

Agricultural commodity trading - IN A NUTSHELL -



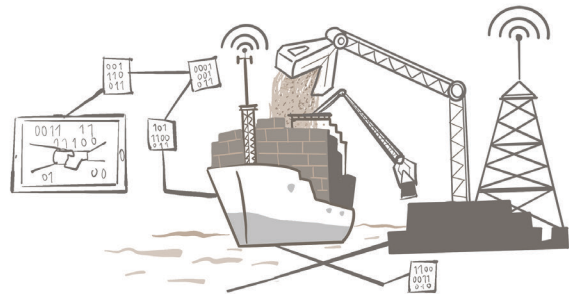
Agricultural Commodity Traders are diversified firms that produce, procure, process, transport, finance and trade grains, food, fibre, meat, livestock, sugar, etc. on a global scale. They are involved in all phases of production and trade, from origination to processing, marketing, financial instruments, risk management and distribution.

The total value of global agricultural commodity markets is difficult to estimate because much of the information is proprietary and supply chains are opaque.

TOP 10 COMMODITY TRADERS



TOP 10 COMMODITY TRADERS
\$528,307 MILLION



RANK COMPANY (HEADQUARTERS) 2020 SALES US\$ MILLION

1	CARGILL (USA) PRIVATE	\$ 134,000
2	COFCO CORP (CHINA) STATE-OWNED	\$ 105,000 PRO FORMA
3	ARCHER DANIELS MIDLAND (ADM) (USA) PUBLIC	\$ 64,000
4	WILMAR (SINGAPORE) PUBLIC	\$ 50,530
5	BUNGE (USA) PUBLIC	\$ 41,400
6	ITOCHU (JAPAN) PUBLIC	\$ 35,908
7	LOUIS DREYFUS (NETHERLANDS) PRIVATE	\$ 33,600
8	VITERRA GROUP (NETHERLANDS) PRIVATE	\$ 28,114
9	OLAM INTERNATIONAL (SINGAPORE) PUBLIC	\$ 24,701
10	CONAGRA (USA) PUBLIC	\$ 11,054

GLOBAL MARKETS



SEEDS
\$45,000 MILLION



SYNTHETIC FERTILIZER
\$127,570 MILLION



AG MACHINERY
\$127,800 MILLION

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY TRADERS

Highlights from the full report:

Together, the leading global food & ag commodity traders piled up more than one-half trillion dollars in 2020 revenues. Global trade in all agricultural products reached an estimated US\$1.33 trillion in 2019. The top ten ag commodity traders account for at least 40% of the global market.

The colossal firms that control global commodity trading are among the most powerful and least-transparent companies in the industrial food chain. Three of the world's top-ranking ag commodity traders are privately held, and one is state-owned.

The plan to merge China's COFCO Corp with its international trading division, COFCO International, creates a behemoth that will be second only to Cargill in global agricultural commodity sales, approaching over US\$100 billion in revenue per annum.

Chew on this

In 2020, the sale of 45% of one of the world's largest commodity firms, Louis Dreyfus, to a state-owned holding company in the oil-rich United Arab Emirates signals that cash-rich countries are positioning to climate-proof food security via offshore food production with little consideration for sustainability or the notion of regional food self-reliance.

In March 2021 six of the world's largest ag commodity firms joined forces to launch a private blockchain (digital ledger system) called Covantis that aims to digitize and automate global agricultural shipping transactions. Legal experts point out that, in oligopolistic markets, private blockchain technology could be used to engage in anticompetitive practices.