Singapore Company Update



11 August 2022

Golden Agri (GGR SP)

Still Fairly Valued; Maintain NEUTRAL

• Maintain NEUTRAL, new SOP-based TP of SGD0.29 from SGD0.30, 4% upside. We maintain our ESG score of 2.7 for GGR – while it has managed to reduce its GHG emissions intensity by 25% from 2018 to 2021, water intensity has risen by 15% in the same period. The stock is fairly valued – trading at 7x FY23F P/E, in line with its peer range of 6-11x.

- CPO prices have plunged on the back of the unwinding impact of Indonesia's export ban, as well as fears of recession which pulled down commodity prices in general. We believe the price decline could have been slightly overdone, having fallen 44% in seven weeks much more than the declines in soybean, crude oil and wheat prices (down 31%, 17% and 16%). While regulatory risks still exist, particularly for players in Indonesia, we believe supply concerns will continue to haunt the sector for the rest of 2022 in view of the logistics backlog in Indonesia and the labour shortages in Malaysia. That said, if these issues are resolved by end-2022, and that Ukraine is able to export its oilseed products as per the grains deal agreement signed, 2023 should continue to be a better year for supply and prices will likely remain under pressure.
- ESG concerns prevail, but may have taken a backseat. However, the ESG discounts we previously assigned to valuations are still in place. We have reassessed our ESG scores by relooking at the progress made by the industry, identifying shortcomings and any room for improvement. From our analysis, we highlight that, while better disclosure on ESG-related information has been made over the years, progress in mitigating these issues is rather slow. As a result, we have made some upward revisions to the ESG scores of some planters that have made progress but highlight that several peers have remained relatively stagnant in their ESG efforts, while others have even reduced disclosures.
- We tone down CPO price assumptions. We continue to expect stock levels to remain tight for the next 2-3 months, possibly until end-3Q, which would provide support for CPO prices. We cut CPO price assumptions for 2022 to MYR5,100/tonne (from MYR5,300/tonne). For 2023, as fundamentals continue to improve assuming labour shortages are somewhat resolved and the Ukrainian oilseed output is able to be exported, CPO prices could drop further. However, support from a rampup in biodiesel mandates and discretionary biodiesel demand coming back would keep CPO prices above MYR3,000/tonne in the medium term. We lower our 2023 estimate to MYR3,900/tonne (from MYR4,300/tonne). Our MYR3,500/tonne assumption for 2024 remains unchanged. As a result, we cut GGR's FY22-24F earnings by 9-17%.
- NEUTRAL, with a lower TP of SGD0.29 from SGD0.30. Our TP includes an ESG discount of 6%, based on our ESG score for GGR of 2.7. We believe valuations are fair, as the counter is trading within its peer range of 6-11x 2023F P/E.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total turnover (USDm)	7,078	10,183	11,144	10,276	10,165
Recurring net profit (USDm)	62	407	463	369	350
Recurring net profit growth (%)	-	554.3	13.8	(20.4)	(5.1)
Recurring P/E (x)	41.55	6.33	5.56	6.99	7.36
P/B (x)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
P/CF (x)	3.48	4.56	2.54	2.87	3.29
Dividend Yield (%)	1.7	5.9	5.4	4.3	4.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.03	2.55	1.67	1.63	1.53
Return on average equity (%)	8.3	18.9	25.8	22.2	20.6
Net debt to equity (%)	39.2	37.9	25.4	15.8	9.1

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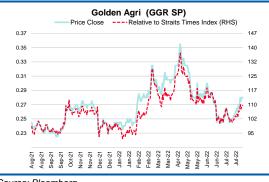
Target Price (Return):	SGD0.29 (+4%)
Price (Market Cap):	SGD0.28 (USD2,576m)
ESG score:	2.67 (out of 4)
Avg Daily Turnover (SGD/USD)	6.50m/4.69m

Analyst

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Share Performance (%)

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	14.3	5.7	(11.1)	0.0	14.3
Relative	9.6	1.2	(10.5)	3.9	11.3
52-wk Price low	/high (SGD)			0.23	- 0.36



Source: Bloomberg

Overall ESG Score: 2.67 (out of 4) E: GOOD

GGR has managed to reduce its GHG emissions intensity from 0.84 tCO2e/ CPO tonne in 2018 to 0.67 tCO2e/ CPO tonne in 2021, ie a 25% reduction. It has continuously rolled out conservation planning programmes and, in 2019, it set aside over 7,700 ha of HCS forests for conservation. Additionally, GGR has worked with other major palm oil producers and buyers to develop a new radar-based forest monitoring system that makes it easier for stakeholders monitor deforestation happening in nearreal-time.

S: GOOD

GGR has been mapping villages to ensure FPIC is implemented, and to enable the latter to gain access to government development funds for the first time. Additionally, it has been working with a range of partners to provide education, scholarship, medical access to improve the quality of life of local communities. **G: GOOD**

63% of the Board comprise independent members, with full disclosure on director remuneration, which includes salaries and bonuses on a named basis. BAL has an inhouse investor relations team and holds investor briefings regularly, embodying good transparency and disclosure practices.

Source: Company data, RHB



Financial Exhibits

Asia Singapore

Agriculture | Plantation

Asia	Financial summary (USD)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Singapore	Recurring EPS	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Agriculture	DPS	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Golden Agri	BVPS	0.33	0.37	0.39	0.41	0.43
GGR SP	Return on average equity (%)	8.3	18.9	25.8	22.2	20.6
Neutral						
	Valuation metrics	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Valuation basis	Recurring P/E (x)	41.55	6.33	5.56	6.99	7.36
We use SOP to value Golden Agri. We apply an	P/B (x)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
EV/ha valuation of USD4,400/ha for its plantation assets and a P/BV of 1x for its downstream division.	FCF Yield (%)	21.6	14.0	25.4	22.0	17.6
This is slightly below its peer range of USD5,000-	Dividend Yield (%)	1.7	5.9	5.4	4.3	4.1
15,000/ha – which we believe is justified given its	EV/EBITDA (x)	4.03	2.55	1.67	1.63	1.53
older age profile.	EV/EBIT (x)	6.13	3.40	2.07	2.07	1.95
Key drivers	Income statement (USDm)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
	Total turnover	7,078	10,183	11,144	10,276	10,165
 i. CPO price movement; ii. FFB production output; 	Gross profit	1,476	2,720	2,986	2,679	2,613
iii. Competitiveness of its downstream processing	EBITDA	961	1,458	1,989	1,807	1,749
division vs that of peers.	Depreciation and amortisation	(329)	(365)	(392)	(385)	(380)
	Operating profit	631	1,094	1,598	1,423	1,370
Key risks	Net interest	(126)	(142)	(137)	(121)	(108)
i. CPO price movement;	Pre-tax profit	504	1,090	1,497	1,338	1,298
ii. Weather risks;	Taxation	(117)	(199)	(196)	(156)	(148)
iii. Demand and supply dynamics of the global vegetable oil industry.	Reported net profit	357	841	1,247	1,138	1,109
	Recurring net profit	62	407	463	369	350
Company Profile	Cash flow (USDm)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Golden Agri is Indonesia's largest oil palm plantation company and also the biggest local player in cooking	Change in working capital	153	(416)	106	102	12
oil market.	Cash flow from operations	743	565	1,015	899	783
	Capex	(186)	(204)	(360)	(332)	(328)
	Cash flow from investing activities	(321)	(196)	(360)	(332)	(328)
	Dividends paid	(52)	(115)	(139)	(111)	(105)
	Cash flow from financing activities	(230)	(283)	(239)	(211)	(205)
	Cash at beginning of period	210	403	499	915	1,271
	Net change in cash	192	86	416	356	249
	Ending balance cash	402	489	915	1,271	1,521
	Balance sheet (USDm)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
	Total cash and equivalents	1,097	666	1,082	1,438	1,688
	Tangible fixed assets	4,127	3,999	3,967	3,915	3,864
	Total investments	1,049	1,690	1,690	1,690	1,690
	Total assets	9,126	9,608	9,950	10,103	10,285
	Short-term debt	1,792	1,546	1,546	1,546	1,546
	Total long-term debt	1,043	974	874	774	674
	Total liabilities	4,695	4,716	4,679	4,529	4,425
	Total equity	4,432	4,892	5,271	5,573	5,860
	Total liabilities & equity	9,126	9,608	9,950	10,103	10,285
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	Key metrics Revenue growth (%)	Dec-20 10.0	Dec-21 43.9	Dec-22F 9.4	Dec-23F (7.8)	Dec-24F (1.1)
	Recurrent EPS growth (%)	0.0	556.5	13.8	(7.8)	(1.1)
	Gross margin (%)	20.8	26.7	26.8	26.1	(3.1)
	Operating EBITDA margin (%)	13.6	14.3	17.8	17.6	17.2
	Net profit margin (%)	5.0	8.3	11.2	11.1	10.9
	Dividend payout ratio (%)	12.4	18.0	11.2	9.7	9.5
	Capex/sales (%)	2.6	2.0	3.2	3.2	3.2
	Interest cover (x)	4.47	6.63	10.01	9.23	9.22
		4.47	0.03	10.01	9.23	9.22

Source: Company data, RHB



Golden Agri

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Figure 1: Progress on ESG factors

		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Enviromental						
GHG Emission	Emission and intensity	Not disclosed	4,599,165 Intensity: 0.84	6,573,773 Intensity: 0.82	6,594,615 Intensity: 0.88	5,726,980 Intensity: 0.67
Waste treatment	Recycling/ Repurposing of waste	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Energy Efficiency (water)	Water usage (m3) and intensity (m3/tonne of palm product)	16,046,829 Intensity: 3.39	17,114,647 Intensity: 3.46	20,178,175 Intensity: 4.27	18,298,130 Intensity: 4.11	18,065,459 Intensity: 3.91
Energy Efficiency	Energy consumption and intensity	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed
Certifications	RSPO / MSPO / ISPO certified (%)	RSPO: 29/46 mills MSPO: N/A ISPO: 32/ 46	RSPO: 29/46 mills MSPO: N/A ISPO: 32/ 46	RSPO: 31/46 mills MSPO: N/A ISPO: 34/46 mills	RSPO: 31/46 mills MSPO: N/A ISPO: 35/46 mills	RSPO: 28% MSPO: N/A ISPO: 50%
Use of peat land	Peat land (%)	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	6.2%
Fire accidents	Number of accidents	0	0	0	0	0.003%
Usage of renewable energy	% of renewable energy used	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed
Traceability	Traceability (%) group-wide	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Efficiency of land use	Policy to increase yields and minimise land use or any research and development done/ ongoing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Social	deno, engenig					
Channels for workers to raise concerns	Existence of grievance channels to raise concerns	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Whistleblowin g policy	Policies to protect whistleblowers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Employees' professional/ personal development	Provision of training and education	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Policy for smallholders*	Policy in place for training, yield improvement and RSPO certification	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Employees' welfare	Accommodation and amenities provided	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Governance						•
Board composition	At least half of the board being independent directors	5/8 are independent	5/8 are independent	5/8 are independent	5/8 are independent	5/8 are independent
Limiting to 9 years (for independent directors)	Limitation of tenure to 9 years (for independent directors)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Gender inclusivity	Female representation in the board	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
Emphasis of sustainability at board level	Formation of a sustainability group	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Remuneration transparency	Full disclosure of fees and benefits on named basis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Source: Company data, RHB estimates



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Figure 2: Key assumptions

	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22F	FY23F	FY24F
Nucleus FFB production, tonnes	7,616,000	7,302,000	7,503,000	7,503,000	7,728,090	7,959,933
% change	-6.1%	-4.1%	2.8%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%
CPO price assumption, USD/tonne	523	716	1,168	1,175	907	814
% change	-7.4%	36.9%	69.0%	0.6%	-22.8%	-10.3%

Source: Company data, RHB

Figure 3: SOP valuation

	Valuation method	Target	USDm
Plantation	EV/ha (USD)	4,400	1870.15
Downstream	P/Book (x)	1.0	985.52
			2855.66
Share base			12,692
TP (USD)			0.22
ESG Premium/(discount)			-6.0%
TP (USD) - post ESG discount			0.21
TP (SGD)			0.29
Source: Company data RHB			

Source: Company data, RHB



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Recommendation Chart



Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2022-05-12	Neutral	0.30	0.28
2022-03-01	Neutral	0.31	0.29
2021-12-12	Neutral	0.26	0.25
2021-11-12	Neutral	0.28	0.27
2021-08-15	Neutral	0.24	0.24
2021-07-29	Neutral	0.22	0.24
2021-05-12	Trading Buy	0.30	0.28
2021-05-03	Trading Buy	0.30	0.25
2021-04-21	Trading Buy	0.25	0.21
2021-02-25	Trading Buy	0.25	0.19
2020-11-13	Sell	0.13	0.14
2020-11-01	Sell	0.13	0.14
2020-08-17	Sell	0.13	0.15
2020-06-25	Sell	0.13	0.15
2020-05-14	Sell	0.12	0.15

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

ESG Rating History





RHB Guide to Investment Ratings

Buy:	Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months
Trading Buy:	Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however
	longer-term outlook remains uncertain
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	12 months
Take Profit:	Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels
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