



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Myanmar

Madagascar remains the largest rice importer of Myanmar, followed by the Philippines

According to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), Myanmar exports rice to 31 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and ASEAN, with Madagascar as the largest buyer, followed by the Philippines and China. Myanmar's rice exports are dominated by lower-grade and broken rice categories, with broken rice (A+B) accounting for the largest share at up to 41 percent of total monthly shipments. 25-point rice accounts for about 34 percent, while higher-quality 5 percent and 10 percent broken rice from local Aemahta and Ngasein varieties contribute about 22 percent. Meanwhile, parboiled rice accounts for a small share of exports, at approximately 3 percent.

Source: The Global New Light of Myanmar. (2026, February 18). *Madagascar Emerges as Top Buyer of Myanmar Rice, Followed by Philippines.*

Philippines

The average price of rice decreased in early February 2026

Rice retail prices in the Philippines fell in early February compared with the same period last year, but increased from mid-January levels, despite rising farm-gate prices for palay (unmilled rice). According to the Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA), regular milled rice averaged 45.54 PHP (0.79 USD) per kilogramme (1 – 5 February), down 4.7 percent compared to 2025 but 4.1 percent higher than

the 15 – 17 January average price. Regionally, the highest price of 50.67 PHP (0.88 USD) per kilogramme was recorded in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, while the lowest price of 40.29 PHP (0.70 USD) per kilogramme was in Mimaropa. In addition, despite lower retail prices compared with 2025, farm-gate prices of palay continued to rise due to a temporary rice import ban (September – December 2025), which helped farmers recover after prices had previously fallen due to excessive imports.

*1 USD = 57.59 PHP

Source: Inquirer.net. (2026, February 18). *Retail prices of rice lower in early February, says PSA.*

Thailand

Thailand faces rice export pressure driven by the strong baht and rising domestic prices

Thailand's rice export outlook has weakened in February 2026 due to relatively high export prices compared with other Asian suppliers. The higher prices are mainly driven by a strong baht and high domestic rice prices, reducing the country's competitiveness in global markets. According to the Thai Rice Exporters Association, Thai rice prices remain above competitors across major categories. Thai 5 percent broken white rice is quoted at 410 USD per tonne, compared with 363 – 367 USD per tonne for Vietnam, 350 – 354 USD per tonne for India, and 365 – 369 USD per tonne for Pakistan. Premium Thai Hom Mali jasmine rice stands at 1,171 per USD tonne, far exceeding Vietnam's at 433 – 437 USD per tonne and Cambodia's at 834 USD per tonne. Similarly, Thai parboiled rice is priced at 445 USD per tonne, higher than India and Pakistan equivalents.

Source: Nation Thailand. (2026, February 23). *Strong baht and high prices curb Thai rice exports as global trade hits record.*

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