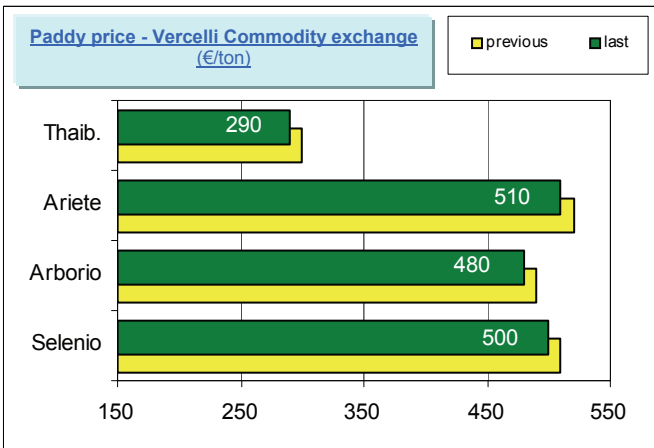
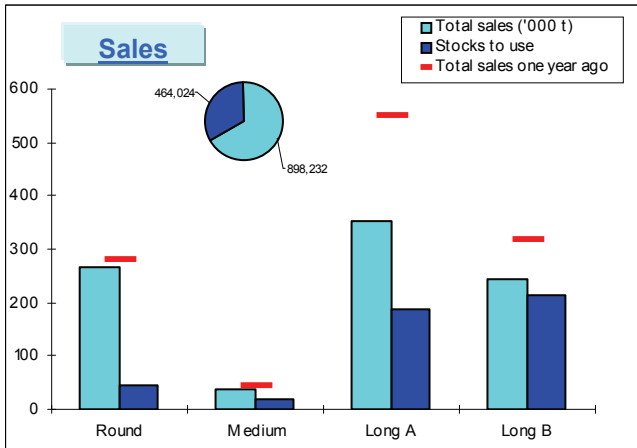




## Italian Market



### In focus

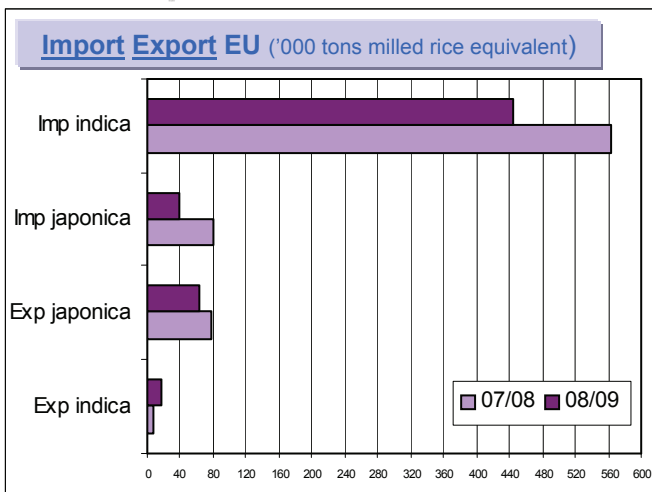
Paddy sales by farmers reached 19,630 tons this week: 7,662 tons of long A grain, 7,141 tons of long B grain, 3,861 tons of round grain and 966 tons of medium grain.

The gap between total sales this year compared to the higher items one year ago, is now -297,646 tons. At the moment the difference is -198,304 tons for long A grain, -74,228 tons for long B grain, -16,846 tons for round grain and -8,268 tons for medium grain.

Total sales reached 898,232 tons, 66% of the total stock. One year ago total sales were 1,195,878 tons corresponding to 77% of the total final stock (80% of the estimated stock).

Over last three weeks, all paddy prices at Commodity Exchange in Vercelli decreased of €10.

## European Market



Quotas for the may 2009 subperiod (tons)				
Type of rice	Paddy	Husked	wholly milled or semi milled	Broken
CN code	1006 10	1006 20	1006 30	1006 40
CARIFORUM	112,436.747 (husked rice equivalent) (with the exception of CN code 1006 10 10 )			
OCT's (Netherlands Antilles and Aruba)	15,167.000 (husked rice equivalent)			
OCT's (least-developed)	6,667.000 (husked rice equivalent)			

### In focus

The EU imports amount to 483,531 tons in milled rice equivalent, 25.1% below the previous year level (-119,531 tons of indica rice and -42,354 tons of japonica rice). Husked Basmati rice imports are on a decreasing trend compared to last year (-45.8%); imports decreased of 97,549 tons (67,300 tons in milled rice equivalent).

In the table above tariff quotas are listed for imports available for may 2009 subperiod.

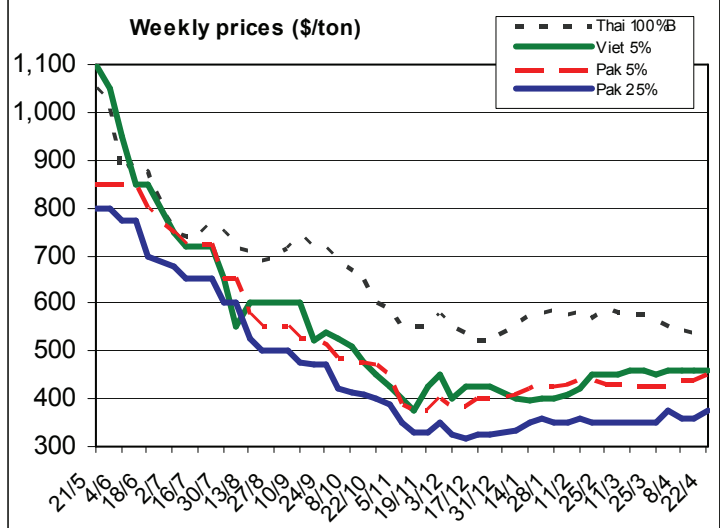
EU exports decreased of 6.4% compared to one year ago: from 85,012 tons in 2007/2008 to 79,572 tons this campaign. Last week licences were issued for 1,264 tons compared to 4,084 tons the previous week.

# International Markets

## Milled rice international FOB quotes

Exchange rate 1 € = \$1.2932

Asian Markets	\$/t	€/t
Thai 100%B	545	421
Vietnam 5%	460	356
India (MEP)	1,000	773
India Basmati trad.	1,700	1,315
Pakistan 5%	450	348
Other Markets	\$/t	€/t
Uruguay 5%	520	402
Argentina 5%	510	394
USA LG 2/4%	540	418
California MG 1/4%	1,225	947
Egypt 101	1,000	773



- Thailand** The quote of 100% B is \$5 lower than three weeks ago. Thai commerce ministry announced a tender to sell 3,76 MMT of paddy out of the intervention stocks. Iraq bought 60,000 mt of Thai long grain milled rice.
- Vietnam** No change for 5%. For now, Vietnam is not a viable vendor in the export market, however, that will likely change with Vinafood for shipments starting July forward; this could include next Iraq tender (on 28<sup>th</sup> April for 30,000 mt of long grain milled rice ) as the shipment is Aug/Sept.
- India** The elections have commenced, but it will take some time for the next Government to get fully entrenched in order to make major decisions about sale of overflowing buffer stocks.
- Pakistan** The quote of 5% is \$25 higher than three weeks ago. Export activity is limited to core markets in East Africa as well as some of the usual border trading.
- Usa** The quote of Long Grain is \$11 higher than three weeks ago, while the quote of Medium Grain decreased of \$25.
- Others** Iraq bought 90,000 mt of South American long grain milled rice.

## Food Safety

### Rapid Alert System (Source: EFSA)

On 14<sup>th</sup> April a notification was sent by Italy concerning aflatoxins in rice from Sri Lanka.  
On 16<sup>th</sup> April a notification was sent by Luxembourg concerning aflatoxins in basmati rice from Austria.

## Rules and Calls for bids

### Commission Regulation (O.J.E.U. L 95)

The European Commission has published the Regulation (EC) No 300/2009 laying down the allocation coefficient to be applied to import licence applications lodged from 27 March 2009 to 3 April 2009 under the tariff quota opened by Regulation (EC) No 955/2005 for rice originating in Egypt.

## Other news

### G8 Agriculture: a new road for agriculture (Source: Agricoltura italiana online)

"With this first G8 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting we have respected the mandate of the Toyako Summit and opened a new road, with common strategies to fight hunger and to safeguard, as well as promote, food security. I hope that these three days have made you fall in love with agriculture". With these words the Minister of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies, Luca Zaia, spoke to journalists closing the first G8 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting, the results of which will be presented, in June, at the G8 summit to be held in La Maddalena.

The meeting closed with the commitment, as written in the final declaration of the Ministers "to use all the tools available to alleviate the negative consequences of the current financial crisis on poverty and hunger, strengthen and encourage sustainable agriculture and food production, increase the investments in agriculture and research."

Fighting speculation and protecting production identities, while working in a free market, and centrality of the agricultural production in the global political agenda: these are the important objectives achieved thanks to the great action carried out in the three days by the Italian Presidency. Furthermore "We underline the importance of a rules-based international trading system for agricultural trade and we are committed to reaching a balanced, comprehensive and ambitious conclusion of the Doha Round."

Speaking about this the Minister Zaia declared that "we will continue to work in order to redefine common and equal rules for international trade, that can be applied in a free market, at the same time, ensuring that no farmer is starved and enabling a healthy and long lasting development in developing countries".

"We finally put on paper the world that we want: a world in which 140 million children and one billion people do not die of hunger each year; a world in which access to healthy food, as well as sufficient and nutrient food, is a 'normal' occurrence. I am very satisfied of the fact that the worlds' eyes have been for three days focused on a sector that is vital for our future. A sector that is too often ignored and not considered a noble and important activity. United we wanted to put once again this topic at the center of the media's attention and we will work so it continues to be so in the future" - the Minister added - .

### Cambodia: processed rice set for export to France (Source: Phnom Penh Post)

The National Rice Millers Association (NRMA) announced that it exported its first 3,460 tonnes of milled rice to France. "We expect that the NRMA will be able to export 12,000 tonnes of milled rice to France this year" NRMA President said. The price of rice sent to France was \$450 per tonne on average.