# **Commodities Sector**

# Weather risk remains... ... but don't forget the downsides

# SINGAPORE | COMMODITIES | UPDATE

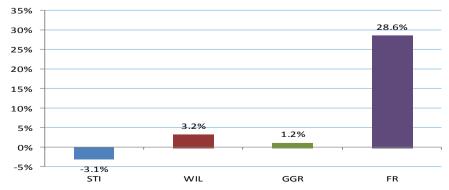


#### Sector overview

The Commodities Sector in our Singapore coverage consists of plantation (Golden Agri-Resources and First Resources) as well as trading (Wilmar International) companies.

- CPO price has recently rallied to an one-year high of US\$890/MT due to three main factors, in our view, particularly (1) CPO demand from Indonesia's B10 biodiesel mandates, (2) dry weather risk which may impact CPO production, and (3) low inventory level.
- Upside from weather risk, support from low inventory and biodiesel mandate. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology stated in its 11<sup>th</sup> Mar-14 update that most climate models show temperatures approaching or exceeding an El Nino event. If weather risk materializes, CPO production is likely to be negatively impacted and this could lead to a tighter supply of CPO over the next two years (due to the lag effect of El Nino), providing significantly upside to CPO prices. In addition, we see good support in CPO prices at US\$750/MT from the low palm oil stock level in Malaysia, which has stayed below the 2mn tons level for the eleventh consecutive month. Albeit there are concerns on the unfavorable economics of biodiesel blending in Indonesia due to rising CPO prices, Pertamina has already procured 2.4mn kl of palm-based biodiesel. This represents 45% of its total 5.3mn kl target for 2014-15, or ~9% of Indonesia's annual CPO production.
- Downside pressure from rising global vegetable oil supplies, soy-oil and production recovery. Based on USDA projections, we estimate that the stock/usage ratio of global vegetable oils will increase to 12.3% in 2013/14 from 11.4% in 2012/13; this rise in global vegetable oils supply could put downward pressure to CPO prices. CPO currently trades at a discount of merely ~US\$76/MT to soybean-oil (vs. 5-year historical average of US\$197/MT). This narrower discount implies that CPO is less attractive relative to soybean oil, thus we may see shifting of demand from CPO to soybean oil. Furthermore, CPO prices are likely to trend downwards with stronger supply fundamentals in 2014 as we expect CPO production to recover from biological down-cycle last year (see initiation report on First Resources "Quality planter: Upside still exist", under section on CPO price analysis).
- Stay selective. We see upside risk to our CPO price estimate of US\$820/MT for 2014, should the weather risk materialize. We remain selective and prefer stocks which with good value. Maintain Accumulate on *Wilmar* and *First Resources*. We are still Neutral on *Golden Agri*.

Figure 1: 1 year total return for the sector



Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research

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Commodities Sector								
Company	Rating	Price	TP	M.Cap.				
		(S\$)	(S\$)	(SG\$'mn)				
Wilmar Intl	Accumulate	3.43	3.88	21,949				
Golden Agri	Neutral	0.575	0.55	7,446				
First Resources	Accumulate	2.33	2.53	3,691				

Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research

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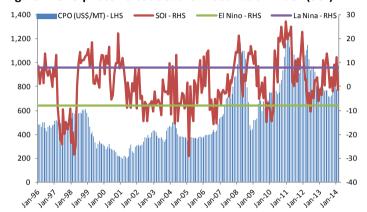
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#### Weather risk; potential upside to CPO price

According to the latest update (11<sup>th</sup> Mar-14) by the Bureau of Meteorology Australia, most climate models show temperatures approaching or exceeding El Nino thresholds during the austral winter (which starts in June), indicating that the risk of El Nino developing in 2H14 is still there. An El Nino event will affect planters in Southeast Asia as the hot and dry weather pattern can deal serious damage to CPO production Indonesia and Malaysia.

Not only will it decrease palm yield in the immediate months, it will also render lag adverse impact on production yield one to two years after an El Nino occurrence. The latest 30-day Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) to 9 March 2014 is -6.3. For an El Nino event, we need to see sustained negative values of SOI below -8.

Figure 2: CPO prices versus Southern Oscillation Index (SOI)



Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology, Phillip Securities Research

Figure 3: CPO has rise to a premium to Brent since mid-Feb 2014

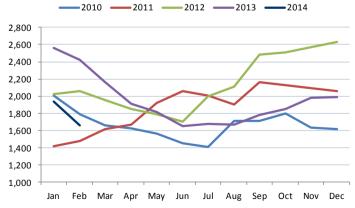


Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research

#### Biodiesel mandate and low inventories supporting demand

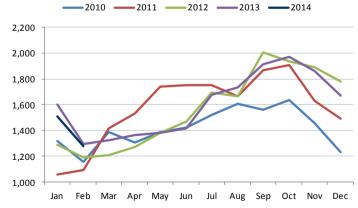
Albeit there are concerns on the unfavorable economics of biodiesel blending due to rising CPO prices, Pertamina has already procured 2.4mn kl of palm-based biodiesel, which represents 45% of its total 5.3mn kl target for 2014 and 2015, this is ~8-9% of Indonesia's annual CPO production.

Figure 4: Malaysia monthly CPO inventory level ('000 MT)



Source: MPOB, Phillip Securities Research

Figure 5: Malaysia monthly CPO production trends ('000 MT)



Source: MPOB, Phillip Securities Research

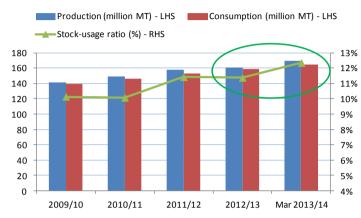
Malaysia stock level has remained below the 2.0mn level for the past eleven months; Feb 2014 inventories, according to MPOB, fell 14% mom (-32% yoy) to 1.66mn tons on lower production, and we believe this is supportive of CPO pricing.



#### Rising global vegetable oils supply capping CPO price increase

USDA forecast 2013/14 global vegetable oils production to rise by 5% yoy, mainly driven by 5%/4%/16% yoy increase in palm/soybean/sunflower oil. This will lead to higher supply of global vegetable oils, as the stock/usage ratio will rise to 12.3% in 2013/14 from 11.4% in 2012/13, based on our estimates, hence putting downward pressure to CPO price.

Figure 6: Global vegetable oil production growth would raise stock-usage ratio



Source: USDA, Phillip Securities Research

#### CPO prices remain unattractive relative to substitute - soybean oil

Albeit soybean oil prices have decreased by ~15% over the past one year, CPO prices have rose by ~15% over the same period, mainly due to lower production on biological downtrend, low inventories and weather-related risks. CPO prices are currently trading at US\$76/MT discount to soybean oil (versus historical average of US\$197/MT since 2008); this implies that CPO prices are less attractive relative to soybean oil, which we believe, will result in shifting demand from CPO to soybean oil

Figure 7: CPO's price discount to soybean oil (US\$/MT) has remained narrow in recent months; this could lead to shifting demand away from CPO



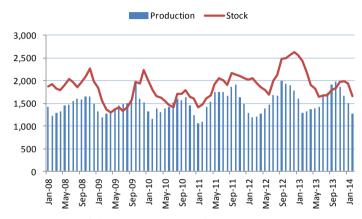
Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research



#### Stronger CPO supply fundamentals on recovery from biological downtrend

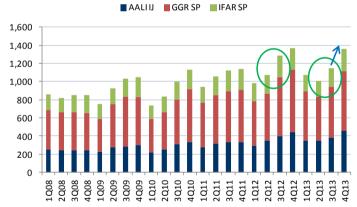
Supply of CPO in both Indonesia and Malaysia (to a lesser degree) has been weak in 2013 due to palm tree's low yield biological cycle following bumper crop experienced in 2012. That said, we expect yield to recover in 2014. Based on our analysis, there is a high chance that YoY change in Malaysia FFB yield could reverse and reach positive territory in the coming months. This could lead to an increase in supply going forward, which in turn will put downward pressure on CPO prices.

Figure 8: Malaysia monthly CPO stock and production ('000MT)



Source: MPOB, Phillip Securities Research

Figure 10: Indonesia planters' quarterly CPO production ('000 MT)



Source: Companies, Phillip Securities Research

Figure 9: Malaysia FFB yield YoY change (%)



Source: MPOB, Phillip Securities Research

Figure 11: CPO prices (US\$/MT) with mean = US\$852/MT



Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research



Figure 12: ASEAN Commodities/Plantation sector valuation table

												Div yield
			Price	М сар	ADTV	P/I	E (x)	P/B	3 (x)	ROE	(%)	(%)
	Rating	Curr	(\$)	(US\$ mn)	(US\$ mn)	2014E	2015E	2014E	2015E	2014E	2015E	2014E
Wilmar	Accumulate	SGD	3.43	17,174	18.1	11.5	10.7	1.1	1.0	9.6	9.5	2.1
Noble	NR	SGD	1.07	5,524	19.4	11.6	9.5	1.0	0.9	8.6	9.7	1.9
Olam	NR	SGD	2.21	4,133	6.8	14.4	12.5	1.4	1.2	9.4	10.2	1.9
Singapore (midstream	) average					12.5	10.9	1.1	1.0	9.2	9.8	2.0
Golden Agri	Neutral	SGD	0.58	5,776	16.7	12.3	10.8	0.6	0.6	5.3	5.8	2.4
Indofood Agri	NR	SGD	0.90	998	1.2	13.1	10.5	0.7	0.7	5.6	6.8	0.8
First Resources	Accumulate	SGD	2.33	2,888	4.0	12.3	10.9	2.5	2.1	21.7	20.8	2.0
Singapore (upstream)	average					12.6	10.7	1.3	1.1	10.9	11.1	1.7
Singapore average						12.5	10.8	1.2	1.1	10.1	10.5	1.8
Sime Darby Bhd	NR	MYR	9.20	16,781	17.0	17.4	15.2	1.9	1.8	11.3	12.2	3.2
IOI Corp	NR	MYR	4.70	8,976	10.6	20.7	19.7	3.8	3.6	15.5	18.7	3.1
Kuala Lumpur Kepong	NR	MYR	23.70	7,592	4.9	21.5	19.8	3.1	2.9	15.2	14.9	2.6
<b>Genting Plantations</b>	NR	MYR	10.60	2,420	0.9	20.9	17.1	2.1	2.0	10.2	11.6	1.2
Malaysia average						20.1	18.0	2.8	2.6	13.1	14.3	2.5
Astra Agro Lestari	NR	IDR	25,900	3,564	3.0	16.0	14.7	3.6	3.2	23.6	22.9	2.5
Salim Ivomas Pratama	NR	IDR	905	1,251	1.1	16.0	13.0	1.0	0.9	6.3	8.1	1.3
London Sumatra	NR	IDR	2,290	1,365	5.7	16.8	15.4	2.2	2.0	12.8	13.9	1.9
Sampoerna Agro	NR	IDR	2,130	352	0.2	15.3	13.0	1.4	1.3	8.2	10.0	1.4
Indonesia average						16.0	14.0	2.1	1.9	12.7	13.7	1.8
Overall average						16.2	14.3	2.0	1.8	11.9	12.8	2.0

Source: Bloomberg, Phillip Securities Research

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Figure 13: Major Vegetable Oils: World Supply and Distribution (Mar 2014 estimate)

estimate)					Feb	Mar
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2013/14
Production						
Oil Coconut	3.52	3.7	3.41	3.65	3.63	3.54
Oil Cottonseed	4.59	4.96	5.25	5.27	5.14	5.11
Oil Olive	3.08	3.25	3.24	2.67	3.28	3.28
Oil Palm	46.04	48.73	51.95	55.77	58.43	58.43
Oil Palm Kernel	5.6	5.73	6.14	6.51	6.86	6.86
Oil Peanut	4.89	5.33	5.32	5.55	5.6	5.67
Oil Rapeseed	22.56	23.52	24.22	24.9	25.71	25.76
Oil Soybean	38.8	41.3	42.59	42.81	44.61	44.66
Oil Sunflowerseed	12.28	12.42	15.34	13.53	15.67	15.67
	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	141.37	148.94	157.45	160.65	168.93	168.98
Imports						
Oil Coconut	2.28	1.78	1.82	1.88	1.88	1.82
Oil Cottonseed	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.06
Oil Olive	0.52	0.55	0.62	0.65	0.63	0.63
Oil Palm	35.2	36.3	38.82	42.33	42.66	42.95
Oil Palm Kernel	2.55	2.43	2.54	3.02	2.83	2.81
Oil Peanut	0.19	0.2	0.16	0.16	0.19	0.19
Oil Rapeseed	2.92	3.31	4.01	3.88	3.84	3.84
Oil Soybean	8.64	9.4	7.96	8.43	8.8	8.81
Oil Sunflowerseed	3.73	3.64	5.64	4.96	6.4	6.4
Total	56.1	57.68	61.64	65.38	67.28	67.5
Exports	2.47	4.74	4.00	1.0	4.00	4.70
Oil Coconut	2.17	1.71	1.88	1.9	1.88	1.79
Oil Cottonseed	0.11	0.14	0.17	0.15	0.14	0.14
Oil Olive	0.68	0.75	0.85	0.78	0.79	0.79
Oil Palm	35.47	36.87	39.02	42.65	43.29	43.29
Oil Palm Kernel	2.49	2.54	2.44	2.74	2.92	2.92
Oil Peanut	0.19	0.17	0.17	0.2	0.19	0.22
Oil Rapeseed	2.73	3.42	3.97	3.93	4.07	4.07
Oil Soybean	9.1	9.56	8.47	9.25	9.19	9.28
Oil Sunflowerseed	4.47	4.52	6.41	5.48	7.03	7.03
Total	57.41	59.67	63.38	67.07	69.5	69.53
Domestic Consumption						
Oil Coconut	3.84	3.67	3.53	3.78	3.74	3.68
Oil Cottonseed	4.59	4.78	5.16	5.24	5.09	5.06
Oil Olive	2.97	3.03	3.07	2.85	3.01	3.01
Oil Palm	45.15	47.9	51.05	54.94	56.62	56.91
Oil Palm Kernel	5.47	5.7	5.95	6.62	6.83	6.84
Oil Peanut	5.04	5.32	5.37	5.53	5.58	5.61
Oil Rapeseed	22.61	23.5	23.78	23.69	24.65	24.66
Oil Soybean	38.2	40.7	41.99	42.45	44.21	44.33
Oil Sunflowerseed	11.79	11.76	13.11	13.32	14.55	14.55
Total	139.65	146.37	153	158.41	164.27	164.64
Ending Stocks						
Oil Coconut	0.64	0.75	0.57	0.42	0.41	0.32
Oil Cottonseed	0.16	0.27	0.26	0.22	0.2	0.2
Oil Olive	0.6	0.62	0.57	0.27	0.37	0.37
Oil Palm	5.61	5.87	6.57	7.08	8.06	8.26
Oil Palm Kernel	0.89	0.81	1.1	1.27	1.15	1.18
Oil Peanut	0.1	0.13	0.08	0.05	0.07	0.07
Oil Rapeseed	1.29	1.19	1.67	2.82	3.66	3.7
Oil Soybean	3.37	3.81	3.9	3.43	3.53	3.3
Oil Sunflowerseed	1.51	1.28	2.74	2.44	2.93	2.92
Total	14.16	14.74	17.46	18.01	20.39	20.32

Source: USDA, Phillip Securities Research



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