

Technical Analysis Price outlook for Gujarat-ICS-105, 29 mm and ICE cotton futures for the period 01/09/2020 to 05/10/2020

(The author is Director of Commtrendz Research and the views expressed in this column are his own and the author is not liable for any loss or damage, including without limitations, any profit or loss which may arise directly or indirectly from the use of following information.)

We will look into the Gujarat-ICS-105, 29 mm prices along with other benchmarks and try to forecast price moves going forward.

As mentioned in the previous update, fundamental analysis involves studying and analysing various reports, data and based on that arriving at some possible direction for prices in the coming months or quarters.

Some of the recent fundamental drivers for the domestic cotton prices are:

 Cotton futures traded mildly higher on MCX boosted by Shri Gnanasekar Thiagarajan heavy rains and pest attacks. Pest attacks have been reported on the

cotton crop in Punjab and Haryana where prices have gone up by 5 per cent in the past week. The increase in sale price of cotton by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) also contributed to the rise in prices.

• The cotton crop has been hit by bacterial blight, in the last one week after the heavy spell



Director, Commtrendz Research

of rains on August 20-21. If it spreads, then more damage is expected. The rapid progress of monsoon helped Indian farmers plant nearly 14 per cent more land than last year with rice, corn, cane, cotton and soybean crops, according to the farm ministry.

• World cotton stocks remain high as the Minimum Support Price (MSP) in India helped push its 2019-20 production to near-record levels, resulting in the government acquiring significant

levels of stocks. Moreover, Brazil registered its third consecutive record crop, as most production has shifted to second-crop cotton, which has a lower cost of production.

Some of the fundamental drivers for International cotton prices are:

ICE Cotton futures rose on Monday, gaining for a third consecutive month, underpinned by a weaker dollar and on concerns of

crop loss due to adverse weather in major growing regions. Prices rose

for a third straight month, up about

4% this month.

• Expectations of average progress and little deterioration in the crop report due to bad weather in west Texas were also helping prices. Crop in Texas, the largest U.S. cotton-producing area, has been suffering since early June due to drier conditions, with about 37% of the crop in very poor to poor condition last week.

• Further boosting sentiment, the S&P 500 hovered near record highs on bets on a rebound in economic activity due to prolonged central bank support, and positive developments in vaccines and treatments for COVID-19. The natural fibre has declined 7.4% this year after the coronavirus pandemic stalled economic activity and hammered apparel demand.

• Speculators increased their net long position in cotton futures, adding 10,546 contracts to a total of 41,684 contracts in the week to Aug. 25.

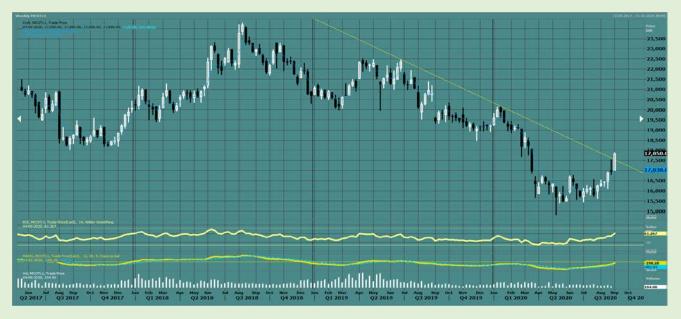
Guj ICS Price Trend

As mentioned in the previous update, prices have hit important support in the 9600-9700 zone. Ideally, we expect a bounce higher from here to 10,000-200 levels. As mentioned in the previous update, the rebound has the potential to turn into a strong upward move in the coming sessions. We can now expect a high upside to 10,500 or even higher to 11,000 in the coming month.

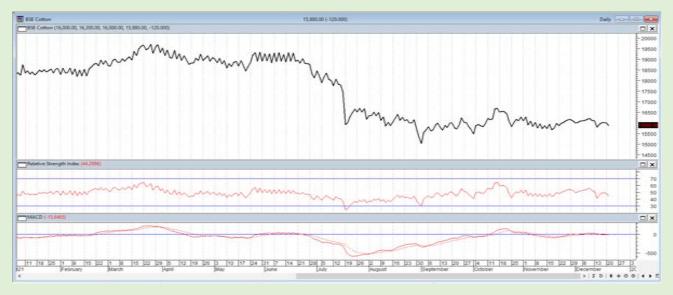


MCX Oct Contract Chart

The MCX benchmark Oct cotton recovered smartly and broke key resistance levels hinting at further upside going forward. The next important resistance is at 18,500 from where a correction could set in. An important long-term falling trendline resistance at 17,500 has been broken on the upside, which makes us believe that more highs to 18,500 followed by 20,000 look likely in the coming weeks.



BSE Active Month Contract



The BSE active month pulled back higher towards 17,000 levels as anticipated. Strong supports seen at 15,500 are expected to hold for a push higher towards 17,500 or even higher in the coming weeks. Only, a fall below 15,500 can open the downside to 14,500 levels subsequently.

We will also look at the ICE Cotton Dec futures charts for possible direction in international prices.



After a low of 48c was made in April, prices have since seen a strong bounce from there. This rally should extend to 71-72c levels where strong resistances are noted. Chances exists even for an extension to 75-76c on the upside. Any dips to 61-62c is expected to be well supported in the coming weeks.

CONCLUSION:

The domestic and international prices have rebounded from recent lows, and continue to display strong bullish tendencies for the time being. The domestic prices are inching higher, and most of the bearishness seems to be priced in. The international prices indicate more bullishness in the short-term and medium-term as well. We believe price could get supported around 61-62c range and gradually edge higher to levels mentioned above.

For Guj ICS supports are seen at 10,000/qtl followed by 9,700/qtl, and for ICE Oct cotton futures at 62c followed by 59c. The domestic technical picture has turned bullish, and the international prices are decisively bullish compared to the domestic prices. We expect domestic prices to edge higher slowly from current levels. Therefore, we expect more bullishness ahead in the international prices and more bullishness in the domestic prices too.

Cotton Dyeing - A Living Art

Dr. T.R. Loknathan has a Ph. D. in plant breeding. He is currently working as a Principal Scientist in the Division of Crop Improvement at ICAR-CICR,

Nagpur. He is pursuing his research on genetic enhancement of cotton.

Some popular natural dyes prevalent amongst craft dyers and fashion industry are:

Animal based -

- 1. Cochneal insects (red).
- 2. Cow urine (Indian yellow)
- 3. Lac insect (red and violet)
- 4. Murex snail (purple)
- 5. Octopus / cuttle fish (sepia brown)

Plant based -

- 1. Catechu (brown)
- 2. Gamboge tree resin (dark mustard yellow)
- 3. Chestnut hulls (peach to brown)
- 4. Himalayan rhubarb root (bronze and yellow)
- 5. Madder roots (yellow and orange)
- 6. Indigofera leaves (blue)
- 7. Kamala seed pods (yellow)
- 8. Mangosteen peel (green, brown, dark brown, purple, crimson)
- 9. Myrobalan fruit (yellow, green, black, source of tannin)
- 10. Pomegranate rind (yellow)
- 11. Teak leaf (crimson to maroon)
- 12. Weld herb (yellow)
- 13. Juglans nigra or black walnut hulls (brown, black source of tannin)
- 14. Rhus typhina or Sumac tree (brown, source of tannin).

Many hundreds of mordants are being used with many dyes resulting in viable dye combinations. The traditional craft dyers prefer natural dyes since they are multi - coloured and permanent in nature, unlike the single coloured synthetic dyes.

2. Synthetic dyes: These are known as coal -tar dyes, since they were mostly produced from coaltar in earlier years. They are organic molecules synthesised artificially to suit the various fibres. They are of single colour types and more of a permanent nature. They are mainly of two types - acidic dyes and basic dyes - in a broader sense. Contd. from Issue No. 11 dated 25th August, 2020

The binding of the dyes to the fibres are based on solubility and chemical properties of the chemical.

Acidic dyes: These are mostly the water-soluble

anionic dyes which combine with the cations of the fibres resulting in a dyed fibre.

These dyes are used for dyeing of wool, silk, nylon and mostly modified acrylic fibres in a neutral or acidic bath. Acidic dyes are not cellulosic in nature. Examples are aniline, alizarin pure blue 88, etc.

> **Basic dyes:** These dyes are watersoluble cationic mostly combining with salts. They are mostly applied to nylon fibres.

Dyes have been further classified into various types based on their mode of action on fibres.

Direct or substantive dyes:

Direct dyes are basically treated in a neutral or slightly alkaline bath using potassium chloride or potassium sulphate or potassium carbonate. These are used for treating cotton, paper, leather, nylon, etc. They are also used as pH indicators and biological stains.

Mordant dyes:

These dyes require mordants which improve colour fastness against water, light and perspiration. Natural dyes are mostly mordant dyes which have been described a lot in history. Thirty percent of the mordant dyes or chrome dyes are used for wool especially for black and navy shades. The choice of the correct mordant is very important as different mordants can change the final colour. The mordant potassium di - carbonate is added after dyeing. Most of the metallic mordants of a slightly heavy metal category are hazardous chemicals.

Vat dyes:

These dyes are insoluble in water and are incapable of dyeing. However, the reduction in alkaline liquor often produces a water- soluble alkaline salt solution. This takes the form of a colourless solution. Hence it is known as leuco dye.



Dr. T.R. Loknathan

Principal Scientist, Division of crop improvement,

ICAR-CICR, Nagpur

It has an affinity with the textile fibre. Subsequent oxidation reforms the original insoluble dye. The iconic blue colour of the denim is due to indigo, the original vat dye.

Reactive dyes:

These dyes utilise a chromophore substituent which gets attached to the substrate of the fibre. The covalent bond of the reactive dye formed makes the dye the most permanent and stable amongst the dyes. Cold reactive dyes viz., Procion MX, Cibacron F are easy to handle since they work at room temperature. Reactive dyes are best used at home or at art studios.

Disperse dyes:

These dyes are specifically used to dye cellulose acetate. They are used along with dispersing agents. They are ground into a powder and used as a paste. They can also be used to dye nylon, cellulose tri-acetate and acrylic fibres. Their main use, however, is to treat polyester. A dyeing temperature of 133 degrees Centigrade (266 degrees Fahrenheit) is required and a pressurised dye bath is used. The very fine particle size, provides a large surface area which helps to dissolve and allow uptake by the fibre. The dyeing rate can be influenced by the dispersing agent used in grinding.

Azoic Dyeing: This is a technique in which an Azo dye, an insoluble dye is formed onto or within the fibre. This is achieved by the combined use of diazoic and coupling components. Appropriate bath adjustments with the reaction of the two components will result in an insoluble azo dye. This is a unique dye as the final colour is dependent upon the choice of the diazoic and coupling components. The use of this technique for dying cotton is declining due to the toxic nature of the chemicals used.

Sulphur dyes:

These dyes are used in cotton to give dark colours. This dye is made by heating the fibre in a solution of organic compound, a nitrophenol a nitrophenol derivative and a polysulphide. The sulphide produces a dark colour. Sulphide Dark black is a popular dye selling widely, though it does not have a well-defined chemical structure.

Theory of Dyeing.

The properties attributing to the expression of dyes are the nature of colour (as revealed by the reflection of light on the cotton fibre); polychromatic light or monochromatic light, nature of dyeing, conditions of dyeing, importance of investigation and simple and compound dyeing. The essence of theory of dyeing revolves around the fact why and how the desired reflecting surface is obtained or by what we really mean as fixation of colour on various fibres and fabrics.

But this has become a matter of controversy over a period of time. It was thought by some chemists that there is a true chemical combination between the colouring matter and the fibre and this occurs in equivalent proportions. Others believed that the combinations arise from a special action in which the usual chemical proportions equivalent are not obtained by the catalytic action of the fibres. While some were of the opinion that chemical action had little to do with the matters and colours are fixed upon or within the surface of the bodies by molecular attraction alone; others were vehement in their belief that the absorption is altogether mechanical and the colouring matter is absorbed into the pores and cells of the fibres and held there simply as a pigment.

After all these debates, three theories viz., Mechanical theory, Chemical theory and Chemico-Mechanical theory were propounded. These have been described in detail in the book, 'Textile Fibres' by J.F. Barker in the 1920s.

Recent Research Trends

After a decade of research, Eric Leite Pados and his group has recently come up with new findings that natural red pigments like betalains in beetroots can be changed to blue by changing the molecular structure of carbon bonds. This exciting new research could open the door for the advent of new pseudo-synthetic dyes, that have been obtained by changing the pathways of the natural pigment processes.

Knowledge of natural dyes and research in search for new dyes could help evolve a new range of textile fibres by going back and referring to ancient dyeing history. This will enable the dyeing profession to continue to live its heritage and preserving the diverse ethnicities of the world.

Some of the books that give an exhaustive and detailed account of ancient dyeing history are as follows: 'Textile Fibres' by Mathews (1929), 'The Structure of Cotton Fibre ' by Bowman(1908) and 'Textile Fibres ' by J.F. Barker.

(The views expressed in this column are of the author and not that of Cotton Association of India)



Since 1921, we are dedicated to the cause of Indian cotton.

Just one of the reasons, you should use our Laboratory Testing Services.

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) is respected as the chief trade body in the hierarchy of the Indian cotton economy. Since its origin in 1921, CAI's contribution has been unparalleled in the development of cotton across India.

The CAI is setting benchmarks across a wide spectrum of services targeting the entire cotton value chain. These range from research and development at the grass root level to education, providing an arbitration mechanism, maintaining Indian cotton grade standards, issuing Certificates of Origin to collecting and disseminating statistics and information. Moreover, CAI is an autonomous organization portraying professionalism and reliability in cotton testing.

The CAI's network of independent cotton testing & research laboratories are strategically spread across major cotton centres in India and are equipped with:

State-of-the-art technology & world-class Premier and MAG cotton testing machines

HVI test mode with trash% tested gravimetrically

LABORATORY LOCATIONS

Current locations : • Maharashtra : Mumbai; Yavatmal; Aurangabad • Gujarat : Rajkot; Kadi; Ahmedabad • Andhra Pradesh : Adoni • Madhya Pradesh : Khargone • Karnataka : Hubli • Punjab : Bathinda • Telangana: Warangal, Adilabad



COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Opposite Cotton Green Railway Station, Cotton Green (East), Mumbai - 400 033, Maharashtra, INDIA Tel.: +91 22-2370 4401/02/03/04 • E-mail:cai@caionline.in • www.caionline.in

UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES (Rs.													Rs./Qtl)
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [By law 66 (A) (a) (4)]								Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2019-20 Crop August 2020					
Sr. No	. Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	10236 (36400)	10320 (36700)	10320 (36700)	10320 (36700)	10320 (36700)	10320 (36700)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	10404 (37000)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	6130 (21800)	6214 (22100)	6271 (22300)	6383 (22700)	6468 (23000)	6468 (23000)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	7086 (25200)	7086 (25200)	7086 (25200)	7086 (25200)	7086 (25200)	7086 (25200)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	8802 (31300)	8802 (31300)	8802 (31300)	8802 (31300)	8802 (31300)	8802 (31300)
6	P/H/ R (U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	9870 (35100)	9983 (35500)	10067 (35800)	10067 (35800)	10067 (35800)	10039 (35700)
7	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine		3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	7536 (26800)	7536 (26800)	7536 (26800)	7536 (26800)	7536 (26800)	7536 (26800)
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine		3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	10067 (35800)	10179 (36200)	10264 (36500)	10264 (36500)	10264 (36500)	10236 (36400)
9	M/M(P)/ SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine		3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	7845 (27900)	7845 (27900)	7845 (27900)	7845 (27900)	7845 (27900)	· /
10	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105			3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	9139 (32500)	9139 (32500)	9139 (32500)	9139 (32500)	9139 (32500)	9139 (32500)
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine		3.5 - 4.9	4%	27	10151 (36100)	10264 (36500)	10348 (36800)	10348 (36800)	10348 (36800)	
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	_\/	· · · · ·	9814 (34900)	· · · · ·	9814 (34900)	· / /
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)
_	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3%	27	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)
	R(L)				3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	_ ` /	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		10404 (37000)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_`,
	M/M(P)	ICS-105				3.5%	28	10095 (35900)	· · · · ·	10095 (35900)		· · · · · ·	
	SA/TL/K	ICS-105				3%	28	10151 36100	10151 36100	10151 36100	10151 36100	10151 36100	10151 36100
	GUJ	ICS-105				3%	28	10123 (36000)	/	10123 (36000)		,	_`
• •	M/M(P)	ICS-105			3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	10320 (36700)	`	10320 (36700)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · ·
20		ICS-105			3.7 - 4.5	3%	29	10404 (37000)	· · · · /	10404 (37000)	10404 (37000)	10404 (37000)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	M/M(P)	ICS-105				3%	30 30	10489 (37300) 10545	10489 (37300) 10545	10489 (37300) 10545	10489 (37300) 10545		
22	SA/TL/ K/TN/O SA/TL/K/	ICS-105 ICS-106				3%		(37500) 10714		(37500) 10714	(37500)	10545 (37500) 10714	, í
23	TN/O M/M(P)	ICS-106 ICS-107				4%	31	(38100) 14819		(38100) 14819			(38100) 14819
	K/TN	ICS-107				3.5%	34	(52700) 15100	(52700) 15100	(52700) 15100	(52700) 15100	(52700) 15100	(52700) 15100
								(53700)	(53700)	(53700)	(53700)	(53700)	(53700)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)