

Thailand Morning Cuppa

Top Story & Regional Research

Regional Plantation (OVERWEIGHT)

Year-End Stock Closes At 2m Tonnes

Sector Update

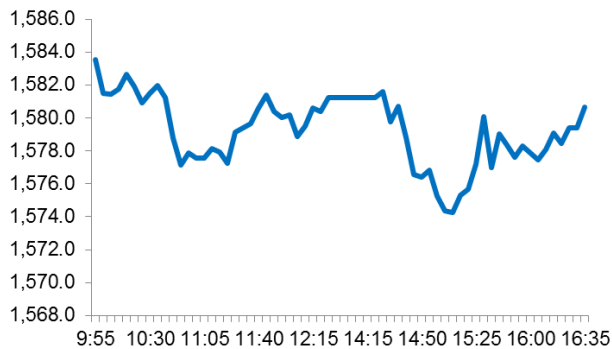
Maintain OVERWEIGHT, Top Picks: Kuala Lumpur Kepong, First Resources, and Astra Agro Lestari. Malaysian production continued to decline, leading to stocks falling to 2m tonnes at year-end and the stock/usage ratio remaining below the 15-year historical mean. We believe CPO prices could take a breather before stabilising at MYR2,700-3,000/tonne in 1H20.

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[Today's Report: Regional Plantation : Year-End Stock Closes At 2m Tonnes \(13 Jan 2020\)](#)

[Previous Report: Regional Plantation : Stock/Usage Ratio Falls Below Historical Mean \(11 Dec 2019\)](#)

Chart 1: SET intra-day graph



SET	2017	2018	2019	2020F
PE (x)	17.60	16.25	15.62	14.39
P/BV (x)	2.03	1.74	1.66	1.57
Yield (%)	2.80	3.35	3.20	3.42

SET Value by investor Type: Daily

	Buy (THBm)	Sell (THBm)	Net (THBm)
Institution	5,788.37	5,859.24	-70.87
Proprietary	7,099.56	7,104.91	-5.34
Foreign	22,142.24	22,626.50	-484.26
Retail	17,003.19	16,442.72	560.47

SET Value by investor Type

	MTD (THBm)	YTD (THBm)
Institution	3,302.33	3,302.33
Proprietary	319.61	319.61
Foreign	2,241.05	2,241.05
Retail	-5,862.99	-5,862.99

SET50 Index Future

	Long	Short	Net	MTD	YTD
Institution	28,941	29,157	-216	-8,808	-8,808
Foreign	44,431	44,608	-177	-6,458	-6,458
Local	95,276	94,883	393	15,266	15,266

Foreign Fund Flows (USDm)

	Daily	WTD	MTD	YTD	YoY
Thailand	-16.0	69.0	73.9	73.9	7617.4

Note: *As at 10 Jan 2020 closing

Table 1: Key market indices (13 Jan 2020)

	Index	Chg	% Chg	% YTD
SET	1580.63	0.99	0.06%	0.1%
SET50	1071.03	-0.12	-0.01%	0.2%
SET100	2341.72	0.24	0.01%	0.0%
Dow Jones	28823.77	-133.13	-0.46%	1.0%
S&P500	3265.35	-9.35	-0.29%	1.1%
Nasdaq	9178.86	-24.57	-0.27%	2.3%
FTSE	7587.85	-10.27	-0.14%	0.6%
FSSTI	3255.95	8.47	0.26%	1.0%
Hang Seng	28638.20	77.20	0.27%	1.6%
Nikkei	23850.57	110.70	0.47%	0.8%
KLCI	1591.46	-4.19	-0.26%	0.2%
SHANGHAI SE	3092.29	-2.59	-0.08%	1.4%
JCI	6274.94	0.45	0.01%	-0.4%

Key Statistics

Foreign Exchange Rates / Oil Market

	Closed	Chg.	%Chg.
USD			
Baht (Onshore)	30.23	-0.02	0.06
Yen	109.57	0.12	-0.11
Euro	1.11	0.00	-0.05
Oil Price (USD/barrel)			
Brent	65.29	-0.25	-0.38
Nymex-Crude Light	58.89	-0.15	-0.25

Note: *As at 10 Jan 2020 closing

Bulletin

STOCK/SECTOR	NEWS	COMMENT	RATING
Construction CH Karnchang (CK TB) Sino-Thai Engineering & Construction (STEC TB)	<p>Last Friday, the Supreme Administrative Court (SAC) ordered the Royal Thai Navy to accept the Charoen Pokphand Group-led consortium's bid for THB290bn Eastern Airport City project, overruling the Administrative Court's ruling. The SAC ruled that having a bidding process will better serve national interests if it included the tender from the aforementioned consortium – in addition to those of the two other contenders.</p> <p>Representatives of the consortium had begun filing documents within the set deadline, as the rules required, and the 9-minute delay in submitting its technical, financial, and business plan documents should not cause any significant advantage or disadvantage to the other contenders. Also, the Eastern Economic Corridor Office had accepted the participation of the consortium, the court ruled, referring to the bidding contest that ended at 3pm on 21 Mar 2019. This judgement overruled the finding of the Administrative Court, which supported the navy's rejection of the Charoen Pokphand Group-led consortium's Aug 2019 bid. The THB290bn project is part of the development of U-Tapao International Airport, which is operated by the navy.</p> <p>The abovementioned consortium comprises Thana Holding (under the Charoen Pokphand Group), Italian-Thai Development, CH Karnchang, B.Grimm Joint Venture, and Orient Success International. The other two bidders for the contract: the BBS consortium – comprising Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction, Bangkok Airways and BTS Group Holdings – and the Grand Consortium. The latter consists of Grande Asset Hotel & Property, Asia Aviation (whose majority stake is owned by Thai AirAsia), and Christiani & Nielsen (Thai). (<i>Bangkok Post</i>)</p>	<p>This is positive for partner members within the Charoen Pokphand Group-led consortium, as the SAC's clear-cut order is in its favour. Although the winner of the bid has not been made known so far, the court order should at least improve and normalise the consortium's chances of winning the project.</p> <p>At the time of submitting the proposals for bidding for the U-Tapao International Airport expansion in Mar 2019, this consortium was also in negotiations with State Railway of Thailand for the high-speed railway project, which will link three airports. As such, we believe the Charoen Pokphand Group-led consortium may be adopting an aggressive approach in bidding for the U-Tapao International Airport's expansion project as well. The competition between this and the BBS consortium for this contract is likely to heat up. Regardless of which consortium wins the project, we expect the early-cycle beneficiary to be the construction partners within each group. CH Karnchang and Italian-Thai Development (ITD TB, NR) are key construction players within the Charoen Pokphand Group-led consortium, while Sino-Thai Engineering & Construction is the key construction member within the BBS consortium.</p> <p>As total construction works for the airport expansion is worth about THB66-70bn – and the first-phase construction works should be valued at THB20-22bn – this will help the orderbooks of the construction companies (in the winning consortium) to grow. In our view, this kind of growth should be more meaningful to CK, which is also our sector Top Pick, as its orderbook is currently at low levels.</p>	<p>Sector: OVERWEIGHT</p> <p>Top Pick: CK: BUY, TP: THB26.00</p> <p>STEC: BUY, TP: THB20.00</p>

Top BUYs

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
Advance Info Service (ADVANC TB)	250.00	16.82	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better profitability due to the TOT litigation settlement (for towers and 2G equipment) that could decrease its network opex by THB3.2bn pa. Strong convergence services portfolio, with a low base of fixed broadband customers who should benefit from the shift in the industry's acquisition trends. Solid balance sheet and cash flow that could be a safeguard against uncertainties during the spectrum auction.
Bangkok Bank (BBL TB)	205.00	32.69	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved sustainable earnings growth prospects, underpinned by continued loan growth, lower provisions, and efficient cost management. Sustainable earnings growth prospects, underpinned by continued loan growth, lower provisions, and efficient cost management. Moderate fee income growth is supported by the collaboration with AIA and less impact from the online fee waiver. ROE is trending up to 9-9.2% in 2019-2020 from the low level at 8.5% in 2017. As the top corporate lender, BBL is likely to gain the most benefits from the infrastructure investment cycle to shore up loans growth.
Bangkok Chain Hospital (BCH TB)	21.50	35.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A leading private hospital and the Social Security Office (SSO) scheme's largest service provider. Enhanced its customer base to capture the upper-end and international patient segments. Key growth drivers are upcoming price adjustment and clearer payment policy from the SSO, higher revenue intensity from larger portion of cash patients who come for complicated cases, as well as better volume growth from upcoming new facilities and higher utilisation of World Medical Centre.
Central Pattana (CPN TB)	83.50	35.77	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the online retail trend, the malls of Central Pattana – Thailand's No.1 shopping mall developer – are likely to become the centre of consumer lifestyle and activities. Expect better YoY earnings growth in 4Q19F compared to the previous quarter, to be driven by the major transfer of its three sold-out, high-rise residential projects. Loans refinancing may lower Grand Canal Land's cost of debts by c.0.5ppts by the final quarter this year, benefitting Central Pattana's interest expenses. Potentially, c.THB1.75bn net extra gains from the asset spin-offs to its REIT may be recorded in 1H20.
CP All (CPALL TB)	95.00	27.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Its 7-Eleven convenience store outlook is likely on track – CP All continues to open new stores at the same 700 outlets pa rate it has undertaken so far, to enjoy sales from ongoing launches of new merchandise and the attractive stamp campaign, along with a recovery of service income thanks to rising transactions of its banking agent service. Siam Makro's product and customer developments play vital roles for the improvement of its operations, which have boosted sales and operating leverage. The factors help limit the impact of rising opex due to its overseas expansion. Expect stronger earnings growth of 13% in 2020F to be driven by both the 7-Eleven and Siam Makro segments.
CH Karnchang (CK TB)	26.00	37.57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a small orderbook worth about THB37bn, the company has three construction projects. Remaining orders that can generate significant revenue in the near term include the mechanical & engineering system procurement contract for the Blue-Line Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) extension, Orange-Line MRT construction works under a JV with Sino-Thai Engineering & Construction, and the Xayaburi hydropower project in Laos. CK has signed new orderbooks worth about THB6bn from the Rama III-Dao Khanong Expressway. The company's opportunity to grow its orderbook will arise when high-speed railway network linking three international airports is scheduled for an upcoming contract signing.

Top BUYs

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
Electricity Generating (EGCO TB)	394.00	18.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We like this company for its relatively low gearing of 1x D/E and cash on hand of THB20.6bn, which we believe will support further growth in the overseas market. We expect 2020F earnings to be boosted by 10% to THB12.8bn, as two large scale projects have already commenced in 4Q19: The 500MW San Buenaventura Power in the Philippines and 1,285MW Xayaburi hydro-electric power plant in Laos.
Osotspa (OSP TB)	49.00	11.36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Osotspa's organisational streamlining by its new management team has effectively turned the company from a family business to a professionally run entity. Local and overseas activities to help driving topline sales, the launch of new products to capture consumer demands, expansion of production facilities, and distribution coverage abroad – mainly in Myanmar – to strengthen its leading position there. Its key business strategy – premiumisation of new products and corporate cost-savings programme – should be the key factors that help boost GPM and keep opex under control. Expect stronger earnings growth of 16% in 2020F vs 14% in 2019F.
PTT Explore & Production (PTTEP TB)	144.00	9.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The company's products are both directly and indirectly linked to crude oil prices, so it remains South-East Asia's best proxy to crude oil prices. We expect higher sales volume while costs remain stable. Its Leng Lebah (SK410B) field currently has estimated total resources at 2tcf. PTTEP expects to drill another nearby well in 2Q20. It is possible that another 2-3tcf can be found. This project could potentially be commercialised by 1Q25, as it could use shared existing facilities within the area. Assuming 30%-100% of 2tcf is proved reserves, this project could add c.TH3.50-11.50 per share to PTTEP's current valuation.
Siam Cement (SCC TB)	460.00	23.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Among Siam Cement's major businesses, the cement & building materials division – along with the packaging wing – will somehow mitigate the heavy impact on the petrochemical business. This is based on management's guideline of proactive long-term measures to cope with macroeconomic uncertainties, eg the US-China trade war. While demand for cement has picked up since 3Q18, the company should leverage on this situation by introducing new high-value-added products in building materials and expanding its retail outlet network via partnerships made in major provincial cities.
Srisawad Corp (SAWAD TB)	71.50	2.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solid growth potential from proactive branch expansion to acquire untapped customers nationwide. Higher margin from lower funding costs and elevated growth in high-yield loans (car- and land-title loans). Adequate reserves to counter with new Thai Financial Reporting Standard 9 to be effective Jan 2020 and economic risks. Earnings growth is expected to be strong at more than 15% YoY for 2020-2021, supported by higher NII from continued loan growth and higher NIM.
Star Petroleum Refining (SPRC TB)	12.70	17.59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We like this company as share price has been depressed for most of 2019F due to its 45-day planned maintenance shutdown in 4Q19. After planned maintenance, we will see its refining capacity increase from 165kbbpd to 175kbbpd. We see earnings are set for a rebound, from net loss THB1.9bn for 2019F to net profit of THB5.0bn. The company has minimal debt, currently at USD51.8m temporary short-term debt. With its strong financial position, we believe the company is well placed for further expansion or diversification. We believe SPRC will make an announcement of its plans to expand into new business in 2Q20F. This new business, we believe, will be within its core competence and possibly downstream petrochemicals business.
WHA Corp (WHA TB)	4.85	32.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHA is the proxy in industrial estates to benefit from e-commerce in Thailand. After the company's successful deal with Alibaba, its key strength in premium warehouses should make it an attractive option for e-commerce players, especially from China. The stronger inflow of foreign direct investments (FDIs) into Thailand should bear fruit in 2019, when investors make decisions on the Eastern Economic Corridor's 10 target industries. Good signals from Chinese FDI investors, as they are requesting visits to WHA's project sites, especially for smart electronics, auto parts for electric vehicles, robotics, and food for the future.

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