

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Price outlook for Gujarat-ICS-105 29mm and ICE cotton futures

(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 above information.

We have earlier discussed the application of technical analysis on cotton prices. In this update, we will use some of the techniques discussed earlier which can relate to actual price movements and its application in forecasting prices. We will also make a price outlook based on technical analysis. We are using the Gujarat-ICS-105 29mm prices along with other benchmarks for the same purpose.

As discussed 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 prices have corrected in the recent weeks as global demand is seen lower amid slow retail off-take of the fibre in the domestic market.
- India's cotton production in 2013-14 crop marketing year that starts from October is

expected to be 40 million bales (1 bale=170 kg), almost 4 million bales more than last year.

- The Indian cabinet rejected a proposal put forth by the Textile ministry to impose 10% duty on cotton exports above the declared surplus.
 - Exports of the fibre from India may drop on average by 22% to 10 million bales in the current season, driven by lower demand from China. The country which remains the second largest producer of the fibre, is sitting on exportable surplus of 10-12 million bales.

Some of the fundamental drivers for International cotton prices are:

• The U.S. government raised its outlook for global production this year and lowered its forecast for exports of

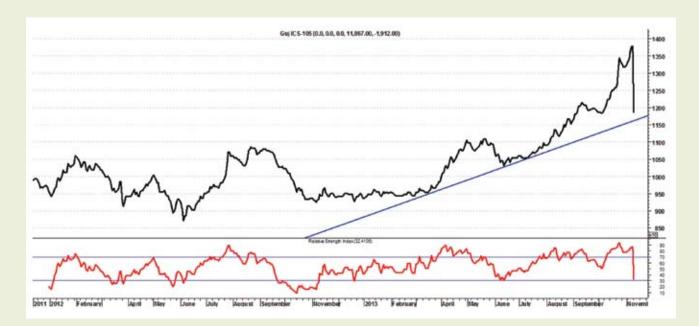
domestic fiber, citing increased competition for market share.

• The USDA raised its forecast for global cotton output by more than one million bales from last month's estimate, to 117.42 million bales, each weighing 480 pounds. U.S. cotton exports will drop, the USDA said. It estimated U.S. cotton exports in the 2013-14 season will be 10.4 million bales, 2% lower than its forecast last month and down 20% from last season.





Shri Gnanasekar Thiagarajan



Weakness in prices are seen on the back of all the fundamental factors mentioned above. Therefore, the direction for prices are weak in the short-term both fundamentally and technically

We will now dwell into the various tools in technical analysis and forecast possible direction.

As mentioned above the directional bias is seen weak in the charts. A strong rising trendline support comes in at 11,500-600 levels. As per the charts, the rising trend line could offer good support in the short-term and prices could bounce higher from there.

As seen in the chart above various support levels have emerged for Gujarat-ICS-105 29mm in the coming weeks. The fibonacci retracements a technique used to forecast possible retracements

after prices have made a high, points at around 11,000 as being a near-term support as seen in the chart above. Also, after a long consolidation in the 8,000-10,000 range from 2011 to 2013, prices have broken above this range. Therefore, the 10,500 to 10,900 range should ideally hold any attempts to decline in the coming weeks.

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

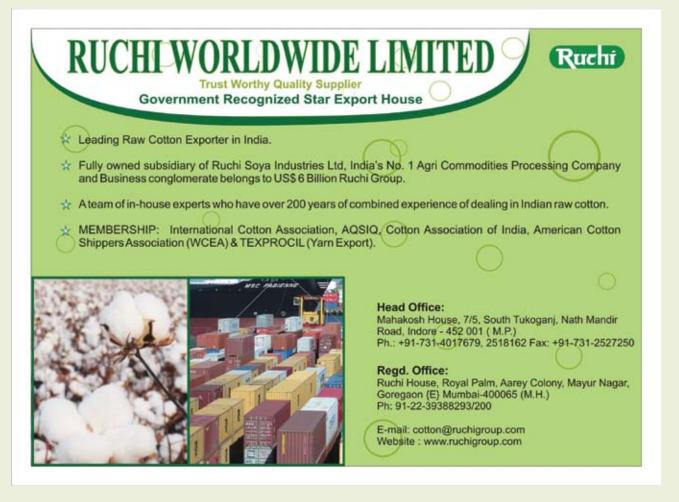
Resistance near 85c or maximum 87c could keep the price down for a break below a key near-term support at 83.00c, triggering next decline towards 79.50-80.00c. This is the favoured expectation. Unexpected rise above 87c could change this view as such a move could lead it towards 88.50/89.00 area, turning the outlook neutral from bearish.





CONCLUSION:

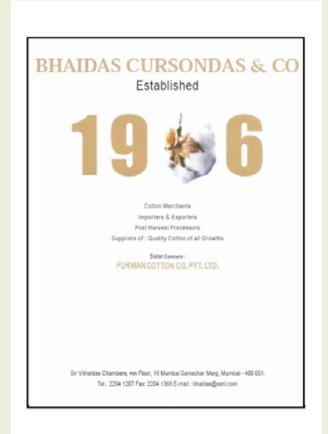
Both the domestic and international prices show near-term weakness undoubtedly in line with underlying fundamental weakness. However, we believe medium-term supports are quite strong both for ICE cotton futures and for Gujarat-ICS-105 29mm and therefore, though prices display near-term weakness, prices could find strong supports at the above mentioned levels and gradually edge higher again.



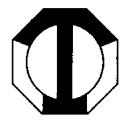
Update on Cotton Acreage (as on 11th September 2013))

Sl. No	States	Normal of Year*	Normal on Week**	Area Sown (During the corresponding week in)		
		or rear	on week	2013	2012	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Andhra Pradesh	20.09	19.03	21.13	21.68	
2	Gujarat	26.97	26.44	26.88	23.63	
3	Haryana	5.82	5.51	5.57	6.03	
4	Karnataka	5.28	4.29	5.29	4.16	
5	Madhya Pradesh	6.55	6.51	6.21	6.08	
6	Maharashtra	40.71	40.72	38.68	41.45	
7	Orissa	0.98	1.00	1.24	1.19	
8	Punjab	5.24	5.35	5.05	5.16	
9	Rajasthan	4.18	4.24	2.93	4.50	
10	Tamil Nadu	1.28	0.26	0.19	0.26	
11	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.28	0.23	0.30	
12	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
13	Others	0.43	0.06	0.10	0.00	
	Total	117.53	113.69	113.5	114.44	

^{*} Normal area mentioned above is average of last three years (Source: Directorate of Cotton Development, Mumbai)







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Data of registration of contract for export of cotton yarn

Month	Quantity in Million Kgs.
Apr'2011	71.36
May 2011	63.19
Jun'2011	54.079
Jul'2011	57.212
Aug'2011	97.734
Sep'2011	77.157
Oct'2011	43.69
Nov'2011	76.362
Dec'2011	83.005
Jan'2012	79.148
Feb'2012	60.518
Mar'2012 (Provisional)	64.227
Apr'2012(Provisional)	62.811
May 2012(Provisional)	74.455
Jun'2012 (Provisional)	82.419

Month	Quantity in Million Kgs.
Jul'2012 (Provisional)	94.507
Aug'2012 (Provisional)	83.055
Sep'2012(Provisional)	64.269
Oct'2012 (Provisional)	94.462
Nov'2012 (Provisional)	100.769
Dec'2012 (Provisional)	100.778
Jan'2013 (Provisional)	117.143
Feb'2013 (Provisional)	103.955
Mar'2013 (Provisional)	88.685
Apr'2013 (Provisional)	115.960
May 2013 (Provisional)	90.152
June 2013 (Provisional)	142.297
July 2013 (Provisional)	139.745
August 2013 (provisional)	104.913

(Source: Directorate General of Foreign Trade)

Weekly Percent Departures of Rainfall - Monsoon 2013

	LEG EXCESS	NORMAL DEFICIEN		ENT SO	NO RAIN	
S.	WEEKS ENDING ON>	· 14 AUG 2013	21 AUG 2013	28 AUG 2013	4 SEPT 2013	11 SEPT 2013
No.	MET. SUBDIVISIONS	1111002010			102112010	1102112010
1.	ORISSA	-29%	21%	-69%	-46%	-49%
2.	HAR. CHD & DELHI	-12%	68%	-71%	-79%	-90%
3.	PUNJAB	-39%	202%	-78%	-65%	-69%
4.	WEST RAJASTHAN	142%	170%	-89%	-100%	-99%
	EAST RAJASTHAN	93%	22%	-29%	-96%	-99%
5.	WEST MADHYA PRADESH	43%	4%	128%	-80%	-95%
	EAST MADHYA PRADESH	31%	62%	65%	-39%	-94%
6.	GUJARAT REGION	18%	-47%	-51%	-94%	-79%
7.	MADHYA MAHARASHTRA	-20%	-53%	-35%	-91%	31%
	MARATHWADA	-9%	-50%	-64%	-95%	-19%
	VIDARBHA	-28%	14%	-17%	-92%	-61%
8.	COASTAL ANDHRA PRADESH	-28%	69%	-87%	-26%	13%
	TELANGANA	-44%	91%	-72%	-48%	19%
	RAYALASEEMA	4%	51%	-85%	164%	169%
9.	TAMILNADU & PONDICHERRY	103%	25%	-75%	125%	131%
10.	COASTAL KARNATAKA	-47%	30%	-34%	-75%	-1%
	N. I. KARNATAKA	-59%	8%	-73%	-4%	176%
	S. I. KARNATAKA	-38%	-10%	-46%	77%	180%

Note: Rainfall Statistics given above is based on real time data receipt and is subject to be updated (Source: India Meteorological Department)

CAI Releases Second Estimate for the 2013-14 Cotton Season

The Association has released its second estimate of the cotton crop for the season 2013-14 beginning on 1st October 2013 at 375 lakh bales of 170 kgs. each.

In its press communique, CAI has stated that the crop conditions have improved since last month. A slightly higher crop is therefore estimated for the 2013-14 season compared to the last month. Crop conditions are expected to improve further in September especially if the weather remains conducive. This could improve the crop for the 2013-14 cotton season further.

The Association has also released its August estimates (as on 31st August 2013) of the cotton crop for the season 2012-13 and placed the cotton crop for the season 2012-13 at 356.75 lakh bales. The Statewise production estimates of the Association along with the market arrivals are given below:

	CAI's Estimates of Cotton	Crop
	as on 6th September 201	13
		(in lak
State	Production	Arriv

	-		(in lakh bales)		
State	Produ	ction	Arrivals as		
	2013-14	2012-13	on 31.08.13		
Punjab	15.25	15.50	14.75		
Haryana	22.75	24.00	23.25		
Upper Rajasthan	5.50	7.50	7.00		
Lower Rajasthan	9.00	8.50	8.50		
Total North Zone	52.5	55.50	53.50		
Gujarat	111.50	83.25	82.75		
Maharashtra	75.25	72.50	72.25		
Madhya Pradesh	17.75	18.00	17.50		
Total Central Zone	204.50	173.75	172.50		

Andhra Pradesh	67.50	78.00	77.75
Karnataka	14.50	13.50	13.25
Tamil Nadu	5.00	5.00	4.75
Total South Zone	87.00	96.50	95.75
Orissa	3.00	3.00	3.00
Others	2.00	2.00	2.00
Total	349.00	330.75	326.75
Loose Cotton	26.00	26.00	26.00
All-India	375.00	356.75	352.75

The Balance Sheet drawn by the Association for 2013-14 and 2012-13 is reproduced below:

		(in lakh bales)
Details	2013-14	2012-13
Opening Stock	42.50	54.75
Production	375.00	356.75
Imports	15.00	14.00
Total Supply	432.50	425.50
Mill Consumption	260.00	248.008
Consumption by SSI Units	25.00	24.00
Non-Mill Use	16.00	16.00
Exports	-	95.00
Demand	301.00	383.00
Available Surplus	131.50	-
*Closing Stock	-	42.50

Cotton Consumption - Cotton Year-wise

(In Lakh Bales)

Month	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (P) Oct-Jul
October	17.33	18.32	16.54	18.13	22.09	17.77	21.84
November	17.81	16.94	16.94	18.47	21.09	18.34	21.09
December	18.49	18.86	17.98	19.49	22.57	20.13	22.63
January	18.22	18.54	16.93	19.54	22.10	20.33	23.30
February	17.11	18.14	16.23	18.81	20.23	20.31	22.24
March	18.39	18.45	17.51	20.01	21.77	20.38	23.61
0April	18.06	17.98	17.12	20.53	20.17	20.31	23.20
May	17.89	18.95	17.83	20.93	18.64	21.27	22.74
June	17.85	18.55	18.01	20.71	18.23	21.17	22.68
July	18.42	18.50	18.98	22.11	19.00	22.14	23.76
August	18.58	17.62	18.59	21.73	18.64	22.08	
September	18.03	16.90	18.29	21.42	21.71	21.46	
Total	216.18	217.75	210.96	241.88	246.23	245.47	227.09

(Source: Office of the Textile Commissioner)

				UPC	OUNTRY	SPOT R	RATES				(R	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) 2012-13 Crop AUGUST 2013						
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Strength /GPT	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14st
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15		10939 (38900)	10939 (38900)	11079 (39400)	11079 (39400)	11079
2	P/H/R	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15		11079 (39400)	11079 (39400)	11220 (39900)	11220 (39900)	11220 (39900)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	20		8352 (29700)	8295 (29500)	8295 (29500)	8352 (29700)	8352 (29700)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	21	Н	9476 (33700)	9420 (33500)	9420 (33500)	9448 (33600)	9448
5	M/M	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	23		11135 (39600)	11079 (39400)	11079 (39400)	11107 (39500)	11107 (39500)
6	P/H/R	ICS-202	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	O	12120 (43100)	12176 (43300)	12260 (43600)	12317 (43800)	12317 (43800)
7	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	25		12570 (44700)	12513 (44500)	12429 (44200)	12457 (44300)	12429 (44200)
8	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	25	L	12710 (45200)	12654 (45000)	12570 (44700)	12598 (44800)	12570 (44700)
9	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	26		12429 (44200)	12485 (44400)	12570 (44700)	12626 (44900)	12626
10	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	26	I	12907 (45900)	12795 (45500)	12710 (45200)	12738 (45300)	12710 (45200)
11	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	26		13076 (46500)	12963 (46100)	12879 (45800)	12907 (45900)	12879 (45800)
12	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	D	12570 (44700)	12626 (44900)	12710 (45200)	12766 (45400)	12766 (45400)
13	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27		13441 (47800)	13329 (47400)	13244 (47100)	13273 (47200)	13244 (47100)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	A	13413 (47700)	13329 (47400)	13244 (47100)	13273 (47200)	13244 (47100)
15	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28		13582 (48300)	13469 (47900)	13385 (47600)	13413 (47700)	13385 (47600)
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	Y	13498 (48000)	13413 (47700)	13329 (47400)	13357 (47500)	13329
17	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.5 – 4.9	29		13610 (48400)	13498 (48000)	13441 (47800)	13469 (47900)	13441
18	M/M/A/K/T/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.5 – 4.9	30		13694 (48700)	13582 (48300)	13526 (48100)	13554 (48200)	13498
19	K/A/T/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.9	31		13947 (49600)	13835 (49200)	13835 (49200)	13863 (49300)	13779
20	M(P)/K/T	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33		16169 (57500)	16169	16169 (57500)	16113 (57300)	16113 (57300)

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