

Rice Graphics and Commentary

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Focus on China Rice

From a food security perspective many argue that China’s rice ending stocks have fallen to dangerously low levels as rice consumption has exceeded production for 6 consecutive years. USDA projects China’s ending stocks in 2005/06 at 28.8 million metric tons. Their ending stocks are down for the 6th consecutive year from a high of 98.5 million metric tons in 1999/00. That said, China is once again expanding acreage and production is projected up for the 2nd consecutive year.

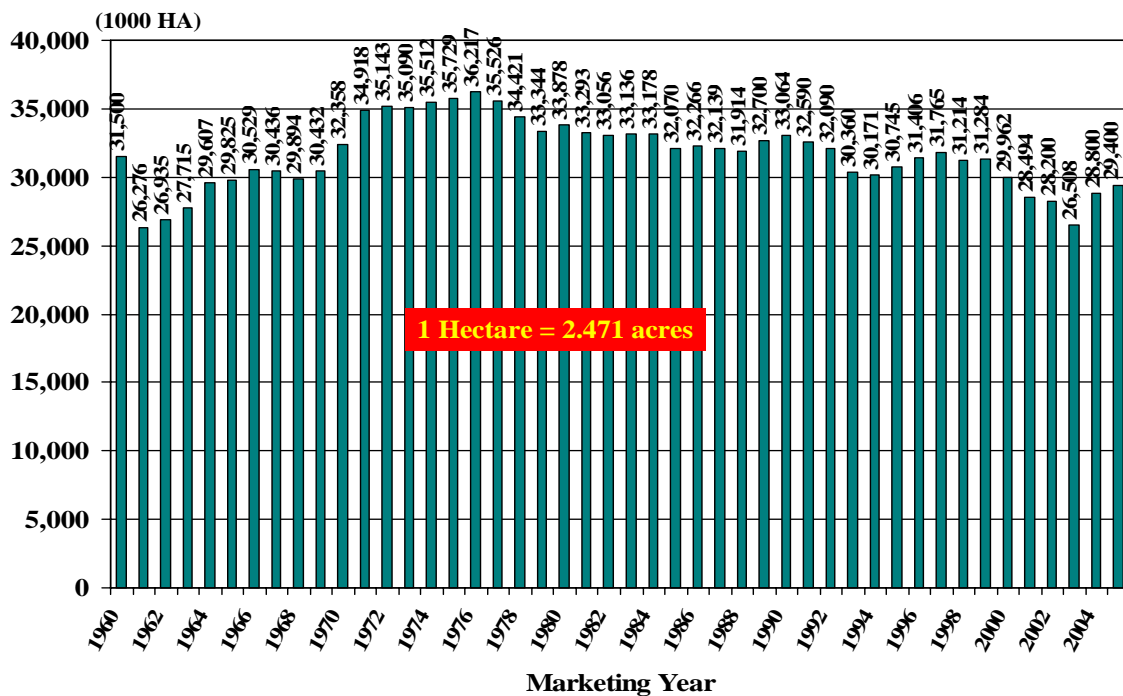
China is the number one rice producing country in the world. In 2005/06 USDA projects that Chinese rice farmers will produce 127.5 million metric tons of milled rice (U.S. production 7.1 million tons). Chinese rice production slipped from a record 140.5 million metric tons in 1997/98 to 112.5 million metric tons in 2003/04.

In 2005/06 Chinese rice producers will harvest 72.6 million acres of rice which is up from 2003/04 recent low of 65.5 million acres. Record rice acreage of 89.5 million acres was harvested during the 1976/77 period.

Will China’s calendar year 2006 rice imports exceed USDA’s current .9 million metric tons projection? I’m no sure even China has an answer.

Sources: [FAS/USDA Data Set](#)

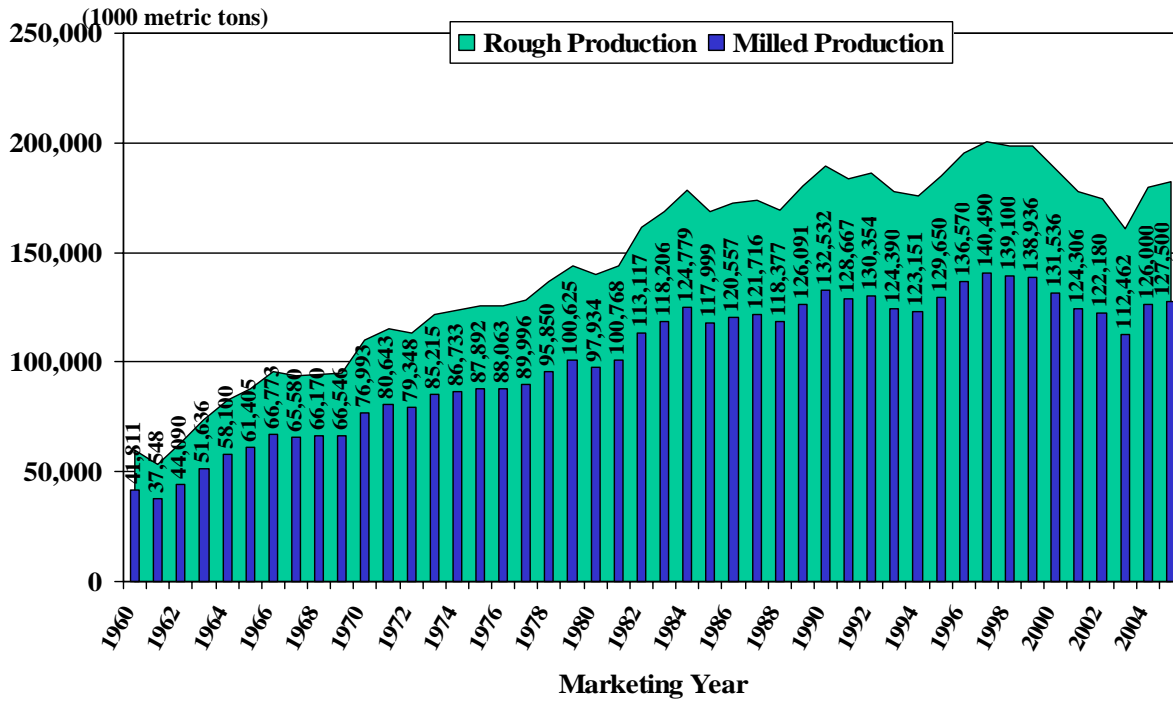
China All Rice
 Harvested Hectares 1960/61 – 2005/06



Source: [FAS/USDA Data Set](#)

China All Rice

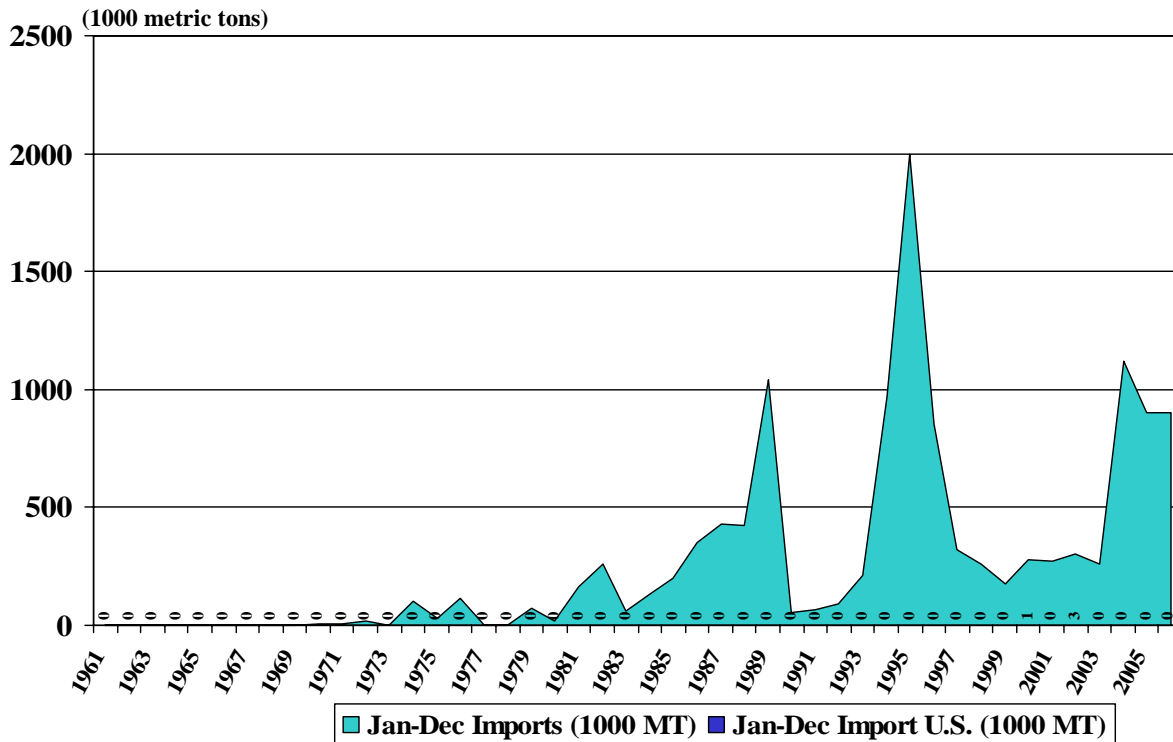
Rough and Milled Production 1960/61 – 2005/06



Source: FAS/USDA Data Set

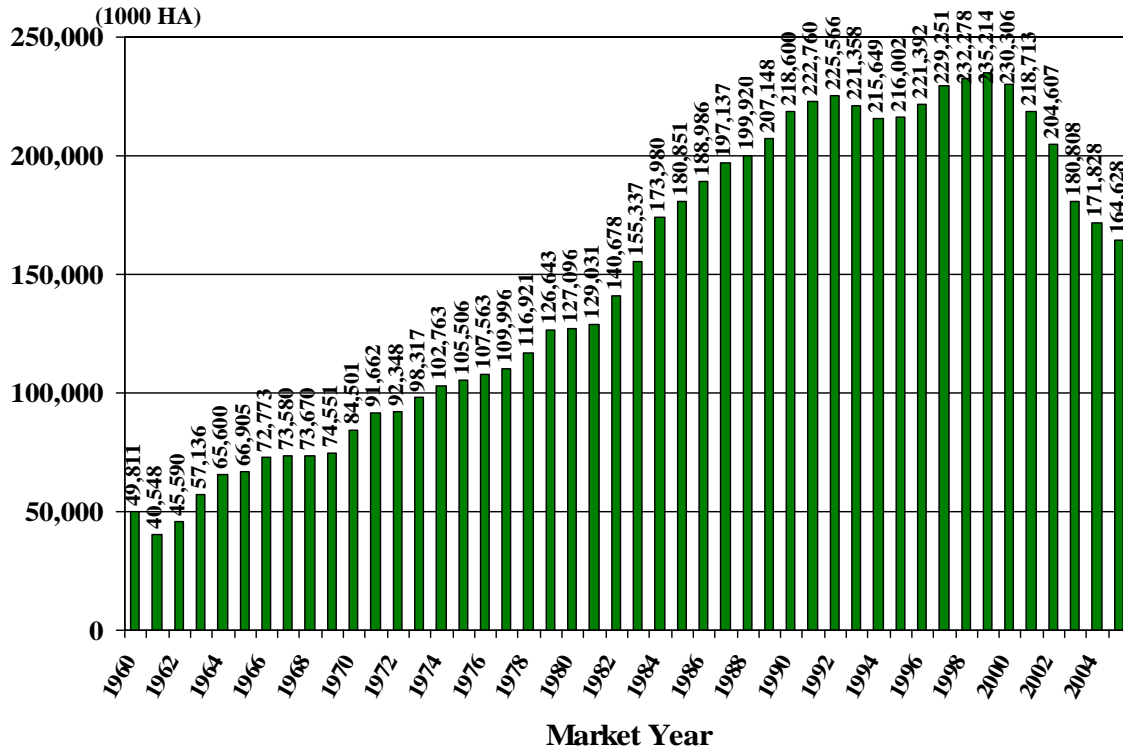
China All Rice

Jan-Dec Imports and Jan-Dec U.S. Imports 1961 - 2006



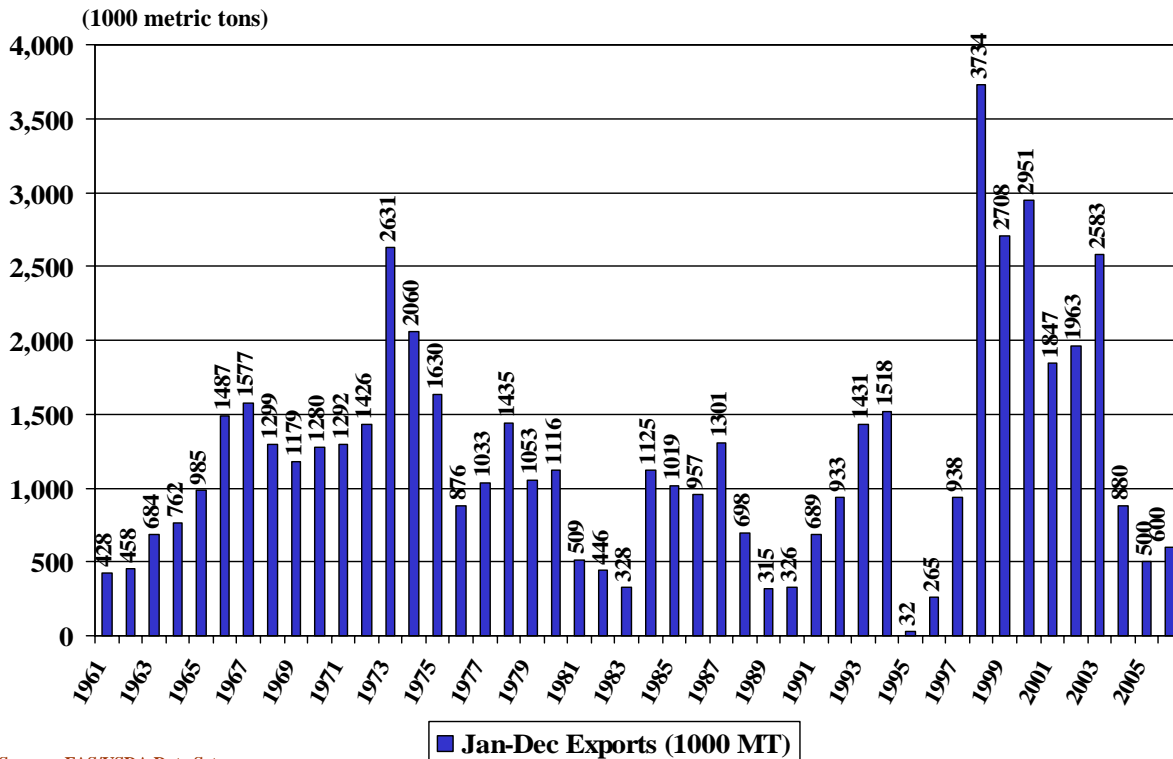
Source: FAS/USDA Data Set

China All Rice Total Supply 1960/61 – 2005/06



Source: FAS/USDA Data Set

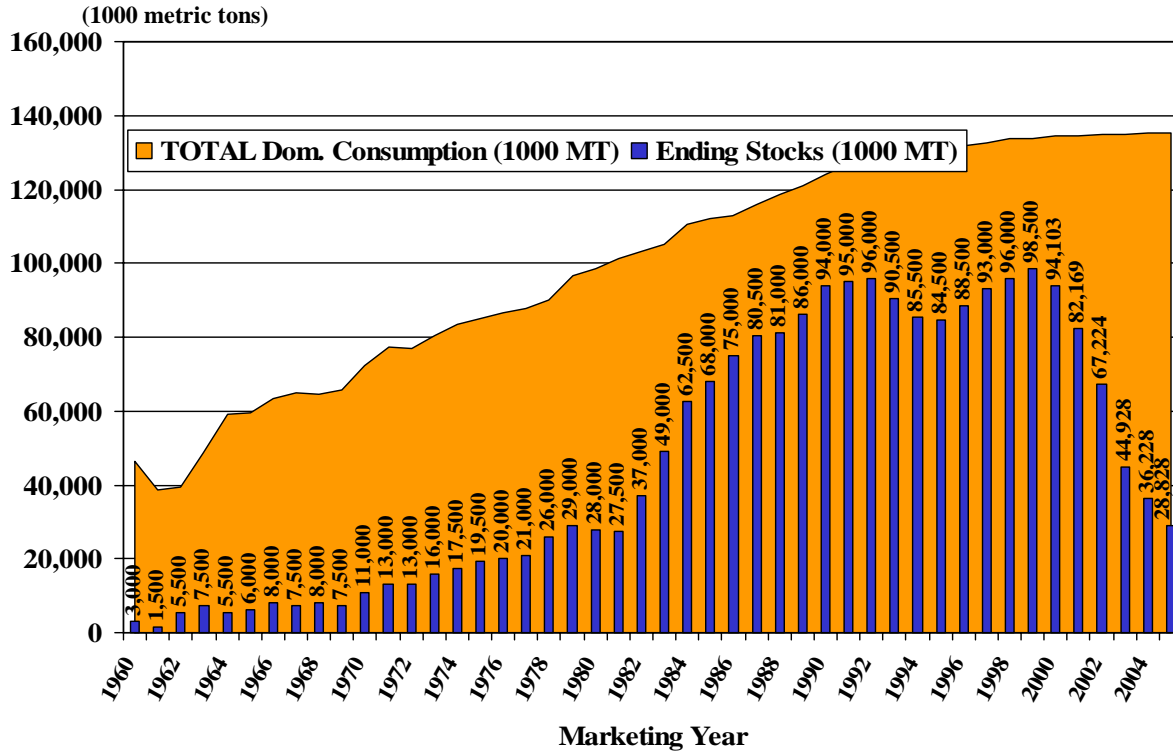
China All Rice Jan-Dec Exports 1961 - 2006



Source: FAS/USDA Data Set

China All Rice

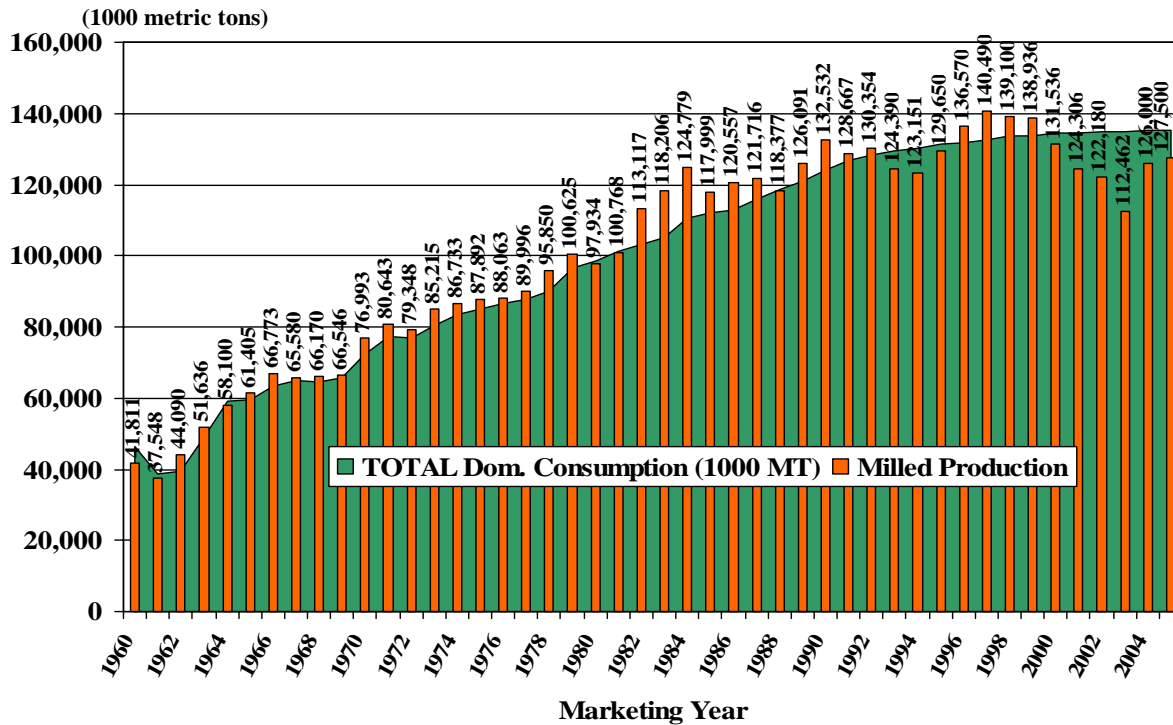
Domestic Consumption and Ending Stocks 1960/61 – 2005/06



Source: FAS/USDA Data Set

China All Rice

Domestic Consumption and Milled Production 1960/61 – 2005/06



Source: FAS/USDA Data Set