

United States Rice Production

The United States is the 12th largest rice producer in the world.

Four regions produce almost the entire U.S. rice crop:

Arkansas Grand Prairie

Sacramento Valley of California

Gulf Coast (Texas and Southwest Louisiana)

Mississippi Delta (parts of Arkansas, Mississippi,
Missouri, and Louisiana)

Each of these regions specializes in a specific type of rice referred to by length of grain – long, medium, and short.

Long-grain Rice

- Grown almost exclusively in the South
- Accounts for more than 70% of U.S. rice production
- Commonly used in frozen dinners, canned soup, and seasoned packaged products
- Typically cooks dry and grains remain separate, not sticky
- Preferred by most of the U.S. population

Medium-grain Rice

- Grown both in California and Arkansas
- Accounts for more than 25% of U.S. rice production
- Used in cereal manufacturing
- Typically cooks moist and clingy

Short-grain Rice

- Grown almost exclusively in California
- Accounts for 1 to 2% of U.S. rice production
- Used in puddings and desserts
- Cooks moist and sticky