Friday, 15 March 2019

## News, Views \& Statistics

## Ready to Invest in Venezuela? Oil Banker Ponders \$3 Billion Fund

Maynard Holt is already thinking about how you can invest in Venezuela. The chief executive officer of Houston-based energy investment bank Tudor, Pickering, Holt \& Co. said Wednesday he's exploring the formation of a fund as big as \$3 billion to invest in Venezuela one day after fielding a question about it at an industry conference. Holt was asked by a moderator at the CERAWeek by IHS Markit conference what he would need if a fund was formed to pump capital into the troubled Latin American country. He sees a connection between the Lone Star State, home to the world's busiest shale patch, and Venezuela, home to the world's biggest oil reserves. "Caracas could be Midland, Texas," Holt said Wednesday in an interview, referring to the oil boom town at the heart of prolific Permian Basin. "We think that Houston is tied to oil and gas, they're 100 percent tied to oil and gas." Holt said he's thinking about where the money would come from, how such a fund would be financially structured and who would lead it. He said it would need to be larger than $\$ 1$ billion to have the kind of impact needed in Venezuela. Holt sees this as an opportunity for the sometimes maligned oil industry to do good by helping Venezuela.

## World Cotton production may rise 6.8\% in 2019-20: USDA

World cotton production is expected to rise $6.8 \%$ with yields rebounding in several countries and area also rising, according to the first projections for 2019-20 season released by the USDA. In the US, cotton production is expected at 22.5 million bales, based on higher planted area and sharply lower abandonment. The outlook for China shows imports, consumption, and production projected up, while stocks are expected to fall for the fifth consecutive year. "With the decline in China's stocks, stocks outside of China are projected to increase significantly. As a result, the average A-Index and the season-average US farm price are expected to decline," the Foreign Agricultural Service of USDA said in its 'Cotton: World Markets and Trade' March 2019 report. World trade is projected to expand, bring it near the record levels seen in 2011-12 and 2012-13. Much of the increase is expected in China as smaller sales from the State Reserve reduce available domestic supply, meaning that higher imports will be needed to close the gap, the report said. Global consumption in 2019-20 is expected to continue growing, but at a rate slightly below its long-run average based on weaker global economic growth. Meanwhile, for 2018-19 seasons, cotton production is forecast up slightly, led by larger crops in Brazil and Pakistan more than offsetting lower production in Australia. Trade is projected down slightly on lower imports for Indonesia and lower exports for Brazil. Global use is virtually unchanged. The US forecast is unchanged. The US season-average farm price is lowered 2 cents to 70 cents/lbs.

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | S2 | S1 | PIVOT | R1 | R2 | TREND |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SILVER | 38025 | 37406 | 37715 | 38211 | 38520 | 39016 | Up |
| GOLD | 31817 | 31519 | 31668 | 31930 | 32079 | 32341 | Reversal |
| CRUDE OIL | 4059 | 3998 | 4028 | 4057 | 4087 | 4116 | Up |
| COPPER | 445.25 | 438.40 | 441.80 | 447.30 | 450.70 | 456.20 | Down |
| NATURAL GAS | 197.70 | 195.50 | 196.60 | 197.50 | 198.60 | 199.50 | Up |
| JEERA | 15490 | 15330 | 15410 | 15555 | 15635 | 15780 | Up |
| TURMERIC | 6276 | 6194 | 6236 | 6286 | 6328 | 6378 | Down |
| SOYBEAN | 3663 | 3632 | 3648 | 3675 | 3691 | 3718 | Up |
| RM SEED | 3806 | 3779 | 3792 | 3820 | 3833 | 3861 | Down |
| GUAR SEED | 4327 | 4286 | 4306 | 4331 | 4351 | 4376 | Down |

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## International Markets

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | $\%$ <br> CHANGE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| LONDON SPOT GOLD | $\$ 1295.90$ | -1.07 |
| LONDON SPOT SILVER | $\$ 15.19$ | -1.68 |
| NYMEX CRUDE OIL | $\$ 58.80$ | +0.26 |
| NYMEX NATURAL GAS | $\$ 2.840$ | +0.14 |

## Economic Data

| Data | Previous | Forecast | Time |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No major release | - | - | - |

## RECOMMENDATIONS

## NICKEL

NICKEL MAR: SELL AT 899-900 TP-883/869 SL ABOVE 913.


Nickel tumbled to multi week lows as the rally in base metals fizzled out after negative fundamentals engulfed the previous robustness.

## COCUD

COCUD APR: BUY AT 2125-2124 TP-2157/2179 SL BELOW 2103.


COCUD is on fire at the moment as it is crossing every resistance with a powerful breakout. Yesterday it ended in yet another bullish candlestick. Buy on dips.

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