

Rice Graphics and Commentary

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By

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On the supply side USDA's October rice estimate has 2006 U.S. long-grain production projected at 142.9 million cwt, which is the lowest since the 2000 production season. Combined medium- and short-grain production is estimated at 49.4 million cwt, which is the lowest since 2001. Problematic for U.S. rice producers is that all rice imports for the current marketing period are forecast at a record 18 million cwt, which represents 7-percent of total supply. Total long grain supply at 188.6 million cwt is below the previous two years, but is still the 4th largest on record.

On the demand side long-grain domestic and residual use is projected at 89.8 million cwt, down 2 million cwt from last month, but 3 million cwt higher than the last marketing period. Total long grain exports are projected at 75 million cwt down 19% from the past marketing period and down 11% from 2004/05. Total long-grain use this marketing period is estimated at 164.8 million cwt, which is below the previous two marketing periods, but the fourth largest on record.

Long-grain ending stocks are projected at 23.8 million cwt which is the third highest since 1987.

Global rice consumption at 418.9 million metric tons continues to exceed global rice production of 417.4 million metric tons. Global rice trade at 28.1 million metric tons if achieved will be equal to last year's and the second largest on record and ending stocks at 78.8 million cwt are the smallest since 1983/84.

USDA's data shows U.S. long grain rice prices #2/4 currently quoted at \$431 per ton, FOB; Thai prices dropped partly to \$307 per ton, FOB because of the uncertain political climate and the Government's need to dispose of 3 million tons of intervention stocks to. The spread between comparable qualities of Thai and U.S. rice is \$124 per ton compared to \$25 per ton this time last year. Vietnam prices are quoted at \$270 per ton, FOB.

Thai rice prices in milled metric tons are as follows:

2000/01	\$184 milled metric ton
2001/02	\$192
2002/03	\$199
2003/04	\$220
2004/05	\$278
August 2005	\$288
September 2005	\$291
October 2005	\$292
November 2005	\$283
December 2005	\$286
January 2006	\$299
February 2006	\$307
March 2006	\$309
April 2006	\$308
May 2006	\$314
June 2006	\$319
July 2006	\$321
August 2006	\$319
September 2006	\$318
October 2006	\$307

Vietnam rice prices in milled metric tons are as follows:

2000/01	\$165 milled metric ton
2001/02	\$185
2002/03	\$182
2003/04	\$210
2004/05	\$243
August 2005	\$255
September 2005	\$255
October 2005	\$264
November 2005	NQ
December 2005	NQ
January 2006	\$263
February 2006	\$262
March 2006	\$251
April 2006	\$241
May 2006	\$257
June 2006	\$262
July 2006	\$262
August 2006	\$267
September 2006	\$270
October 2006	\$270

Southern Long Grain rice prices in milled metric tons are as follows:

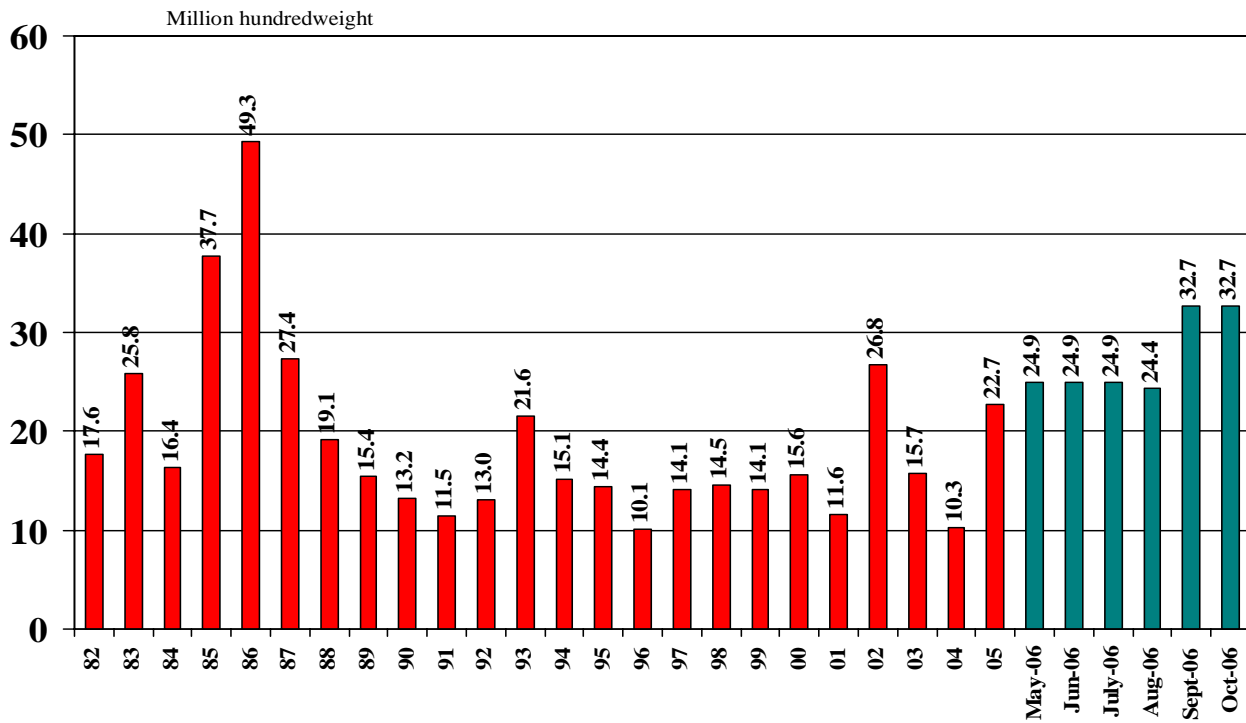
2000/01	\$290 milled metric ton
2001/02	\$222
2002/03	\$238
2003/04	\$375
2004/05	\$327
August 2005	\$293
September 2005	\$307
October 2005	\$318
November 2005	\$323
December 2005	\$335
January 2006	\$358
February 2006	\$369
March 2006	\$368
April 2006	\$373
May 2006	\$379
June 2006	\$379
July 2006	\$386
August 2006	\$410
September 2006	\$421
October 2006	\$431

Southern Long Grain rough rice prices in metric tons are as follows:

2000/01	\$157
2001/02	\$107
2002/03	\$123
2003/04	\$206
2004/05	\$176
August 2005	\$157
September 2005	\$165
October 2005	\$176
November 2005	\$183
December 2005	\$188
January 2006	\$201
February 2006	\$205
March 2006	\$205

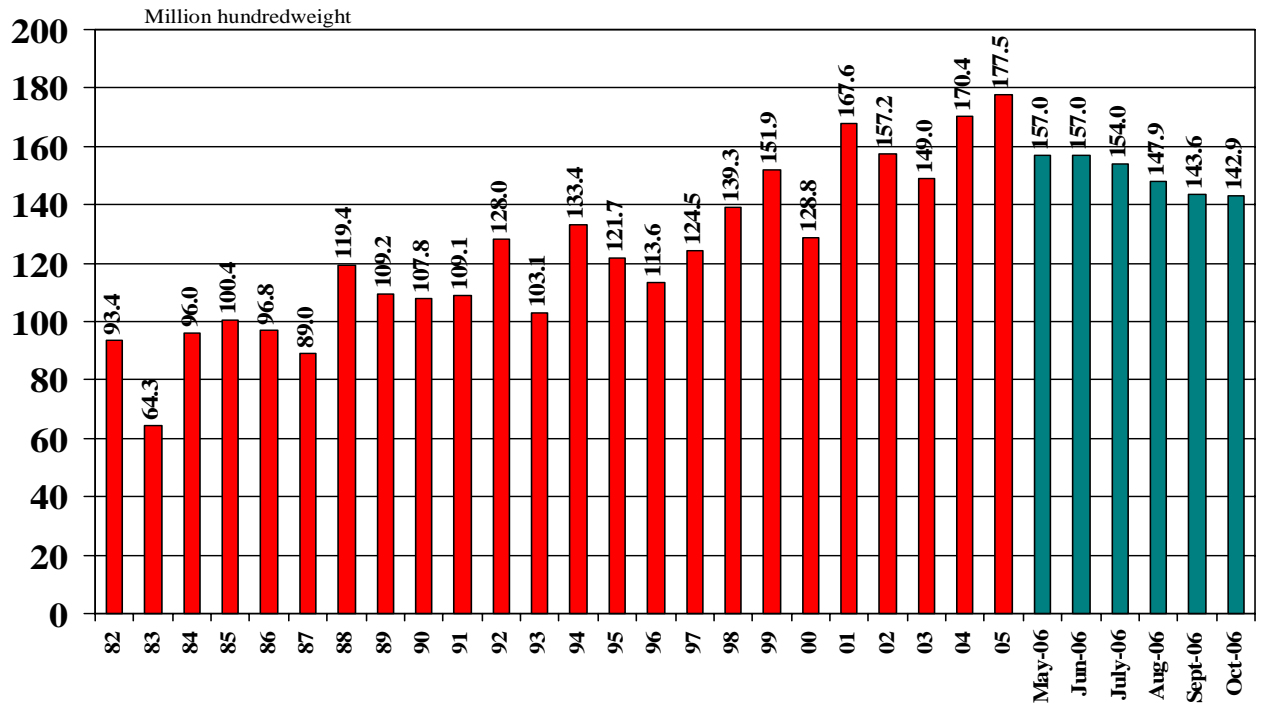
April 2006	\$205
May 2006	\$202
June 2006	\$202
July 2006	\$213
August 2006	\$220
September 2006	\$227
October 2006	\$238

U.S. Long Grain Rice Beginning Stocks 1982/83 – 2006/07



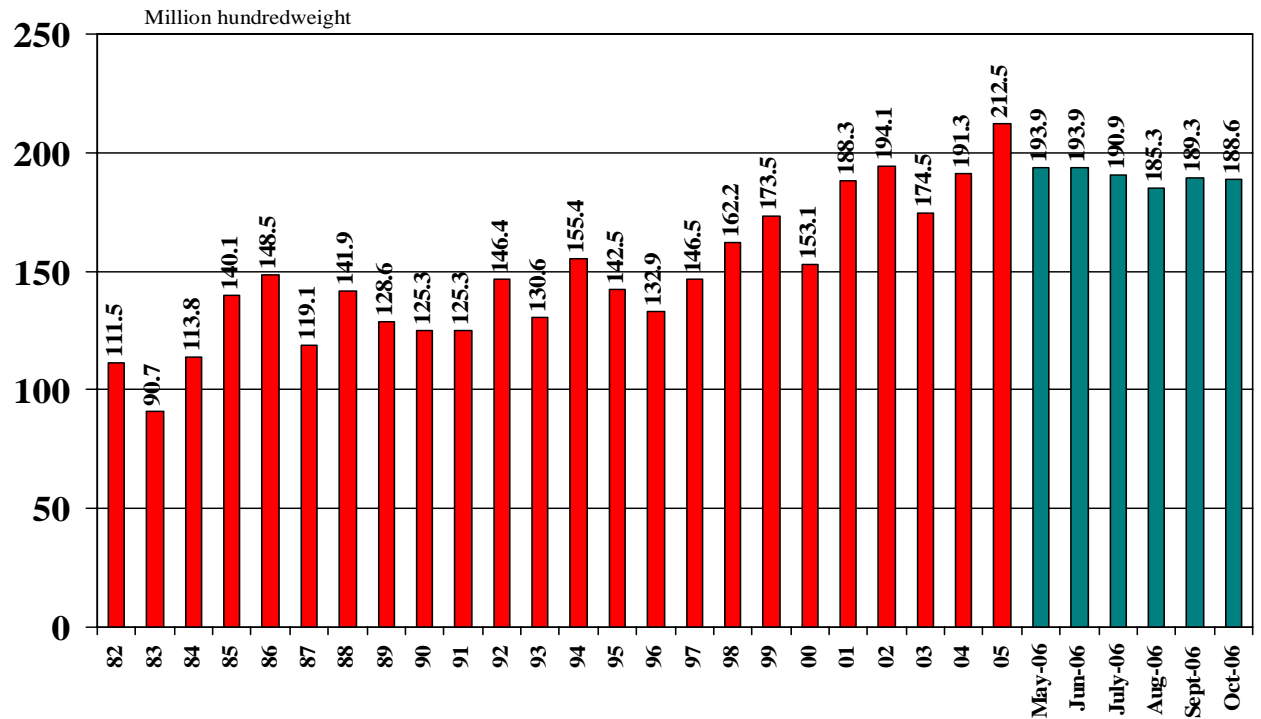
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Rice Production 1982/83 – 2006/07



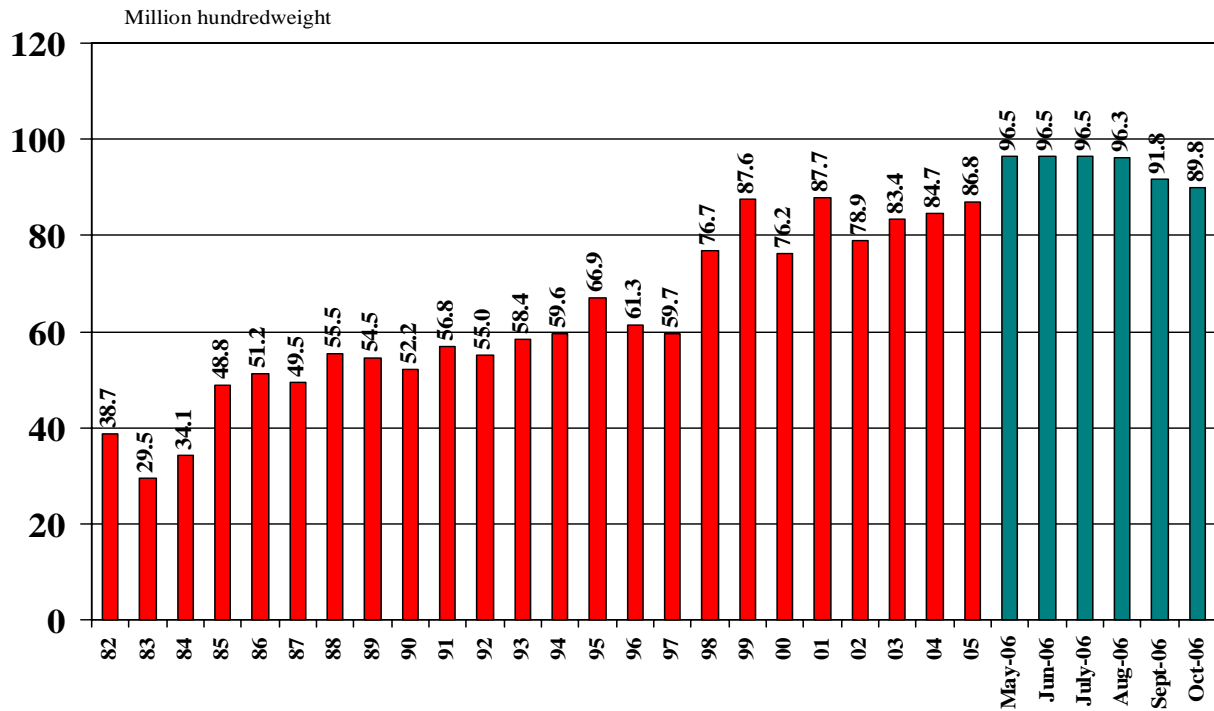
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Rice Total Supply 1982/83 – 2006/07



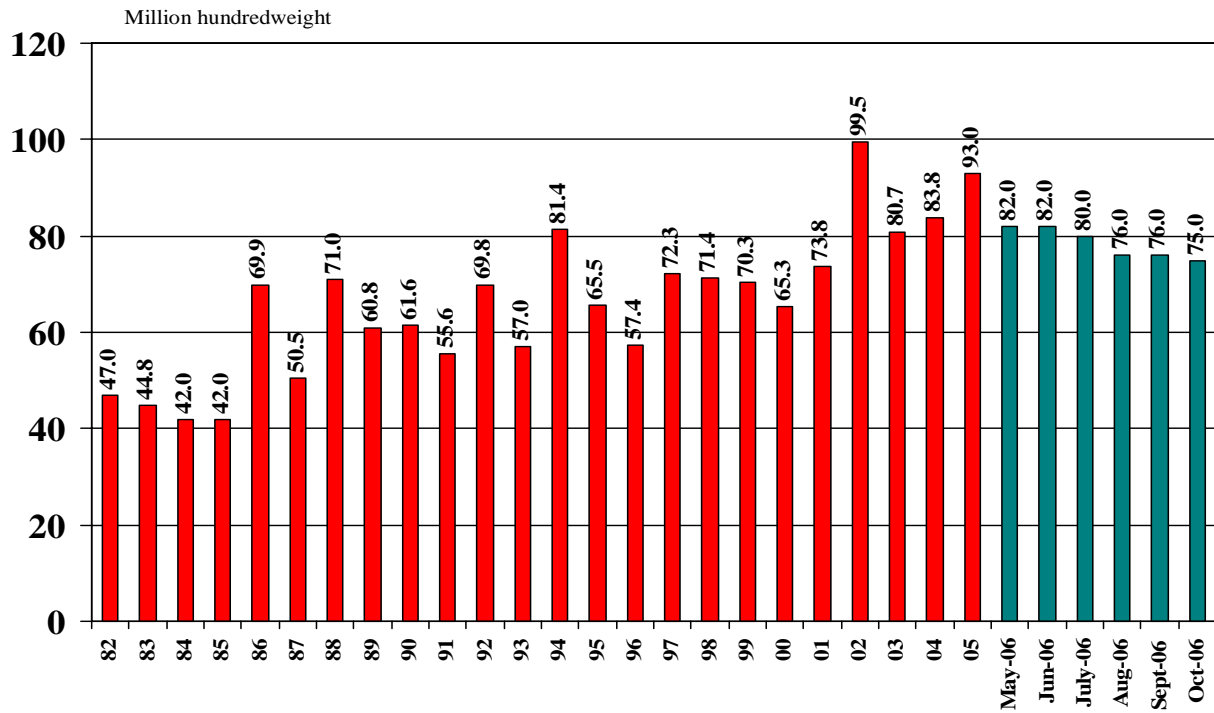
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Rice Domestic & Residual 1982/83 – 2006/07



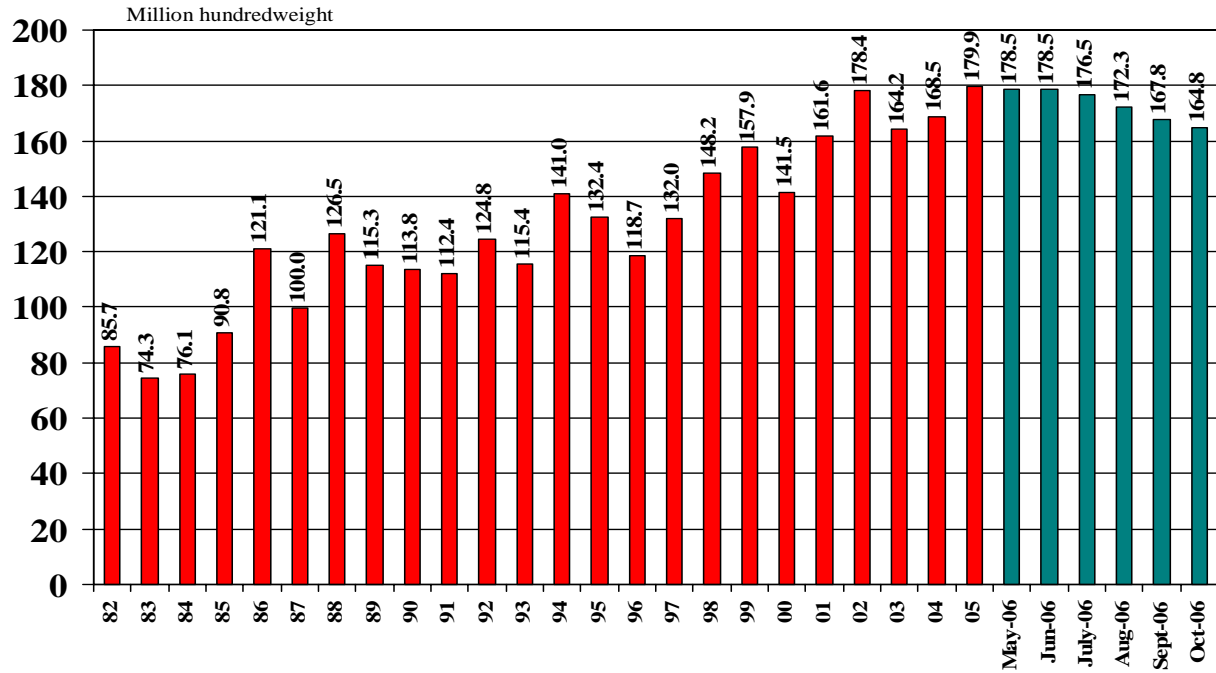
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Rice Total Exports 1982/83 – 2006/07



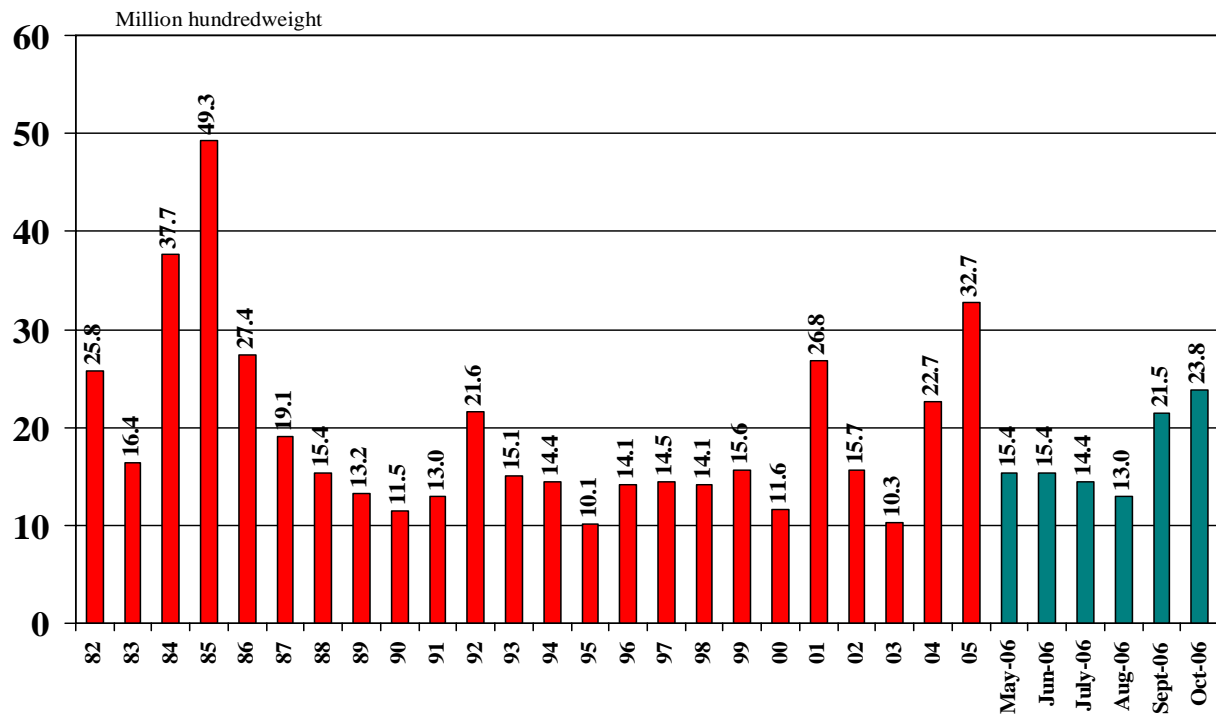
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Rice Total Use 1982/83 – 2006/07



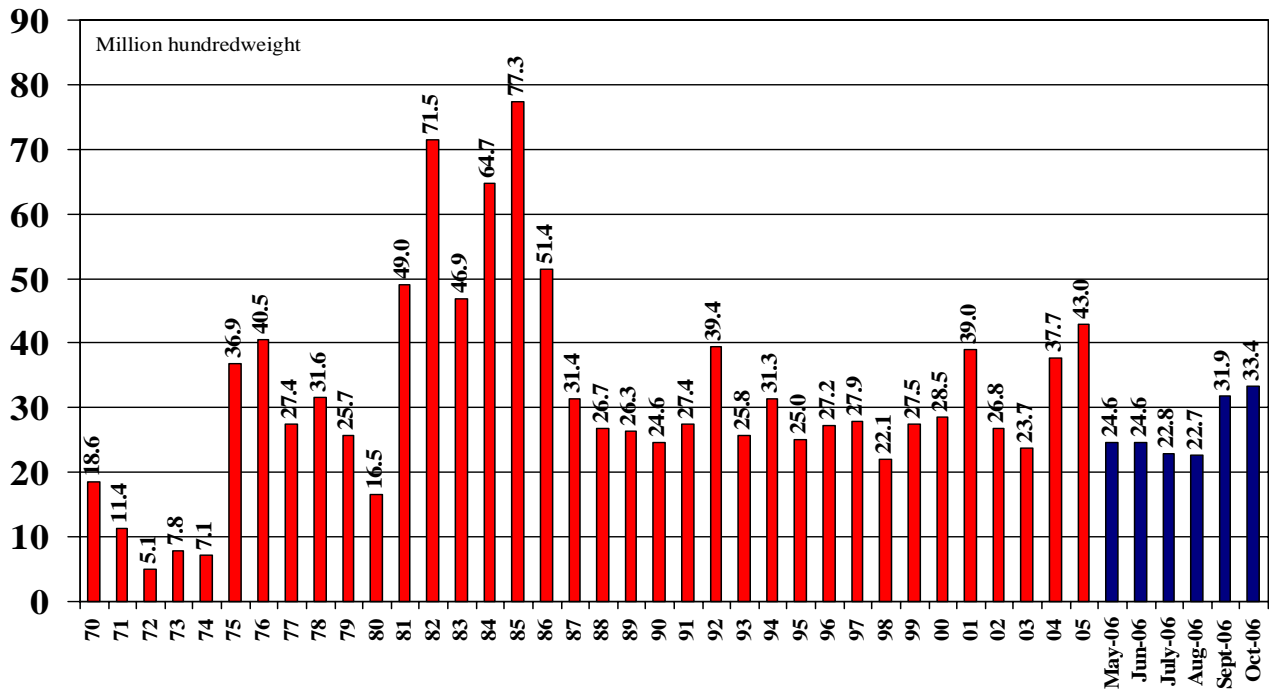
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Long Grain Ending Stocks 1982/83 – 2006/07



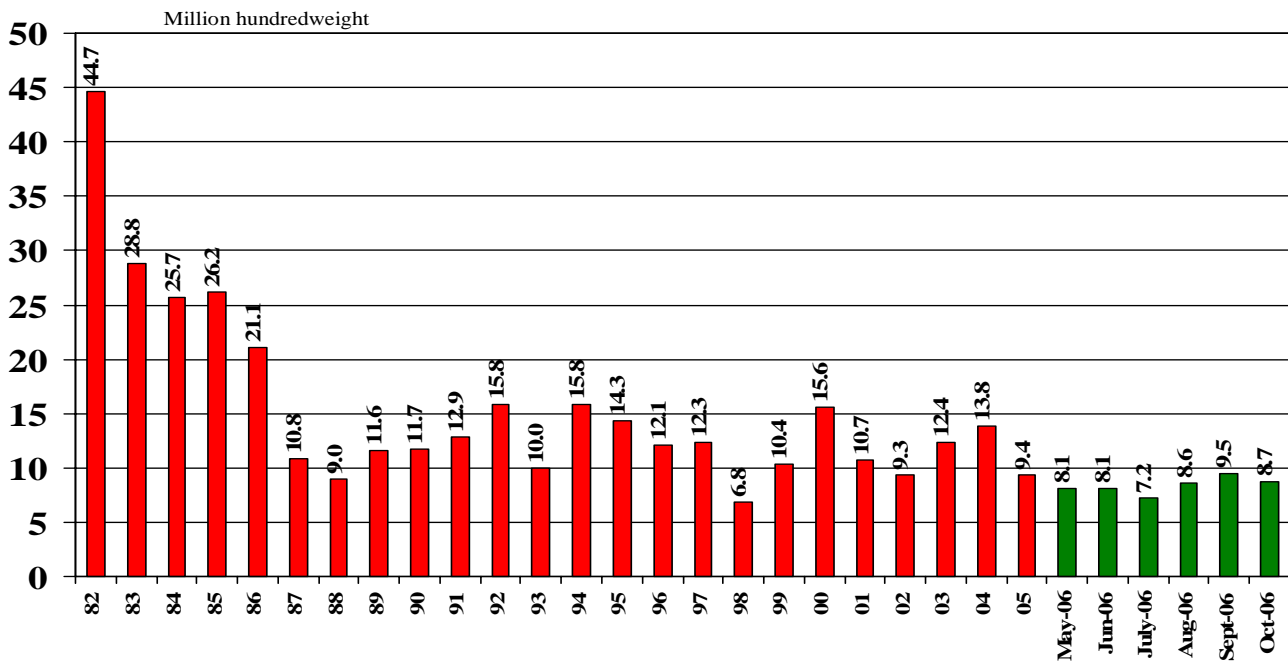
Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. All Ending Stocks 1970/71 – 2006/07



Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

U.S. Medium and Short Grain Ending Stocks 1982/83 – 2006/07



Source: [USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates](#) and [Rice Yearbook](#)

