

Dry FFA Market Signals

Bull

- **Iron Ore Key Routes:** C5 iron ore fell for the third consecutive week ending 13th Apr, down to 13.9 million tonnes (-861kt). However, near-term signs point to a possible rebound, with increased buying interest and stockpiling activity anticipated toward the end of April. C5 fixtures for end Apr laycan corrected sharply last week to \$7.50-\$7.70/tonne, down from the low \$9s seen previously despite an active seaborne market.

On the C3 route, weekly exports surged nearly 40%, reaching 5.49 million tonnes, with projections indicating levels will stabilize around 5.3 million tonnes for the week starting 14 April. Overall, iron ore demand is expected to recover this week, supported by healthy supply from both Australia and Brazil. (Cape)

- **Coal Shipments:** Cargo volumes on big vessels have shown some positive signs, with exports climbing for two weeks. This week, Capesize coal shipments could welcome a strong week, with weekly shipments increasing to 6.4 million tonnes (+2.2 MMT w-o-w). Panamax coal flows are also forecasted to rise, up 2.7 million tonnes to 15.0 million tonnes. The surge is driven by robust Australia exports and a modest pickup out of Indo and N Atl market, met with decent demand from China, S Korea and Japan. (Cape & Pmx)
- **Cape/Pmx Spread:** The Cape/Panamax spot spread narrowed further last week to levels last seen in late February, moving towards \$5,000. Vessel tracking data suggests higher usage in Capesize coal cargoes, lending further support. (Cape)
- **Market Sentiment in short term:** Following the global financial market, FFA recovered late last week after the tariff pause announcement. (Dry bulk)
- **ECSA Grains:** Forecasts remain positive, although last week market took a pause, leading to reducing shipments. Last week grain exports out of ECSA dropped 7% w-o-w to 5.3 million tonnes, but this trend is expected to be revised in the coming weeks and recover to around 7 million tonnes weekly. (Pmx)

Bear

- **TA market:** Ample vessel supply, coupled with low mineral demand and falling fuel costs, pressured the market. P1A and P2A indices declined to a one-month low, given the broadly bearish tone and uncertainty caused by US-EU trade relations. (Pmx)
- **US Trade Policy:** Markets remain watchful as safe-haven assets show no signs of easing. The DXY index fell to a fresh low for the year on Monday, after the dollar declining more than 4% against a basket of currencies last week. Meanwhile, 10-year U.S. government bond yields leapt to 4.5%, raising concerns over global economic stability. (Dry bulk)
- **China Economic Concerns:** Goldman Sachs revised its China GDP growth forecast down from 4.5% to 4.0% this year, in face of triple digits US-China Tarriff. Due to lacklustre domestic demand, Chinese iron ore imports in Q1 fell 7.8% y/y to 285.312m tons, while steel exports rose 6.3% y/y to 27.429m tons in anticipation of tariff disruptions, according to the General Administration of Customs. Soybean imports YTD fell 7.9% y/y to 17.109m tons. Coal import declined to a lesser extent by 0.9% y/y to 114.846m tons amid weaker domestic demand. (Dry bulk)

Ferrous Market Signals

Bull

- China iron ore inventories down 1.27 million tons during past week to 143.41 million tons. In addition, steel mills inventory went down 950,000 tons to 90.77 million tons on the week.
- The iron ore shipment decreased from Australia. The Brazil shipment expected to decrease in April.
- US dollar drop from 104 to 99, along with the pricing in of US tariffs sentiment, global asset value recovered from heavy loss created in early April.
- Physical buyers entered the market after price level reached \$95/ton. The major fines destock while concentrates stock increase.
- Virtual steel margin recovered from negative area to year-high at 124 yuan/ton, due to resilient steel price versus weak coking coal and iron ore during past week.
- China daily pig iron production at 2.4 million tons, up by 14,900 tons on the week, up 154,700 tons on the year.
- The important coal miner in Australia cut production, which result in the supply tight of market.
- China physical coke and coking coal both increase for the first round after six months drop.

Bear

- The US tariff increased the risk hedging sentiment through the year, limit most of commodity performance. The uncertainty on commodity flow created a cautious sentiment on most of physical traders.
- The total coking coal stocks in China were still increasing. However, the Mongolia export slow down. Importers expect a destock from late May.
- EAFs utilization rate increased significantly during March and early April.
- The flat steel in Pacific softened as the lack of demand and increased tariffs from European countries.

Market Data Snapshot (11th Apr)

Open Interest /lots	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Cape5TC	23,226	17,514	12,971	11,047	10,890	10,885
Pmx4TC	31,783	26,995	19,103	11,289	11,039	11,034
Smx10TC	11,595	9,535	7,410	6,163	6,143	6,173
Iron Ore 62%	265,481	362,819	193,553	133,969	69,638	72,878
Coking Coal	4,022	3,439	2,412	2,562	2,312	2,272
US HRC	6,106	7,678	9,349	4,771	2,028	1,794
FOB China HRC	1,094	1,577	937	395	247	153

Price	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Cape5TC \$/day	16,513	18,296	19,358	18,883	19,063	19,588
Pmx4TC \$/day	10,321	10,454	10,458	10,279	10,250	10,333
Smx10TC \$/day	10,217	10,483	10,454	10,321	10,392	10,379
Iron Ore 62% \$/mt	99	97	96	95	95	94
Coking Coal \$/mt	184	188	189	190	191	192
US HRC \$/st	938	846	795	795	800	804
FOB China HRC	467	452	455	455	458	461

OI WoW %	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Cape5TC	1.5%	13.6%	4.5%	1.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Pmx4TC	-2.1%	11.5%	3.6%	6.7%	4.9%	4.9%
Smx10TC	-2.8%	9.7%	0.7%	6.2%	5.7%	6.2%
Iron Ore 62%	-7.2%	-8.5%	13.4%	16.0%	14.0%	28.8%
Coking Coal	0.0%	-3.1%	3.2%	7.1%	7.9%	8.1%
US HRC	2.4%	-0.7%	3.1%	6.2%	15.7%	17.6%
FOB China HRC	0.6%	48.8%	42.0%	-2.7%	0.0%	0.0%

Price WoW %	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Cape5TC \$/day	-2.8%	0.7%	-0.1%	-1.5%	-1.3%	-1.0%
Pmx4TC \$/day	-1.5%	4.1%	6.3%	2.5%	2.0%	2.3%
Smx10TC \$/day	1.2%	4.4%	1.5%	3.2%	1.6%	0.8%
Iron Ore 62% \$/mt	-2.8%	-3.5%	-3.6%	-3.5%	-3.4%	-3.3%
Coking Coal \$/mt	2.8%	2.0%	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	-0.3%
US HRC \$/st	0.6%	1.2%	-2.1%	-1.6%	-0.6%	-0.4%
FOB China HRC \$/t	0.4%	-1.8%	-1.1%	-2.7%	-2.0%	-2.0%

Sources: EEX, SGX, CME

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