

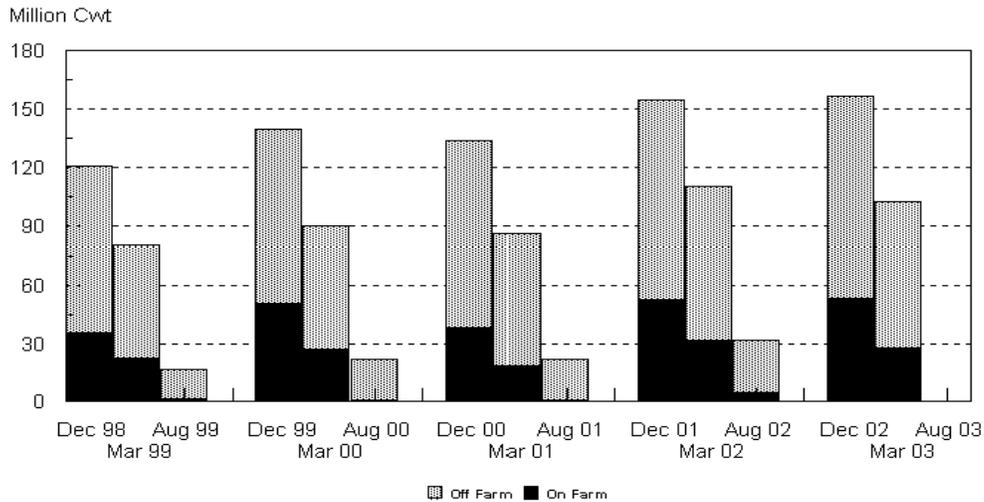
Released March 31, 2003, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Rice Stocks" call Mark R. Miller at (202) 720-7688, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Rough Rice Stocks Down 10 Percent From March 2002

Rough rice stocks in all positions on March 1, 2003, totaled 103 million hundredweight (cwt), down 10 percent from the total on March 1, 2002. Stocks held on farms totaled 27.5 million cwt, and off-farm stocks totaled 75.1 million cwt. Long grain varieties accounted for 74 percent of the total rough rice, medium grain accounted for 25 percent, and short grain varieties accounted for 1 percent.

Milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 6.63 million cwt, 38 percent above the comparable figure a year ago. Milled rice stocks were comprised of 5.07 million cwt of whole kernel rice and 1.56 million cwt of second heads, screenings, and brewers rice.

U.S. Rough Rice Stocks
By Position



Rice Stocks: By Position, United States, 2002-2003

Date	On Farms or Farm Whses	In Mills and Attached Whses	In Whses not Attached to Mills	In Ports or In Transit	Total All Positions ¹
2003	Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt				
Mar 1	27,505	11,869	61,514	1,690	102,578
Aug 1					
Oct 1 ²					
Dec 1					
	Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt				
Mar 1		4,494	110	2,023	6,627
Aug 1					
Oct 1 ²					
Dec 1					
	Rough Rice - Metric Tons				
Mar 1	1,247,610	538,370	2,790,230	76,660	4,652,860
Aug 1					
Oct 1 ²					
Dec 1					
	Milled Rice - Metric Tons				
Mar 1		203,840	4,990	91,760	300,600
Aug 1					
Oct 1 ²					
Dec 1					
2002	Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt				
Mar 1	31,725	15,325	66,279	179	113,508
Aug 1	5,180	6,599	19,728	302	31,809
Oct 1 ²	*	539	2,899	*	3,488
Dec 1	53,220	14,251	88,421	1,178	157,070
	Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt				
Mar 1		3,689	155	969	4,813
Aug 1		3,581	88	1,261	4,930
Oct 1 ²		726	0	0	726
Dec 1		4,814	117	2,550	7,481
	Rough Rice - Metric Tons				
Mar 1	1,439,020	695,130	3,006,370	8,120	5,148,640
Aug 1	234,960	299,330	894,850	13,700	1,442,830
Oct 1 ²	*	24,450	131,500	*	158,210
Dec 1	2,414,020	646,410	4,010,710	53,430	7,124,580
	Milled Rice - Metric Tons				
Mar 1		167,330	7,030	43,950	218,310
Aug 1		162,430	3,990	57,200	223,620
Oct 1 ²		32,930	0	0	32,930
Dec 1		218,360	5,310	115,670	339,330

* Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ Total may not add due to rounding.

² CA only.

Rice Stocks: By Position, State and United States, March 1, 2002-2003

State	On Farms or Farm Whses	In Mills and Attached Whses	In Whses not Attached to Mills	In Ports or In Transit	Total All Positions
March 1, 2003					
Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR	15,600	8,036	29,783	4	53,423
CA	*	1,532	18,640	*	22,241
LA	2,400	*	*	*	8,608
MS	4,800	*	3,215	*	8,566
MO	*	*	*	0	4,430
TX	1,600	620	3,090	0	5,310
Unall*	3,105	1,681	6,786	1,686	0
US	27,505	11,869	61,514	1,690	102,578
Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR		1,619	110	290	2,019
CA		1,654	0	430	2,084
LA		135	0	1,293	1,428
MS		*	0	*	*
MO		*	0	*	*
TX		952	0	0	952
Unall*		134	0	10	144
US		4,494	110	2,023	6,627
March 1, 2002					
Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR	18,300	7,590	31,592	62	57,544
CA	1,125	1,689	21,277	0	24,091
LA	3,400	*	*	*	9,931
MS	4,200	491	2,967	0	7,658
MO	*	*	*	0	6,502
TX	*	*	3,703	*	7,782
Unall*	4,700	5,555	6,740	117	0
US	31,725	15,325	66,279	179	113,508
Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR		1,591	155	441	2,187
CA		925	0	0	925
LA		445	0	462	907
MS		*	0	*	*
MO		*	0	*	*
TX		606	0	0	606
Unall*		122	0	66	188
US		3,689	155	969	4,813

* Included in unallocated to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Rough Rice Stocks: By Length of Grain in All Positions,
California, Other States, and United States, March 1, 2002-2003**

State	Long		Medium		Short		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>							
CA	*	*	22,212	20,564	*	*	24,091	22,241
Oth Sts ¹	*	*	6,303	4,965	*	*	89,417	80,337
US	83,723	75,733	28,515	25,529	1,270	1,316	113,508	102,578

* Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ AR, LA, MS, MO, and TX.

**Milled Rice Stocks: By Length of Grain in All Positions,
California, Other States, and United States, March 1, 2002-2003**

State	Whole Kernels (Head Rice)							
	Long		Medium		Short		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	18	15	424	1,134	110	58	552	1,207
Oth Sts ¹	3,204	3,641	198	217	0	1	3,402	3,859
US	3,222	3,656	622	1,351	110	59	3,954	5,066
Broken Kernels								
	Second Heads		Screenings		Brewers		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	352	800	*	*	21	77	373	877
Oth Sts ¹	296	390	139	146	51	148	486	684
US	648	1,190	139	146	72	225	859	1,561

* Screenings included with second heads in CA.

¹ AR, LA, MS, MO, and TX.

Rice Stocks: By Position, State, and United States, December 1, 2001-2002

State	On Farms or Farm Whses	In Mills and Attached Whses	In Whses not Attached to Mills	In Ports or In Transit	Total All Positions
December 1, 2002					
Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR	28,700	*	39,692	*	76,087
CA	*	3,285	30,386	*	36,759
LA	8,500	1,523	5,826	882	16,731
MS	7,100	*	3,641	*	11,202
MO	*	*	*	*	5,577
TX	3,500	*	*	0	10,714
Unall*	5,420	9,443	8,876	296	0
US	53,220	14,251	88,421	1,178	157,070
Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR		1,784	117	234	2,135
CA		1,534	0	632	2,166
LA		376	0	1,524	1,900
MS		*	0	*	*
MO		*	0	*	*
TX		870	0	153	1,023
Unall*		250	0	7	257
US		4,814	117	2,550	7,481
December 1, 2001					
Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR	27,500	7,671	40,100	209	75,480
CA	2,730	2,232	30,675	414	36,051
LA	8,750	*	5,714	*	16,172
MS	6,300	*	*	*	*
MO	*	*	*	*	*
TX	*	696	5,561	*	8,458
Unall*	7,400	2,434	6,077	98	18,400
US	52,680	13,033	88,127	721	154,561
Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt					
AR		1,688	122	171	1,981
CA		1,231	0	31	1,262
LA		*	*	*	*
MS		*	*	*	*
MO		*	*	*	*
TX		855	0	0	855
Unall*		866	65	878	1,809
US		4,640	187	1,080	5,907

* Included in unallocated to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Rough Rice Stocks: By Length of Grain in All Positions,
California, Other States, and United States, December 1, 2001-2002**

State	Long		Medium		Short		Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>							
CA	*	*	33,405	33,937	*	*	36,051	36,759
Oth Sts ¹	*	*	9,120	6,981	*	*	118,510	120,311
US	109,953	113,897	42,525	40,918	2,083	2,255	154,561	157,070

* Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ AR, LA, MS, MO, and TX.

**Milled Rice Stocks: By Length of Grain in All Positions,
California, Other States, and United States, December 1, 2001-2002**

State	Whole Kernels (Head Rice)							
	Long		Medium		Short		Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	19	23	734	1,467	62	57	815	1,547
Oth Sts ¹	3,777	4,367	252	207	0	1	4,029	4,575
US	3,796	4,390	986	1,674	62	58	4,844	6,122
Broken Kernels								
State	Second Heads		Screenings		Brewers		Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	428	513	*	*	19	106	447	619
Oth Sts ¹	397	513	123	91	96	136	616	740
US	825	1,026	123	91	115	242	1,063	1,359

* Screenings included with second heads in CA.

¹ AR, LA, MS, MO, and TX.

Reliability of March 1, 2003 Rice Stocks Estimates

Survey Procedures: The rice stocks estimates in this report are based on surveys conducted during the first 2 weeks of March. Separate surveys were conducted to obtain the on-farm and off-farm estimates. The on-farm stocks survey is a probability survey based on a sampling procedure that ensures all operations storing rice in the U.S. have a chance to be selected. These producers were asked to provide the total quantities of grain stored on their operations as of March 1, 2003. Off-farm stocks are a census of all known rice storage facilities. An effort is made to obtain reports from all off-farm facilities. Estimates are made for missing facilities to assure complete coverage.

Estimation Procedures: On-farm and off-farm survey data are reviewed at the State and national levels for reasonableness, consistency with historical estimates, and current crop size. After estimates are made for on-farm and off-farm rice stocks, the total of these two are combined and evaluated using the balance sheet approach. This method utilizes other sources of data to check the reasonableness of the stocks estimates. Estimates of production, exports, and millings are reviewed to make sure beginning stocks, production, utilization, and ending stocks are within reasonable balance and present the best possible estimate of stocks.

Revision Policy: On-farm and off-farm stocks are subject to revision in the quarter following initial publication and again in the following December 1 "**Rice Stocks**" report published in January each year. Revisions can be made when late reports are received, errors are detected in reporting and calculating, and when production estimates are revised. Estimates will also be reviewed after data for the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions to these years will be made after that date.

Reliability: Reliability of the on-farm and off-farm stocks must be treated separately because the survey design for the two surveys are drastically different. The on-farm stocks estimates are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding on-farm stocks are not included in the sample.

Survey indications are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. Off-farm, as well as on-farm stocks, are subject to these types of errors. These errors cannot be measured directly, but they are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

The next "Rice Stocks" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on August 28, 2003.

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