

COMPETITIVENESS OF THE MILLED RICE SUPPLY CHAIN IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL AND URUGUAY

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This study has used the Policy Analysis Matrix (PAM) to evaluate competitiveness, comparative advantages and occasional levels of protection and subsidies of milled rice from Rio Grande do Sul (RS), in the south of Brazil, and from Uruguay (UR). PAM has been taken as a methodology that may help analyze and define public policies as well as identify possible market gaps that are likely to have an impact on the economic results of agro-industrial chains, such as the one examined in the present research. The assessment of the rice chain has considered the production, processing and transportation links. The results have confirmed that the rice chain is competitive in both Rio Grande do Sul and Uruguay, but at a higher level in the latter. Despite the incidence of high tax burden, social costs, opportunity and capital cost in both chains (RS and Uruguay), it has been possible to perceive that such incidences in Rio Grande do Sul are higher than in Uruguay. In general, the rice chain transfers a high amount of resources to other economic sectors, in both Rio Grande do Sul and Uruguay.

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