Panama	60	-40	140.0	↓	↑	Lowered the import forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of purchases through October. The United States is the main supplier.
Philippines	3,500	100	18.6	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised to a record-high based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2022 through October, with Vietnam the main supplier.
Somalia	600	75	20.0	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases through October.
Sri Lanka	825	100	461.2	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast to a record-high based on stronger-than-expected purchases through October in 2022--mostly from India--and high domestic rice prices.
Syria	170	-70	-32.0	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of purchases through October.
Venezuela	500	-40	-16.7	↓	↓	Lowered the import forecast based on weaker-than-expected purchases to-date.

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

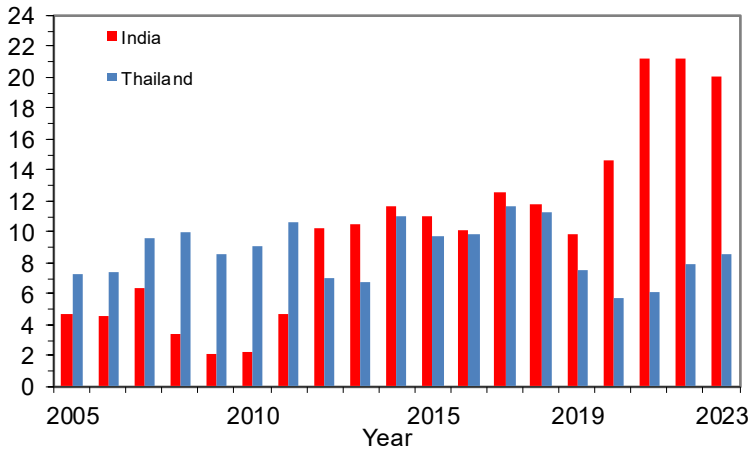
Table G - Selected rice exporters at a glance (1,000 metric tons), December 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from previous month	Percent change from previous year	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of month-to-month change in forecast
Rice exporters, 2023						
Australia	225	-55	12.5	↓	↑	Reduced the export forecast based on a much smaller 2022/23 crop forecast.
Brazil	900	-100	-28.0	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based on tighter supplies in 2022/23.
European Union	400	-20	-9.1	↓	↓	Reduced the export forecast based on a smaller 2022/23 crop forecast.
India	20,000	500	-5.7	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on recent stronger-than-expected purchases from Sub-Saharan Africa.
Thailand	8,500	300	7.6	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on stronger-than-expected shipments in 2022 to Iraq and Sub-Saharan Africa. Exports are projected the highest since 2018.
United States	2,250	-50	0.0	↓	→	Reduced the export forecast based on weaker-than-expected sales in 2022/23 through late November and uncompetitive prices.
Vietnam	7,400	200	0.0	↑	→	Raised the export forecast based on expectations of larger sales to China and Indonesia.
Rice exporters, 2022						
Brazil	1,250	150	59.8	↑	↑	Raised the export forecast to a near-record based on stronger-than-expected sales through October, with Mexico, Senegal, Venezuela, Cuba, and Costa Rica the top markets.
India	21,200	200	-0.2	↑	↓	Raised exports to a near-record-high based on stronger-than-expected sales through October, primarily to core Sub-Saharan African markets.
Paraguay	700	60	9.4	↑	↑	Exports raised to a record-high based on stronger-than-expected sales through October, with Brazil the largest market.
Thailand	7,900	300	30.3	↑	↑	Raised the export forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of sales through October, with Iraq and Sub-Saharan Africa the top markets.
United States	2,250	-200	-22.9	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based on a weaker-than-expected pace of sales and shipments through late November, with long-grain rough-rice sales to Latin America especially weak. These are the smallest total U.S. exports since 1992.
Vietnam	7,400	400	18.0	↑	↑	Raised the export forecast based on larger-than-expected sales to China and the expectation of additional sales in late 2022 to Indonesia.

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 almost 8 percent

Million tons



Notes: Rice exports are reported on a milled basis; 2022 and 2023 are forecasts.
 Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *Production, Supply, and Distribution* database.

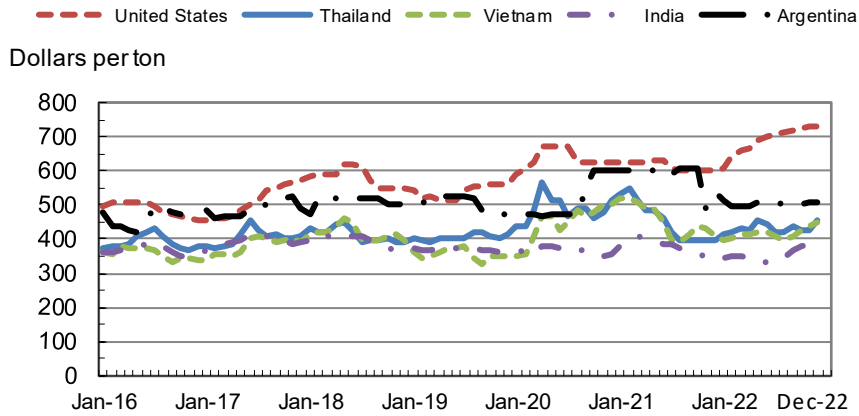
Over the past month, quotes for Thailand’s trading prices for most grades of regular (neither parboiled nor aromatic) milled rice increased 8-9 percent from a month earlier, mostly due to a stronger *baht*. For the week ending December 6, Thailand’s 100-percent Grade B long-grain milled rice for export was quoted at \$454 per ton, up \$36 from the week ending November 8 and the highest since early June. Price quotes for Vietnam’s nearly-harvested late-autumn crop in the Mekong River Delta for the week ending December 6 were quoted at \$450 per ton, up \$15 from the week ending November 8 and the highest since June 2021.

India’s price quotes for 5-percent broken-kernel rice shipped bulk were \$390 for the week ending December 6, up \$10 from the week ending November 8. Despite the slight increase, India remains the most competitively-priced source of Asian rice. Pakistan’s price quote for 5-percent broken-kernel rice for the week ending December 6 increased \$30 per ton to \$445 from the week ending November 8. Argentina’s 5-percent broken-kernels were quoted at \$510 per ton for the week ending December 6, up \$10 from the week ending November 8.

U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled rice were unchanged 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 \$730 per ton for the week ending December 6, the highest for U.S. milled long-grain rice since early October 2008. U.S. price quotes for Latin American markets were also unchanged over the past month, quoted at \$695 per ton for the week ending December 6. Milled-rice nominal price quotes (no actual offers or sales) for California medium-grain Number 1 Grade, 4-percent broken, remain at \$1,625 per ton (free on board at a domestic mill) for the week ending December 6, unchanged since mid-September 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.

Figure 3

U.S. trading prices unchanged; Thailand's prices increase



December 2022 = 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, break bulk; 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*.

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Childs, Nathan and Bonnie LeBeau, *Rice Outlook: December 2022, RCS-22K*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, December 13, 2022.

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