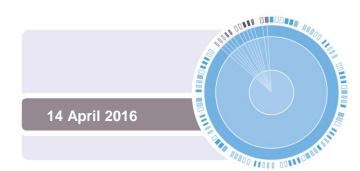
# **FERTECON**

# Ammonia Report

Weekly review of the ammonia market



- Transagri is the only bidder in FACT's re-tender for 7,500 t ammonia to Cochin before end-April
- Fertial tender for annual output due to close over the coming weekend
- . Black Sea and Baltic price indices raised as buyers show interest at higher levels
- GPIC in Bahrain exceeds export target for ammonia in Q1 2016

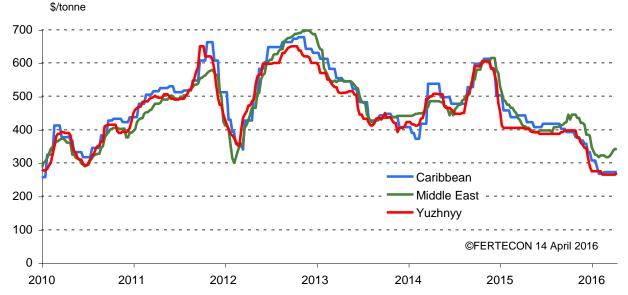
# OUTLOOK

Stable to slightly firmer.

# **KEY PRICES**

	14 April	7 April	31 March
Yuzhnyy fob \$/t	270*	260-270*	260-270*
Middle East fob \$/t	325-355*	330-355*	320-355*
Tampa/US Gulf cfr \$/t	310-315	310-315	310-315

# **AMMONIA PRICES**



Fertecon's ammonia prices are available to analyse and download immediately after publishing via this link.



# **AMMONIA PRICE INDICATIONS** All prices in US\$

	14 April	7 April	31 March
Fob prices			
Caribbean	270-275	270-275	270-275
Middle East	325-355*	330-355*	320-355*
Of which:			
- Netbacks on contract/formula-priced sales	325-340*	330-335*	320-330*
- Spot fob	355*	355	355
Yuzhnyy/FSU fob	270*	260-270*	260-270*
Baltic/FSU	280-285*	270-280*	270-280*
Southeast Asia	338-345	338-345	333-343
Delivered prices			
NW Europe (duty paid/duty free) *	349-359	338-353	338-353
NW Europe (duty unpaid) *	330-340	320-335	320-335
Far East	375-400	370-400	365-400
India	350-381	357-385	357-385
US Gulf/Tampa	310-315	310-315	310-315
- Tampa	310	310	310
- US Gulf (MS, LA, TX)	315	315	315

# FERTECON PRICE DEFINITION

Prices, rounded to the nearest US\$, represent the last known spot and contract business and current indications, for 4-40,000 t cargoes, net of credit. \* nominal; n.m. – no market; ^corrected

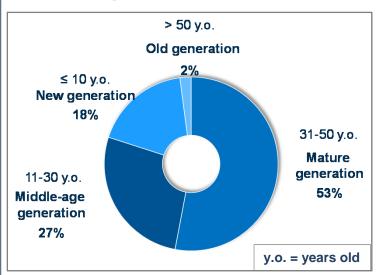
The full history of Fertecon's ammonia prices is available to view and download by clicking here.

# FREIGHT INDICATIONS US\$/tonne (Rates basis 1-1 unless stated)

Route	Cargo size (t)	Latest rate
Caribbean –Tampa/USG	23,500	38-42
Baltic (Ventspils) – Antwerp/Belgium	23,500	23-25
Baltic (Ventspils) – NW Europe (France)	8-15,000	42-45
Black Sea – NW Europe (excl Scandinavia)	12-15,000	75-80
Black Sea – Antwerp/Belgium	23,500	60-65
Black Sea – Morocco	23,500	42-45
Black Sea – US (1-1 Tampa)	40,000	60-65
Black Sea – US (2-3 USG)	40,000	70-75
Middle East – India (1 port W. Coast)	23,500	25-30
Middle East – India (2-3 ports W. Coast)	15,000	40-45
Middle East – India (1 port E. Coast)	15,000	50-65
Middle East – India (1 port E. Coast)	23,500	45-55
Middle East – Far East (Taiwan)	23,500	70-75
Middle East – Far East (South Korea)	23,500	75-85
Indonesia – Taiwan	15-20,000	40-45



# Age profile of ammonia industry & Projects' Capex

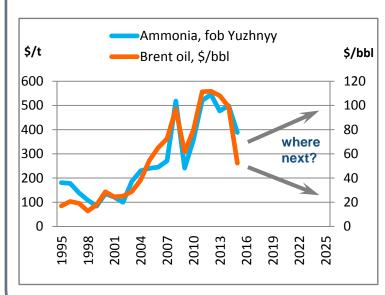


✓ Special Focus in the March issue provides age analysis of the global ammonia industry and reviews projects' capex, as well as answers the following questions:

Agribusiness intelligence | informa

- √ How does your ammonia plant age compare across other regions?
- ✓ Where are the most imminent risks of closures or upgrade required?
- ✓ What are the countries leading in the "new generation" group?
- √ How does your capex compare versus other projects?

# Latest revisions of feedstock prices



- ✓ What are the latest forecasts of energy assumptions?
- ✓ Have ammonia prices reached the bottom in the long-term cycle?
- ✓ How prolonged the trough of the cycle will be?
- √ What does "low oil price" mind-set mean for ammonia industry?
- ✓ What are the key challenges facing ammonia producers?
- ✓ How will ammonia costs & margins develop in the long-run?
- ✓ What do currency issues mean for ammonia market?

Contact us on <a href="mailto:fertecon@agra-net.com">fertecon@agra-net.com</a>



# **ANALYSIS**

Ammonia prices have been mixed this week. Indices in the eastern hemisphere were largely flat compared with last week, while prices in Yuzhnyy and the Baltic are showing signs of firming up.

Fresh spot activity in the **Black Sea** and the **Baltic** has not been reported this week. With supply constrained in Yuzhnyy, as OPZ still has only very limited availability if any, and in the Baltic, as Uralchem is focusing on accumulating tonnes for a previous sale to Koch, buyers are understood to be showing interest at higher price levels than previously reported. The Yuzhnyy index has been changed to \$270 fob flat while the Baltic index has been raised to \$280-285 fob this week.

There has been no new reported spot sale in the **Middle East** this week. The latest netbacks on contract formulae priced deliveries are assessed at \$325-340 fob, which widens last week's range somewhat. The overall Middle East fob price range therefore is \$325-355 this week.

Prices in **Asia** are observed to be flat to slightly firmer. The low end of the Far East cfr price range has been raised by \$5 to \$375-400 to reflect latest business. In **India**, Iffco tendered once for delivery of 7,500t t ammonia before the end of last month and has subsequently re-tendered twice as no offers were received in the original tender and in the first re-tender. Transagri is understood to have been the only bidder in the second re-tender that closed today, 14 April, with the offer price undisclosed so far.

In the **United States**, the season for direct ammonia application is reported to going very well with substantial volumes going onto the fields for corn preplant. Demand levels are understood to be strong, particularly in the west and the Corn Belt, at the moment.

# **SUPPLIERS**

## **FSU**

**BLACK SEA**: Ammonia prices in the Black Sea seem to be firming up, amid lower availability, although no business has been confirmed at higher levels than previously reported. It is understood that buyers are showing some buying interest at around \$270 fob. The low end of the previous Yuzhnyy index of \$260-270 fob has therefore been removed to indicate the firming of the market.

**OPZ** is understood to be allocating its ammonia production to downstream products, with only very limited volumes available for exports, if any.

The known ammonia vessel line-up for April-May so far is tabulated below.

Vessel	Trader	'000 t	Destination	Load date
MARCH		237		
APRIL		205		
Gas Cobia	Ameropa	23.4	Turkey (Bandirma)	3-5 April
Navigator Grace	Trammo	15	Turkey & Israel	6-7 April
Solaro	Ameropa	25	Belgium (Antwerp)	8-9 April
Clipper Odin	Ameropa	25	Morocco (Jorf Lasfar)	11-13 April
Gas Cobia	Ameropa	23.4	Jordan (Aqaba) On behalf of Muntajat	12-13 April
Gas Grouper	Ameropa	23.4	Belgium (Antwerp)	Eta 15 April
Gas Manta	Ameropa	23.4	Belgium (Antwerp)	2-half April
Brussels	Trammo	23	Morocco (Jorf Lasfar)	22 April
Gas Snapper	Ameropa	23.4	India	End April
MAY		40		
Clipper Odin	Ameropa	25	Tunisia	Early May
Navigator Grace	Trammo	15	TBC	Early May



**BALTIC:** There has not been any new spot business in the Baltic this week as the only supplier, Uralchem, is focusing on the delivery of existing orders. There are reports that prices are firming up with buyers showing interest at higher levels than previously. The Baltic price index has therefore been adjusted to \$280-285 fob.

Known loadings out of the Baltic ports for April are tabulated here:

Vessel	Trader	'000 t	Destination	Load date
MARCH		79.4		
APRIL		44		
Coral Ivory	Yara	4	Sweden (Köping)	2-3 April (Ventspils)
Clipper Orion	Koch	40	TBC	Eta 21 April (Ventspils)

## **EUROPE**

**UNITED KINGDOM:** Yara's vessel, the *Temse*, loaded 8,000 t ammonia at Hull and is currently showing an eta Antwerp of 15 April.

The latest release of HMRC data showed that ammonia exports in January-February 2016 amounted to 48,160 t, up nearly 5% from 45,870 t in the same two months a year before. The top destination in the period under review was Germany (24,048 t), followed by France (16,031 t) and Norway (4,047 t). In February alone, exports reached 24,023 t, up from 21,920 t in the same month a year ago. (Source: GTIS/HMRC)

The latest ammonia liftings out of the United Kingdom are tabulated below.

Vessel	Trader	'000 t	Destination	Load date
MARCH		20		
APRIL		8		
Temse	Yara	8	Belgium (Antwerp) ?	6-7 April (Hull)

#### **MEDITERRANEAN**

**TURKEY:** Trammo has loaded the *Marycam Swan* in Gemlik with a total of about 23,000 t ammonia. The vessel is understood to be dropping around 13,000 t in Israel and will deliver the balance of about 10,000 t to Jorf Lasfar/Morocco for OCP.

February 2016 ammonia exports were recorded to have been 5,493 t, down sharply from the 23,396 t in the same prior-year month. More than 99% of the entire volume was shipped to Israel in February 2016. The January-February total reached 5,520 t compared with 23,434 t in the first two months of 2015, a drop of over 76%. The y-o-y decline was mainly caused by lower volumes shipped to India (nil vs. 11,355 t in January-February 2015) and Madagascar (nil vs. 12,000 t), which could not be offset by the rise in the amount exported to Israel (5,446 t vs. nil). (Source: GTIS/State Institute of Statistics)

## **CARIBBEAN**

**TRINIDAD:** The level of gas curtailments to industrial users is reported to be rather erratic, with the actual curtailments sometimes changing from day to day, in the range of 15% to 20%.

The known vessel line-up for lifting out of Point Lisas in April so far is tabulated below.

Vessel	'000 t	Destination	Load date
MARCH	416.3		
APRIL	233.9		
Navigator Galaxy	15	Brazil (Santos)	31 March - 1 April
Marola	24.8	United States (Tampa)	1-3 April
Luigi Lagrange	24.8	TBC	6-8 April

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Clipper Neptun	40	TBC	7-9 April
Sanko Independence	23.5	TBC, possibly South Africa	12 April
Almajedah	15.4	TBC	12 April
Kaprijke	25	United States (incl Freeport)	15-17 March
Clipper Venus	40	TBC	Mid-April
Sombeke	25.4	TBC	Mid-April

# **AFRICA**

**ALGERIA:** Trammo's vessel, the *Sylvie*, is currently loading 23,500 t ammonia at Arzew from **Sorfert**. The vessel is expected to unload the cargo at WC India (Kandla) for Iffco.

**Fertial** is understood to be closing a tender for its annual output from the two plants at Arzew and the one plant at Annaba. The tender is reportedly closing over the weekend.

A total of roughly 113,000 t ammonia is scheduled to load in Algeria during April. This compares with just over 120,000 t in March. The latest known line-up for ammonia loading from **Fertial** and **Sorfert** plants is below.

ALGERIA: 2016 AMMONIA EXPORT SHIPMENTS						
Vessel	Supplier	'000 t	Destination	Load Port	Load Date	
MARCH		120.1				
APRIL		113.2				
Pertusola	Sorfert	11.8	France (Bordeaux & Montoir)/Yara	Arzew	1-3 April	
Sylvie	Sorfert	20	Spain (Sagunto and Castellon)/Trammo	Arzew	3-4 April	
Antarcticgas	Fertial	10	France/Yara	Arzew	4-5 April	
Wilhelm Schulte	Sorfert	11	Northern Europe?/OCI	Arzew	6-7 April	
Andesgas	Fertial	10	Spain?/Fertiberia	Arzew	9 April	
Sylvie	Sorfert	23.5	WC India (Kandla)/Trammo	Arzew	13-15 April	
Pertusola	Sorfert	11.9	TBC/Yara	Arzew	2-half April	
TBC	Sorfert	15	TBC	Arzew	2-half April	

## **MIDDLE EAST**

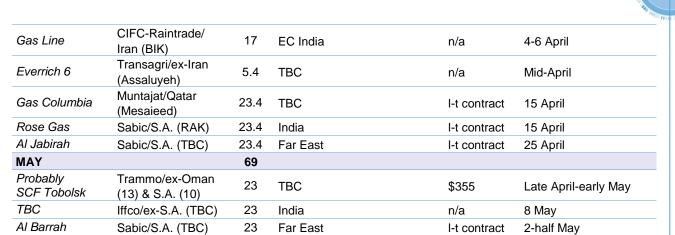
**IRAN:** The *Everrich 6* was showing eta 13 April at Bandar Assaluyeh where it is expected to load a cargo of ammonia. The destination of the vessel is unclear at the time of writing.

**QATAR:** The *Cambridge* is en route to Paradeep/EC India to unload 23,000 t ammonia for Muntajat ex-Qatar, currently showing eta 16 April. The cargo is priced under a long-term contract agreement.

There is currently no turnaround planned at the Qafco ammonia lines. Muntajat is understood to be focusing on the delivery of long-term contract cargoes with no spot volumes available at present.

SAUDI ARABIA: The latest Middle East line-up is tabulated below.

Vessel	Supplier/Origin	'000 t	Destination	Price \$/t	Load date
MARCH		252.9			
APRIL		159.3			
Almarona	Muntajat/Qatar	15	WC and EC India	I-t contract	3-4 April
Everrich 6	Transagri/ex-Iran (Assaluyeh)	5.4	WC India: Iffco/Kandla	n/a	2-4 April
Sanko Innovator	Trammo/ex-Oman (Sur - 8.4) & S.A. (RAK- 15)	23.3	Far East	SA: \$340	Oman: 31 Mar - 1 Apr S. Arabia: 6-7 Apr
Cambridge	Muntajat/Qatar	23	EC India: Paradeep	I-t contract	6-7 April



RAK = Ras Al Khair, S.A. = Saudi Arabia

## **ASIA/OCEANIA**

**BANGLADESH:** The *Gas Master* is due in Chittagong on 16 April. The KAFCO plant remains in production despite earlier reports that it would close in April. KAFCO supplies ammonia to BCIC for DAP production at Chittagong: DAP production has been maintained at comparatively good levels this year but this week the facility is said to have been idled due to a shortage of phosphoric acid.

**AUSTRALIA:** The *Viking River* left Dampier 10 April, and subsequently arrived in Kwinana on 12 April where the vessel is due to complete the load and depart from there on 15 April.

The Nordic River left South Korea yesterday, 13 April, and is currently showing eta of 23 April in Dampier.

February 2016 ammonia exports fell sharply y-o-y to 15,767 t against 55,023 t in the same month a year before. The drop from last year was due to lower volumes shipped to South Korea and China. The January-February total reached 37,274 t compared with 145,311 t in the same two months in 2015, a fall of more than 74% y-o-y. Of the total, 15,750 t were taken to South Korea, 15,500 t to Taiwan and 6,000 t to Indonesia. (Source: GTIS/Australian Bureau of Statistics)

The recent known ammonia loadings are tabulated below:

	Δ	AUSTRALIA: 2016 AMMONIA SHIPMENTS	
Vessel	'000 t	Destination/Supplier	Load Date/Port
MARCH	96		
APRIL	50+		
Viking River	25	Indonesia (Gresik – part cargo)/Yara	1 April (Dampier)
Viking River	?	TBC/Yara	9-10 April (Dampier)
Nordic River	25	TBC/Yara	Eta 23 April (Dampier)

INDONESIA: Mitsui's *Gaz Millennium* will be back in Bontang in 2-half April to load a cargo of ammonia destined for South Korea and Taiwan, with the split of the quantity not yet decided. It will load this cargo after returning from Ulsan/South Korea.

Trammo's *SCF Tomsk* is en route to Rayong in Thailand to unload 23,000 t ammonia before returning to Bontang at the end of the month.



The ammonia vessel line-up for April so far is tabulated below.

INDONESIA: 2016 AMMONIA EXPORT SHIPMENTS				
Vessel	'000 t	Destination/Supplier	Load Date/Port	
MARCH	51.6			
APRIL	108.3			
Gaschem Dollart	2.3	Vietnam/Mitsui	31 March-1 April (Palembang)	
Gaz Millennium	15	S. Korea (Ulsan)/Mitsui	7 April (Bontang)	
Gaz Serenity	15	Japan/Mitsui	9 April (Bontang)	
SCF Tomsk	23	Thailand (Rayong)/Trammo	7-8 April (Bontang)	
Gaz Millennium	15	S. Korea, Taiwan/Mitsui	2-half April (Bontang)	
Gaz Quantum	15	EC India (Paradeep)/Mitsui	End-April (Bontang)	
SCF Tomsk	23	TBC/Trammo	End-April (Bontang)	

MALAYSIA: The *Bunga Kemboja*, now in Kerteh, will next load for Thailand. It is scheduled to discharge 15,000 t ammonia for PTT Asahi on the account of **Mitsubishi** and 1,500 t for NFC on the account of **Petronas**.

The Petronas plant in Kerteh is operating well at around 95-98% of capacity, which is estimated to be 450,000 t/y.

January 2016 ammonia exports rose steeply y-o-y, according to the latest customs data. The monthly total amounted to 31,838 t, up from 6,789 t in January 2015 and compared with 27,841 t in the same month in 2014. The largest destination by volume in the month under review was South Korea, taking 16,000 t. Thailand was the destination for 14,375 t ammonia exported from Malaysia this January. Full-year 2015 exports had amounted to 380,314 t against 437,732 t in 2014, a drop of just over 13% y-o-y. (Source: GTIS/Department of Statistics Malaysia)

The latest ammonia loading schedule for Malaysian ports is below.

	N	IALAYSIA: 2016 AMMONIA EXPORT SHIPMENTS	
Vessel	'000 t	Destination/Supplier	Load Date/Port
MARCH	32.5		
APRIL	16.5		
Bunga Kemboja	16.5	Thailand (PTT Asahi & NFC)/Petronas & Mitsubishi	13-15 April (Kerteh)

# **MARKETS**

#### **AFRICA**

**MOROCCO: OCP** is understood to have not yet committed to any ammonia volumes for May. Stock levels are reported to be sufficient for the moment, but not enough to cover the rest of April, let alone the month of May. The producer said its current ammonia requirement was around 60-70,000 t/m.

The *Marycam Swan* is due to deliver the balance of a March cargo for OCP from Trammo, roughly 10,000 t ammonia. The cargo has been loaded in Gemlik/Turkey.



The latest line-up for ammonia deliveries into Jorf Lasfar for April is detailed below:

MOROCCO: KNOWN 2016 AMMONIA IMPORTS					
Vessel '000 t Supplier/Origin Discharge					
MARCH	138.4				
APRIL	35				
Clipper Odin	25	Ameropa/Yuzhnyy	Eta 20 April		
Marycam Swan	10	Trammo/ex-Turkey	20 April – balance from March		

TUNISIA: The latest known ammonia deliveries into Gabes are tabulated below.

TUNISIA: KNOWN 2016 AMMONIA IMPORTS						
Vessel '000 t Supplier/Origin Discharge						
APRIL 25						
Clipper Odin	25	Ameropa/Yuzhnyy	3-4 April			

#### **EUROPE**

BELGIUM: The latest schedule of known ammonia arrivals into Antwerp is tabulated below.

BELGIUM: KNOWN 2016 AMMONIA IMPORTS						
Vessel	'000 t	'000 t Supplier/Origin Discharge				
MARCH	48.8					
APRIL	71.8					
Gas Grouper	23.4	Ameropa/Black Sea	2-4 April			
Gas Snapper	23.4	Ameropa/Black Sea	11-13 April			
Solaro	25	Ameropa/Black Sea	Around 21 April			
MAY	93.7					
TBC	23.5	PCS/Trinidad	May - TBC			
Gas Grouper	23.4	Ameropa/Black Sea	Early May			
Gas Manta	23.4	Ameropa/Black Sea	Early May			
TBC	23.4	Ameropa/Black Sea	May - TBC			

FRANCE: The latest release of customs data showed that ammonia imports in February amounted to 54,013 t down from 69,450 t in the same month a year ago. This represents a drop of over 22% y-o-y. February imports brought the y-t-d total to 121,516 t, roughly 15% behind the January-February 2015 volume of 143,028 t. Increases in imports from the Netherlands, Germany and to a lesser extend also from Switzerland were more than offset by lower volumes imported from Algeria, Austria, Belgium and the UK. (Source: GTIS/DNSCE)

# **MEDITERRANEAN**

**TURKEY:** Bagfas received around 23,000 t ammonia from Ameropa earlier this month along with another part cargo; the next requirement is not known at the time of writing.

In February, ammonia imports were reported to have been 53,269 t. This more than doubles the amount delivered in the same month a year earlier (25,962 t). February imports brought y-t-d deliveries to 102,071 t, up more than 30% from the 78,192 t in the same two-month period in 2015. Higher volumes were brought into the country from Russia (62,845 t vs. 31,033 t in January-February 2015), Egypt (18,999 t vs. zero) and Bulgaria (1,001 t vs. 252 t), while lower volumes were recorded for Ukraine, Nigeria and Poland. (Source: GTIS/States Institute of Statistics)



## **MIDDLE EAST**

**ISRAEL:** Trammo's *Marycam Swan* is expected to discharge up to 13,000 t ammonia in Israel from Turkey. The balance of this cargo, roughly 10,000 t, will be delivered to OCP in Morocco.

**JORDAN: JPMC** is understood to be holding high stocks of DAP at the moment. Production capacity is currently around 30.000 t/m.

## **ASIA/OCEANIA**

**INDIA:** West Coast – FACT has issued a third import tender for 7,500 t ammonia in the course of the past week. Two previous tenders, closing on 11 April and 12 April respectively, did not receive any offers (see below for details of the requested shipments). Offers for the latest tender were due today, 14 April, and delivery is requested to Cochin in the period from 21-30 April. Transagri was understood to have been the only participant in this latest tender, but the offer price is expected to be revealed only at the end of this week.

FACT did not receive any offers in its import tender of 11 April, for 7,500 t ammonia for delivery to Cochin on 14-21 April. The company subsequently issued a new import tender for 7,500 t ammonia, for which bids were due on 12 April. Delivery for the volume was expected to Cochin on or before 21 April. It is understood that FACT did also not receive any offers in this second tender either.

**Iffco** is due to receive around 23,000 t of ammonia ex-Yuzhnyy at Kandla in 1-half May. The supplier of this vessel is not yet known.

Transagri's vessel, the *Everrich 6*, delivered around 5,440 t ammonia to Iffco at Kandla on 7 April under their long-term contract. The price of the vessel was now heard to have been around \$350 cfr.

Meanwhile, the *Clipper Mars*, is delivering 23,000 t ammonia to Iffco at Kandla on the account of Ameropa at the end of this week with the price of the vessel heard to be around the \$330 cfr level. The vessel left Yuzhnyy around mid-March. The balance of the 40,000 t vessel had previously been discharged at Iffco on the East Coast.

Finally, Muntajat's vessel, the *Almarona*, has delivered several thousand tonnes, believed to be around 4,000 t ammonia to **Zuari** at Goa on 7 April and around 4,000 t ammonia to **MCFL** at Mangalore on 11 April.

**East Coast** – Muntajat's vessel, the *Cambridge*, is due to deliver 11,000 t of ammonia to **PPL** at Paradeep on 16 April. While the price has not been confirmed at the time of writing, it is believed to be in the low \$380s cfr.

The 15,000 t ammonia that PPL bought from Mitsui ex-Indonesia for delivery at the end of April to Paradeep, which we reported last week, will load in Bontang on the *Gas Quantum* later this month.

CIFC-Raintrade's vessel, the *Gas Line*, is due to deliver 17,000 t ammonia to **CIL** at Kakinada on 17 April. The quantity is now believed to be lower than the 23,000 t previously reported.

The *Clipper Mars*, has delivered 17,000 t ammonia to **Iffco** at Paradeep on the account of Ameropa on 10-11 April with the price of the vessel heard to be around the \$330 cfr level. The vessel left Yuzhnyy around mid-March. The balance of the 40,000 t vessel was subsequently discharged at Iffco on the West Coast.

The Almarona, Muntajat's vessel, delivered nearly 6,000 t ammonia for Greenstar at Tuticorin on 9 April.

The latest known ammonia arrivals list for Indian ports is tabulated below:

Buyer/Location	Supplier	'000 t	\$/t cfr unless stated	Discharge	Vessel
MARCH		197.2			
APRIL		161			
West Coast		67.2			
Iffco/Kandla	Transagri/ex-Iran	5.4	\$350	7 April	Everrich 6
Iffco/Kandla	Ameropa/ex-Black Sea	23	\$330	13-15 April	Clipper Mars

TCL/Haldia

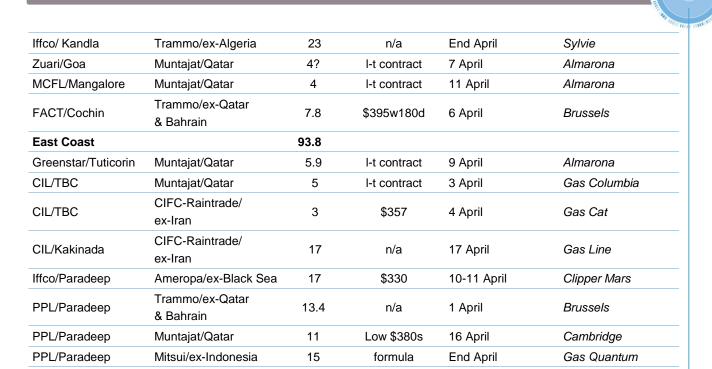
West Coast

Iffco/Kandla

MAY

Gas Columbia

**TBC** 



**SOUTH KOREA:** Mitsui has the *Gaz Millennium* due in Ulsan on 15 April with 15,000 t ammonia for **LFC** while Sabic has the *Al Barrah* on the way to Ulsan with 23,000 t ammonia for LFC-with an eta of 19 April.

I-t contract

n/a

4 April

1-half May

In May, LFC expects to get 15,000 t each from Mitsubishi and Trammo and towards the end of the month Koch is scheduled to supply an additional 25,000 t.

6.5

23

23

Meanwhile, Mitsubishi will deliver about 7,500 t ammonia to **Namhae** on the *SCF Tobolsk*, eta 26 April, then again 8,000 t on the *Gaz Millennium*, expected on 1 May and 8,400 t on 5-10 May on the *SCF Tomsk*. Apart from these deliveries from Mitsubishi, which will all be ex-Indonesia, Yara will supply 25,000 t to Namhae in May as well.

Finally, Capro Corp is heard to have increased caprolactam production from line no. 3 to 100% of capacity.

The latest known ammonia deliveries are provided in the table below.

Muntajat/Qatar

n/a/ex-Black Sea

Buyer/Location	Supplier	'000 t	Discharge	Vessel
MARCH		111		
APRIL		93.5		
Namhae/Yosu	Trammo/ex-Kuwait	10	5-7 April	SCF Tobolsk
Namhae/Yosu	Yara/Australia	25	7 April	Nordic River
Namhae/Yosu	Mitsubishi/ex-Indonesia	7.5	Eta 26 April	SCF Tobolsk
LFC*/Ulsan	Trammo/ex-Oman (6) & Kuwait (7)	13	7-8 April	SCF Tobolsk
LFC*/Ulsan	Mitsui/ex-Indonesia	15	Eta 15 April	Gaz Millennium
LFC*/Ulsan	Sabic/S. Arabia	23	19 April	Al Barrah
MAY		93.4		
Namhae/Yosu	Mitsubishi/ex-Indonesia	8	1 May	Gaz Millennium

Namhae/Yosu	Mitsubishi/ex-Indonesia	8.4	5-10 May	SCF Tomsk
Namhae/Yosu	Yara/ex-TBC	25	May	TBC
LFC*/Ulsan	Mitsubishi	15	Early May	TBC
LFC*/Ulsan	Trammo/ex-Indonesia	15	Mid-May	SCF Tobolsk
LFC*/Ulsan	Koch	15	End-May	TBC
Hanwha/Incheon	Trammo/ex-Indonesia	7	Mid-May	SCF Tobolsk

<sup>\*</sup> Lotte Fine Chemical (formerly Samsung Fine Chemicals)

**TAIWAN:** The **Formosa** term supply tender, which closed on 31 March, for 150,000 t/y ammonia was rumoured to have been awarded to Yara and Mitsui on the basis of a 50:50 split. This information could, however, not be confirmed with any of the involved parties at the time of writing.

THAILAND: The SCF Tomsk loaded 23,000 t ammonia in Indonesia last week, which are to be discharged in Rayong.

## **NORTH AMERICA**

**UNITED STATES:** In the **domestic market** for direct application of ammonia wholesalers in central Illinois report that ammonia going to corn preplant was done, while movement to corn preplant in northwestern Illinois is still going on. Demand in northern and central Ohio as well as northern and central Indiana for corn preplant continues to be slow.

Meanwhile, stronger demand levels are reported for corn preplant in central and eastern South Dakota and state-wide in Iowa as well as in Nebraska, although demand in the latter state is currently winding down.

Ammonia reportedly moved in light volume to corn preplant in eastern Colorado and western Kansas. Finally, demand for ammonia was moderate moving to corn preplant in eastern Montana, southwestern Illinois, western Kentucky and western Tennessee.

Heavy shipments were reported in the west of the country with prices levels understood to be quite steady at the moment.

#### **LATIN AMERICA**

**BRAZIL:** Ammonia **imports** in Q1 2016 amounted to 84,701 t, virtually flat compared with the 84,532 t in January-March 2015, the latest customs data show. Trinidad was the sole supplier of January-March deliveries this year, just like in the year before. In March alone, imports reached 15,350 t against 31,937 t in the same prior-year month. (Source: GTIS/SECEX)

The latest known ammonia vessel arrivals into Santos terminal are tabulated below.

Vessel name	Supplier	'000 t	Origin	Discharge date/ Estimated arrival
MARCH		15.4		
APRIL		30.5		
Almajedah	Yara	15.4	Trinidad	2-3 April
Navigator Galaxy	Yara	15.1	Trinidad	11-12 April

MEXICO: Fertinal's Lazaro Cardenas plant is reported to be operating at lower rates equivalent to about 65,000 t/m granulation.

# **COMPANY NEWS**

**BAHRAIN: GPIC** in early April released its production update for Q1 2016. The company continued to meet its export targets for ammonia, urea and methanol since the beginning of the year in spite of the decline in global prices, President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery said.



Total nitrogen production reached 407,000 t in Q1 2016, which includes ammonia, urea and methanol. This represents a 5.5% increase on the company's set target for this period.

In terms of exports, the company exceeded the budget for the first quarter of 2016 by 9.2%, Dr. Jawahery added, shipping 320,000 t of products abroad. Of the total, 119,000 t or 37% went to the US, the largest market for GPIC.

INDIA: Ammonia importer **Iffco** reported a rise in revenue for the 2015/16 financial year due to increased sales of fertilizers to INR290 billion (\$4.36 billion), up over 17% from a year before. In terms of volume, sales reached 13.0 million t against 11.1 million t a year earlier. Of the total, urea sales amounted to 7.8 million t.

According to Iffco's managing director Mr. Awasthi the company currently has around INR85 billion in subsidy arrears due from the government.

Iffco operates fertilizer plants in the country, which are located in Paradeep, Kandla, Kalol, Phulpur and Aonla. All plants combined have a production capacity of 4.2 million t/y urea and 4.3 million t/y of complex fertilizers, according to company information. The producer receives regular ammonia shipments, mostly to Paradeep and Kandla.

**UNITED STATES:** Terra Nitrogen, managed by CF Industries, confirmed at the start of April that all ammonia and UAN units at the Verdigris, Oklahoma plant are now operating after a restart on 17 March.

The company had announced on 17 February that owing to an unscheduled outage maintenance on one of the two ammonia plants, half of the complex had to be shut down.

# **NATURAL GAS**

QUICK GLANCE (change from last week)

Henry Hub (day ahead): \$1.98 (up) TTF: €11.31 (down) Brent: \$44.32 (up)

**WEST EUROPE**: The NBP day-ahead price closed at 27.90 p/therm on 13 April down slightly from 28.00 p/therm on 6 April. A price of 27.90 p/therm equates to \$3.98/mmBtu at the £/\$ exchange rate of 1:1.42549 from 13 April.

The May 2016 contract on ICE natural gas futures for the NBP closed at 26.80 p/therm on 13 April down from 27.01 p/therm on 6 April. The average 6-month forward strip (May-Oct 2016) is 26.79 p/therm, which equates to \$3.82/mmBtu at the £/\$ exchange rate of 1:1.42549 from 13 April.

The Dutch TTF day-ahead price closed at €11.31/MWh on 13 April down from €11.39/MWh on 6 April, according to Tankard. The Tankard indices are trade-backed volume-weighted average price indices, calculated from trades arranged by ICAP, Marex Spectron and Tullett Prebon.

A price of €11.31/MWh equates to \$3.78/mmBtu at the exchange rate of €/\$ 1:1.14028 on 13 April. In April so far, the TTF day-ahead average is estimates at \$3.79/mmBtu, which compares with \$3.99/mmBtu in March and \$4.02/mmBtu in February. The average in January was \$4.38/mmBtu, \$5.05/mmBtu in December, \$5.39/mmBtu in November and \$6.00/mmBtu in October.

The average six-month ICE futures price for TTF for May-Oct 2016 is €11.54/MWh on 13 April, and equating to \$3.86/mmBtu using the €/\$ exchange rate of 1:1.14028 from 13 April.

**Crude** – The Brent crude oil contract for June 2016 settled at \$44.18/bbl on 13 April up from \$39.84/bbl on 6 April. The average price for the 3-month strip (Jun-Aug 2016) is \$44.32/bbl against \$40.06/bbl a week before, while the 12-month average (Jun 2016-Jun 2017) is \$45.78/bbl compared with \$41.89/bbl.

In its April Short-term Energy Outlook (STEO), the EIA is forecasting Brent crude oil prices to average \$35/bbl in 2016 (up \$1 from the March report) and \$41/bbl in 2017 (up \$1 from the prior STEO), with annual average West Texas Intermediate (WTI) prices in 2016 and 2017 expected to average the same as Brent prices. In its comments, EIA said the current values of futures and options contracts suggest an even higher degree of uncertainty in the oil price outlook. "WTI futures contracts for July 2016 delivery that were traded during the five-day period ending April 7 averaged \$39/b, and implied volatility averaged 44%. These levels established the lower and upper limits of the 95% confidence interval for the market's expectations of monthly average WTI prices in July 2016 at \$27/b and \$57/b, respectively. The 95%



confidence interval for market expectations widens over time, with lower and upper limits of \$22/b and \$78/b for prices in December 2016", the report reads.

UKRAINE: Ukrtransgaz reported this week that as of 7 April Ukraine started pumping natural gas into its underground gas storage facilities. On the day, 2.15 million cubic metres were pumped into underground storage facilities while 4.18 million cubic metres had been taken out the day before. Gas stocks on 7 April amounted to 8.44 bcm.

In general, since the beginning of gas taking in the heating season of 2015/16, which started on 30 October 2015, and as of 6 April 2016 inclusive some 8.627 bcm of gas had been taken from underground storage facilities. In addition, imports of natural gas on 7 April totalled 7.923 million cubic meters, and came exclusively from the EU, Ukrtransgaz added.

Meanwhile, Energy Minister Volodymyr Demchyshyn was cited by press reports on 8 April as saying that the Ukrainian Energy and Coal Industry Ministry intends to increase gas production in the country by 35% to 27 bcm in five years.

Demchyshyn added that the ministry was planning to re-submit the plan to increase natural gas production in Ukraine, including changing the legislation in the area, to the government. According to the minister, the Ukrainian Cabinet has previously rejected the plan. Earlier this month, Demchyshyn said that Kiev considered it necessary to hold trilateral talks on the gas delivery price with Russia and the European Commission.

RUSSIA: Officials at the Yamal LNG project, led by Novatek, said on 7 April that it had agreed on the terms of a loan from Sberbank and Gazprombank over €3.6 billion. The loan period was reported to be up to 16 years, with the interest rate set at six-month EURIBOR plus margin of up to 4.8%.

CHINA: Thermal coal prices at Qinhuangdao for the 5,500kcal grade are flat again this week compared to last, still being quoted at Rmb385-395/t (just slightly over \$60/t). The average price in March was estimated at Rmb389/t (\$59.72/t), which compares to a February average of Rmb380/t (\$58/t) and with Rmb485/t (\$78.80/t) in the same month last year.

INDIA / IRAN: Indian Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who spent a couple of days in Iran in 1-half April 2016, said that Indian companies could invest as much as \$20 billion in petrochemical, fertilizer and LNG plants in Iran, either through joint ventures between Indian and Iranian public sector companies or with private sector partners. In return, these companies are asking for the allocation of appropriate land and for "favourable treatment in the pricing of gas for India and also supply of rich gas at a competitive price and on a long-term basis for the life of the joint venture projects [...]".

Following the lifting of sanctions against Iran, New Delhi and Tehran are looking to enhance their energy ties. Iran wants India to boost its crude oil imports from the country quickly to take it to the level of pre-sanction years while India wants lucrative purchase terms to continue.

Subsequently, on 11 April, both countries signed an MoU for the development of oil and gas projects, including the Farzad B gas field, Iranian Petroleum Minister Bijan Zangeneh told the Iran-India business conference. Zangeneh said the Farzad B gas field can produce 3 bcf/d of natural gas, but Iran has signed an MoU with Indian developers for the production of 1 bcf/d from the field. A consortium comprising three Indian companies, including ONGC Videsh Ltd and Oil India Ltd, made a gas discovery at the offshore Farzad B field back in 2008.

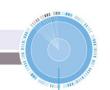
JAPAN: The average price for LNG spot cargoes arriving in Japan in March fell by \$0.10 m-o-m in March to \$6.80/mmBtu. Trade Ministry data show. This is the lowest since the ministry started publishing figures about two years ago.

AUSTRALIA: The Newcastle market for Q3 2016 is \$48.55/t up from \$48.05/t last week; Q4 2016 is \$47.95/t up from \$46.80/t, 2017 is \$46.45/t up from \$45.40/t, 2018 is \$45.45/t against \$44.10/t last week, and 2019 is \$44.65/t.

UNITED STATES: The Henry Hub day-ahead price closed at \$1.98/mmBtu on 13 April up from the \$1.89/mmBtu on 6 April. Meanwhile the Midcont closed at \$1.79/mmBtu up from \$1.76/mmBtu a week earlier.

In April so far, the Henry Hub averaged roughly \$1.98/mmBtu. This compares with a March average of \$1.72/mmBtu, which was down from February at \$1.98/mmBtu and also lower than the \$2.28/mmBtu in January. The December average was \$1.93/mmBtu, November was \$2.09/mmBtu and October was \$2.34/mmBtu.

On NYMEX natural gas futures, the May 2016 contract settled at \$2.036/mmBtu on 13 April up from the \$1.991/mmBtu on 6 April. The average for the next three months - May-Jul 2016 - is \$2.122/mmBtu against \$2.035/mmBtu a week



before, while the average for the next 12 calendar months (May 2016-May 2017) is \$2.526/mmBtu compared with \$2.433/mmBtu.

The EIA Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report for the week ending 1 April showed a net injection of working gas stocks into underground storage of 12 bcf. The net injection was only slightly higher than the initial average trade expectation of a 7 bcf injection. It compares with the year-ago injection of 15 bcf and the five-year-average withdrawal of 19 bcf. Natural gas stocks on 1 April were 2,480 bcf, which is 1,008 bcf (68%) above a year ago and 874 bcf (54%) above the five-year average.

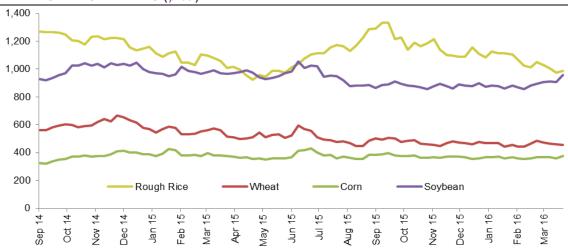
In its April Short-term Energy Outlook (STEO), EIA expects the Henry Hub natural gas spot price to average \$2.18/mmBtu in 2016 (down from \$2.25/mmBtu in the March report) and \$3.02/mmBtu in 2017 (flat from the prior report), having averaged \$2.63/mmBtu in 2015.

Regarding the WTI, the CME May 2016 contract closed at \$41.76/bbl on 13 April up from \$37.75/bbl on 6 April. The forward 3-month strip (May-Jul 2016) is \$42.87/bbl against \$38.87/bbl a week before, while the 12-month forward average (May 2016-May 2017) is \$44.95/bbl compared with \$41.15/bbl.

**US coal** – The CAPP May 2016 contract closed at \$43.63/ston on 13 April unchanged on the week. The 3-month forward strip (May-Jul 2016) is \$44.01/ston, while the May-Dec 2016 forward average is also flat on the week at \$44.86/ston.

# **AGRICULTURE**

# WEEKLY CBOT CROP PRICES (¢/bu)



# **CROP FUTURES**

	CM	E CROP PRICES	(cents/bushel)		
Product	May 2016	Weekly Change	July 2016	Sep 2016	April 2015
Corn	373.4	+15.4	377.0	379.0	376.0
Wheat	454.4	-6.8	465.0	479.0	514.4
Soybean	955.6	+47.6	964.4	964.6	965.0
Rough Rice	989.0	+14.5	1,016.0	1,034.5	1,009.5

Prices are Wednesday's closing rates for the quarters indicated. The 2015 price is the forward price reported one year ago.

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CORN:	WHEAT:
The USDA raised both its world and US corn ending stocks forecasts, which did cause corn to back away from earlier gains but not significantly.	USDA data was mixed as far as wheat was concerned, with US ending stocks a bit tighter than expectations and the world carry-out forecast above average.
SOYBEAN:	RICE:
Despite relatively neutral stocks data released by the USDA, soybean futures increased drastically, largely driven by weakness in the US\$.	Spill-over from rallies in other crops support rice futures this week as May contracts settled at almost 15 cents up week-on-week, although sentiment is still fragile.

## **REGIONAL MARKETS**

**GLOBAL:** US **wheat** supplies are set to rise to their highest since 1987 due to weakening demand in the feed sector said the USDA in its latest outlook. The USDA reported that US wheat ending stocks at the end of the 2015/16 marketing year would be 26.56 million t, up from the 26.29 million t pegged in its March WASDE report.

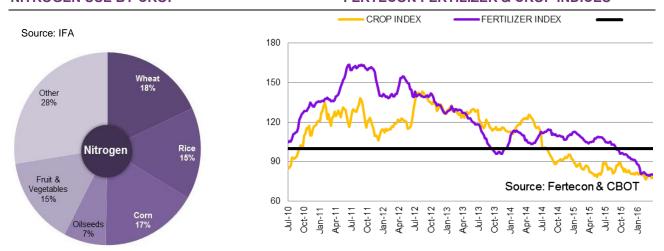
On the global front, world ending stocks of wheat were raised to a bigger-than-expected 239.26 million t while production is set to be a record 733.1 million t in 2015/16. EU production was raised 1.5 million t to a record 160.0 million t, and Argentina's wheat output was raised 0.3 million t to 11.3 million t.

Meanwhile, the report also raised the US government's **corn** ending stocks forecast as usage cuts from the feed, residual, food, seed and industrial sectors outstripped increased demand from ethanol producers. US corn ending stocks were therefore raised to 47.29 million t for 2015/16. Globally, the USDA increased its outlook for global corn ending stocks to 208.91 million t raising its outlook for Argentine corn production by 1 million t to 28 million t due to beneficial rain during February and March.

US **soybean** ending stocks were however, trimmed by 3.3% to 12.11 million t while it raised its global ending stocks to 79.02 million t for 2015/16. The USDA also boosted its Argentine soy harvest view to 59 million t from 58.50 million t last month, however, Brazil soybean as well as corn production was left unchanged from the USDA's March outlook, at 100 million t and 84 million t respectively.

# **NITROGEN USE BY CROP**

# **FERTECON FERTILIZER & CROP INDICES**



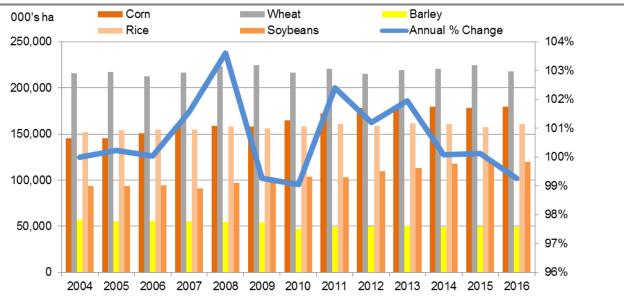
Using 6 January 2010 as the starting point (Jan 2010=100), the FERTECON indices aim to assess relative fertilizer affordability and illustrate the comparative movement of fertilizer prices (a basket of urea, DAP and MOP) against crop prices. The denotation is that the higher the crop index is relative to the fertilizer index, the more affordable fertilizers are to farmers – and vice versa.



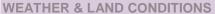
## **KEY CROP ACREAGE**

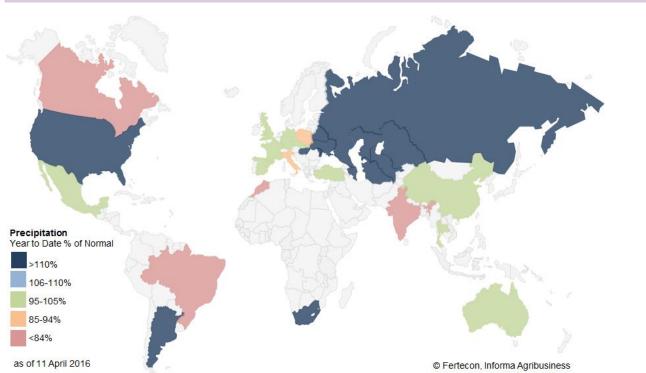
According to Informa Economics' (IEG) latest Acreage and Production report, published 12 April, global key crop acreage in 2016 is forecasted to total 575.9 million ha, less than 1 percentage point lower than the 580.2 million ha acreage recorded in 2015.

**GLOBAL KEY CROP ACREAGE AGAINST AGGREGATED ANNUAL % CHANGE** 



In the US, IEG projects a 6% increase in corn acreage in 2016 although this is offset by a 9% decrease in wheat acreage. Corn acreage in Brazil is expected to total 4% less y-o-y in 2016 whilst wheat acreage is expected to drop 10%.





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ANALYST: Birgit Wippler TEL: +44 (0) 20 3377 3208 EMAIL: info@fertecon.com

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