

## COMMODITIES TIMELINE

**1730**

The Dijoma Rice Exchange is officially licensed for the trading of rice contracts and futures in Osaka, Japan

**1848**

The Chicago Board of Trade is founded

**1864**

The Economist's Commodity Price Index is one of the first to be published

**1882**

The Butter and Cheese Exchange becomes the New York Mercantile Exchange when it begins selling dried fruit, canned goods and poultry

**1877**

The London Metal Exchange (LME) is established. The LME is now the world's premier non-ferrous metals exchange

**1872**

The Butter and Cheese Exchange of New-York is created by a group of dairy merchants

**1933**

The COMEX, which merges the National Metal Exchange, the Rubber Exchange of New York and the National Raw Silk Exchange, is established

**1944**

The Breton Woods System is adopted. This sets up an international monetary system, fixing exchange rates by tying currencies to the US dollar, which was itself indexed to gold

**1957**

The Commodity Research Bureau (CBR) Index is established, tracking spot commodity processes

**1992**

The PAC (Politique Agricole Commune - Common Agricultural Policy) is created, helping to stabilise commodity price volatility for a period

**1991**

The first generation of investable commodity indexes appears when the Goldman Sachs Commodity Index (now S&P GSCI) is introduced

**1976**

The Jamaica Agreement ends the Breton Woods System by allowing the managed float of the price of gold with respect to the US dollar

**1994**

The Uruguay Round exposes European farmers to higher and higher price volatility

**1998**

Dow Jones-AIG Commodity Index (now Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Index) and Rogers International Commodity Index (RICI) are launched

**2000**

The World Bank convenes an International Task Force to explore new, market-based approaches to help developing countries better manage their vulnerability to commodity price volatility

**2009**

The 'third generation' Summer-Haven Dynamic Commodity Index is introduced: it includes 14 equally weighted commodities out of a total 27, rebalancing its futures portfolio every month

**2007**

The 'third generation' UBS Bloomberg CMCI Active Index is introduced: component weightings of the index are adjusted using a discretionary approach by research analysts

**2010**

The Dodd-Frank financial reform bill is approved. It contains provisions to increase transparency and reduce position limits to prevent the domination of markets by a few firms, helping to moderate, if not prevent, extreme volatility in food and energy prices

**2012**

The European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs adopts its report on the review of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive. This piece of legislation is critical to achieve stronger regulation of commodity derivative markets and limit harmful financial speculation on food