EQUITY RESEARCH - COMPANY REPORT

THAI FOODS GROUP

TFG TB

Earnings slump in 1Q hurts outlook

- We forecast 1Q23 net profit to fall by 63% q-q and 33% y-y due to declining meat prices and higher raw material costs.
- We cut our 2023-24 net profit estimates by 26% and 25% to THB2.7b (-43% y-y) and THB3b (+11% y-y), respectively.
- Downgrade to HOLD with a new TP of THB5.2.

Expect 1Q23 profit to drop sharply

We forecast a 1Q23 net profit of THB415m (-63% q-q, -33% y-y), due to 1) a 25.7% q-q estimated plunge in total revenue; and 2) a sharply lower gross margin projected at 12.2% (vs 16.9% in 4Q22 and 15.3% in 1Q22). In particular, we expect TFG's chicken and swine selling prices in 1Q23 to drop to THB58 (-13.4% q-q, +10.3% y-y) and THB89 (-8.7% q-q, -0.3% y-y), respectively, in line with declining meat prices. Moreover, as Vietnam's swine price dropped by 4.6% q-q and y-y to VND50,400 per kg, this should affect both TFG's revenue and incur a loss from the revaluation of biological assets.

Retail shop growth might not help margins in short term

Despite our positive view of its retail shop business, which generates a high gross margin and should be a growth driver for its total revenue, it is unlikely that it can offset the lower gross margin estimated in 1Q23, which is the result of lower meat prices and higher raw material prices. To elaborate, 1Q23 corn and soybean meal prices averaged THB13.5 per kg (+7.1% q-q, +18.4% y-y) and THB23.9 per kg (+2.6% q-q, +11.7% y-y), respectively. With management targeting 160-180 new stores in 2023, we expect its retail shop revenue proportion in 2023 to reach 19% of total revenue (vs 14.9% in 2022).

Cut 2023-24E net profit to reflect the decline in meat prices

We cut our 2023-24 net profit estimates by 26% and 25% to THB2.7b (-43% y-y) and THB3b (+11% y-y), respectively, to reflect declining meat prices both domestically and in Vietnam, and a lower-than-expected gross margin. However, we think TFG's 1Q23 profit should be its lowest this year, if meat prices rise in 2H23 in line with management's view.

Downgrade to HOLD with new TP of THB5.2

We cut our TP to THB5.2 from THB8 to reflect our lower net profit forecast, based on 12x 2023E PE (-0.5 SD). Although its shares are trading at 11x 2023E P/E, there is still a limited potential upside of 9.2%. Hence, we recommend HOLD. With no catalyst in the short term, we suggest that investors wait until the price of meat starts rising again.



Sureeporn Teewasuwet sureeporn.t@fssia.com +66 2646 9972



TARGET PRICE	THB5.20
CLOSE	THB4.76
UP/DOWNSIDE	+9.2%
PRIOR TP	THB8.00
CHANGE IN TP	-35.0%
TP vs CONSENSUS	-32.8%

KEY STOCK DATA

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	52,323	47,277	49,044	51,299
Net profit	4,724	2,676	2,966	3,252
EPS (THB)	0.81	0.43	0.48	0.53
vs Consensus (%)	-	(35.2)	(30.8)	(39.1)
EBITDA	10,419	7,647	8,149	8,609
Core net profit	4,724	2,676	2,966	3,252
Core EPS (THB)	0.81	0.43	0.48	0.53
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	-	(26.3)	(25.0)	(22.4)
EPS growth (%)	713.3	(46.5)	10.8	9.7
Core P/E (x)	5.9	11.0	9.9	9.0
Dividend yield (%)	8.4	4.6	5.1	5.5
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.9	6.2	5.6	5.1
Price/book (x)	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4
Net debt/Equity (%)	150.8	103.4	88.7	72.9
ROE (%)	34.8	16.3	16.5	16.7



Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates

PREPARED BY FSS INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY SECURITIES CO LTD (FSSIA). ANALYST CERTIFICATION AND IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF THIS REPORT

Investment thesis

TFG is one of the top three producers of chicken meat and live pigs in Thailand. The company has the capacity to produce 500,000 chickens per day and supply over 85,000 finished hogs per month.

We have a positive view on the 2023 chicken export recovery due to the low base last year. Also, the expansion of its retail shop business should support growth and profitability in the medium to long term. Although we estimate the THB/USD exchange rate to strengthen to THB33 from THB35 in 2022, TFG should see a limited impact from the stronger THB due to fully natural hedging.

Company profile

Thai Foods Group (TFG) was established in 1987 by Mr Winai Teawsomboonkij, the founder and CEO. TFG is a vertically integrated food producer specialising in the production of chicken and swine, with operations in Thailand and Vietnam. During 2019-2021, the company generated key revenues from three businesses: poultry, swine, and feed & others, each contributing in percentage terms 47/27/24, respectively.

www.tfg.co.th

Catalysts

Potential catalysts for TFG's earning growth in 2023 are 1) revenue growth driven by sales volume; 2) higher-thanexpected meat prices; 3) declining raw material costs; and 4) its new Thai Foods Fresh Market store expansion.

Risks to our call

Downside and upside risks to our P/E-based TP are 1) a slower or faster-than-expected consumption recovery; 2) a potential rise or fall in meat and raw material prices; 3) a stronger or weaker-than-expected THB against USD.

Event calendar

Date	Event
10 May 2023	1Q23 results announcement
August 2023	2Q23 results announcement

Principal activities (revenue, 2022)

- Poultry 44.5 %
- Swine 23.8 %
- ■Feed 16.3 %
- Retail Shop and other 15.4 %

Source: Thai Foods Group

Major shareholders

- New Star Victor Co Ltd 27.9 %
- Teawsomboonkij Family 25.4 %
- Others 46.7 %



Source: Thai Foods Group

Key assumptions

	2023E	2024E	2025E
TFG's chicken ASP (THB/kg)	44.5	45.0	45.0
TFG's swine ASP (THB/kg)	85.0	85.0	88
Total sales growth (%)	(9.6)	3.7	4.6
Gross margin (%)	14.5	14.8	15.0
SG&A to sales (%)	6.4	6.3	6.3

Source: FSSIA estimates

Earnings sensitivity

- For every 1% increase in revenue, we estimate 2023 net profit to rise by 1.2%, and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 0.5% increase in GPM, we estimate 2023 net profit to rise by 5.1%, and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 0.5% increase in SG&A, we estimate 2023 net profit to fall by 4.7%, and vice versa, all else being equal.

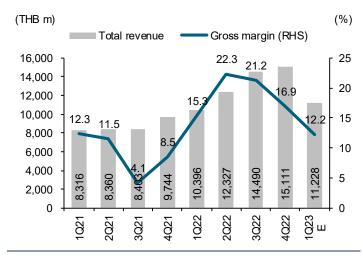
Source: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 1: 1Q23E earnings preview

	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23E	Change	e
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)				
Sales	10,396	12,327	14,490	15,111	11,228	(25.7)	8.0
Cost of sales	8,804	9,581	11,420	12,562	9,857	(21.5)	12.0
Gross profit	1,592	2,746	3,070	2,548	1,371	(46.2)	(13.9)
SG&A	727	854	770	892	730	(18.2)	0.4
Operating profit	866	1,892	2,300	1,656	641	(61.3)	(25.9)
Interest expense	163	179	221	281	283	0.6	73.1
Tax expense	154	304	325	62	26	(57.6)	(82.9)
Other gain (loss)	(1)	(284)	(106)	(266)	0	nm	nm
Reported net profit	619	1,238	1,734	1,131	415	(63.3)	(32.9)
Core profit	620	1,522	1,840	1,397	415	(70.3)	(33.1)
Key ratios (%)						(ppt)	(ppt)
Gross margin	15.3	22.3	21.2	16.9	12.2	(4.7)	(3.1)
SG&A to sales	7.0	6.9	5.3	5.9	6.5	0.6	(0.5)
Operating margin	8.3	15.3	15.9	11.0	5.7	(5.2)	(2.6)
Net margin	5.9	10.0	12.0	7.5	3.7	(3.8)	(2.3)
Core margin	6.0	12.3	12.7	9.2	3.7	(5.6)	(2.3)
Operating statistics (THB/kg)							
Domestic chicken price	52.6	59.1	66.1	67.0	58.0	(13.4)	10.3
Domestic swine price	89.3	100.0	104.6	97.5	89.0	(8.7)	(0.3)
Vietnam swine price (VND/kg)	52,809	55,387	62,760	52,819	50,400	(4.6)	(4.6)
Corn price	11.4	13.1	12.1	12.6	13.5	7.1	18.4
Soybean meal price	21.4	23.1	23.1	23.3	23.9	2.6	11.7

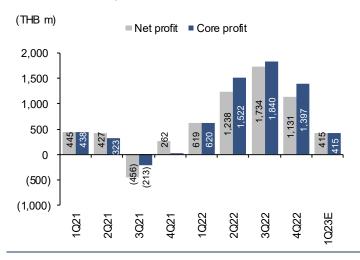
Sources: TFG, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 2: Quarterly total revenue and gross margin



Sources: TFG, FSSIA estimates

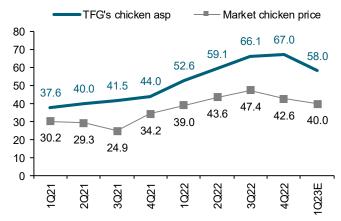
Exhibit 3: Quarterly net profit and core profit



Sources: TFG, FSSIA estimates

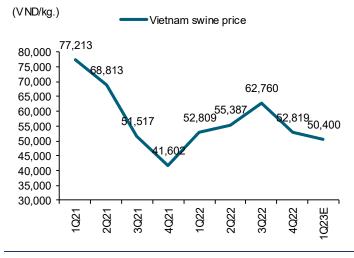
Exhibit 4: Quarterly chicken price

(THB/kg.)



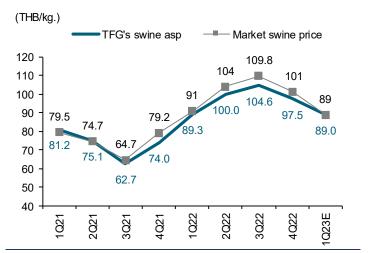
Sources: TFG, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 6: Quarterly swine price in Vietnam



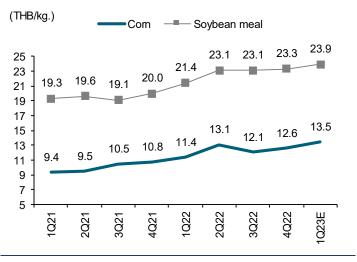
Sources: CPF, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 5: Quarterly swine price



Sources: TFG, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 7: Quarterly corn and soybean meal price



Sources: TFG, Office of Agricultural Economics, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 8: Key assumptions for TFG

	Current				Previous			Change		
	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(%)	(%)	(%)					
Total revenue	47,277	49,044	51,299	49,061	49,698	50,558	(3.6)	(1.3)	1.5	
Costs	40,422	41,786	43,604	41,211	41,498	42,064	(1.9)	0.7	3.7	
Gross profit	6,855	7,259	7,695	7,850	8,200	8,494	(12.7)	(11.5)	(9.4)	
SG&A expenses	3,026	3,090	3,232	3,091	3,081	3,135	(2.1)	0.3	3.1	
Reported net profit	2,676	2,966	3,252	3,632	3,956	4,192	(26.3)	(25.0)	(22.4)	
Core profit	2,676	2,966	3,252	3,632	3,956	4,192	(26.3)	(25.0)	(22.4)	
Key ratios (%)										
Total revenue growth (%)	(9.6)	3.7	4.6	(6.2)	1.3	1.7	(3.4)	2.4	2.9	
Net profit growth (%)	(43.4)	10.8	9.7	(23.1)	8.9	6.0	(20.2)	1.9	3.7	
Core profit growth (%)	(50.3)	10.8	9.7	(32.5)	8.9	6.0	(17.8)	1.9	3.7	
Gross margin	14.5	14.8	15.0	16.0	16.5	16.8	(1.5)	(1.7)	(1.8)	
SG&A to sales	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Net margin	5.7	6.0	6.3	7.4	8.0	8.3	(1.7)	(1.9)	(2.0)	
Norm margin	5.7	6.0	6.3	7.4	8.0	8.3	(1.7)	(1.9)	(2.0)	
Operaing statistics (THB/kg)										
TFG's chicken ASP	44.5	45.0	45.0	49.7	47.2	44.8	(10.4)	(4.7)	0.4	
TFG's swine ASP	85.0	85.0	88.0	90.0	85.0	80.0	(5.6)	0.0	10.0	
Corn	12.0	11.0	10.0	12.0	11.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Soybean meal	22.0	20.0	19.0	22.0	20.0	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Retail shop stores (no.)	320	390	490	320	390	490	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Retail shop sales (THB m)	9,035	10,038	11,038	9,035	10,038	11,038	0.0	0.0	0.0	

Sources: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 9: Yearly total revenue and growth

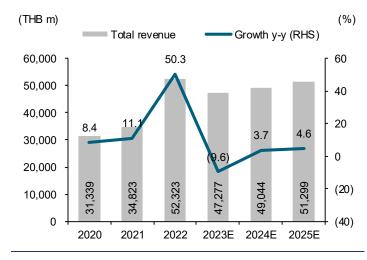
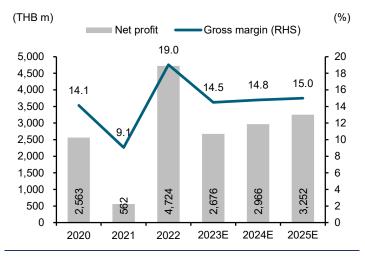


Exhibit 10: Yearly net profit and gross margin



Sources: FSSIA estimates

Sources: FSSIA estimates

Financial Statements

Thai Foods Group

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	34,823	52,323	47,277	49,044	51,299
Cost of goods sold	(29,244)	(39,030)	(36,935)	(38,149)	(39,817)
Gross profit	5,579	13,293	10,342	10,896	11,482
Other operating income	251	369	331	343	359
Operating costs	(1,927)	(3,243)	(3,026)	(3,090)	(3,232)
Operating EBITDA	3,903	10,419	7,647	8,149	8,609
Depreciation	(2,425)	(3,337)	(3,487)	(3,637)	(3,787)
Goodwill amortisation	0	0	0	0	0
Operating EBIT	1,477	7,082	4,160	4,512	4,822
Net financing costs	(595)	(1,080)	(1,007)	(1,018)	(991)
Associates	0	(9)	0	0	1
Recurring non-operating income	216	(429)	0	0	1
Non-recurring items	0	0	0	0	0
Profit before tax	1,098	5,573	3,153	3,495	3,832
Tax	(546)	(845)	(473)	(524)	(575)
Profit after tax	552	4,728	2,680	2,970	3,257
Minority interests	10	(4)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Preferred dividends	0	(+) 0	(3)	0	(3)
Other items	-	-	0	0	0
Reported net profit	562	4,724	2,676	2,966	3,252
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	0	-,, 0	2,010	2,000	0,202
Recurring net profit	562	4,724	2,676	2,966	3,252
Per share (THB)		-,	_,	_,	0,202
Recurring EPS *	0.10	0.81	0.43	0.48	0.53
Reported EPS	0.10	0.81	0.43	0.48	0.53
DPS	0.09	0.40	0.22	0.24	0.26
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	5,644	5,831	6,168	6,168	6,168
Growth	0,011	0,001	0,100	0,100	0,100
Revenue (%)	11.1	50.3	(9.6)	3.7	4.6
Operating EBITDA (%)	(28.3)	167.0	(26.6)	6.6	4.0
Operating EBIT (%)	(55.8)	379.5	(41.3)	8.5	6.9
		713.3		10.8	9.7
Recurring EPS (%)	(78.2)	713.3	(46.5)	10.8	9.7
Reported EPS (%) Operating performance	(78.2)	713.3	(46.5)	10.0	9.7
	0.4	10.0	44.5	44.0	45.0
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	9.1	19.0	14.5	14.8	15.0
Gross margin of key business (%)	9.1	19.0	14.5	14.8	15.0
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	11.2	19.9	16.2	16.6	16.8
Operating EBIT margin (%)	4.2	13.5	8.8	9.2	9.4
Net margin (%)	1.6	9.0	5.7	6.0	6.3
Effective tax rate (%)	49.7	15.2	15.0	15.0	15.0
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	90.4	49.4	50.0	50.0	50.0
Interest cover (X)	2.8	6.2	4.1	4.4	4.9
Inventory days	51.3	55.3	61.8	53.9	53.6
Debtor days	25.1	22.2	26.1	24.5	24.5
Creditor days	43.9	38.2	45.3	43.1	42.9
Operating ROIC (%)	5.2	18.4	10.3	11.8	12.7
ROIC (%)	5.1	15.0	8.8	10.1	10.8
ROE (%)	5.0	34.8	16.3	16.5	16.7
ROA (%)	3.3	13.8	8.0	9.2	9.8
* Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Poultry	16,642	23,298	19,011	19,391	19,779
Swine	9,518	12,457	10,723	10,937	11,547
Feed	6,958	8,533	8,268	8,434	8,687

Sources: Thai Foods Group; FSSIA estimates

FINANSIA

Financial Statements

Thai Foods Group

Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	20251
Recurring net profit	562	4,724	2,676	2,966	3,25
Depreciation	2,425	3,337	3,487	3,637	3,78
ssociates & minorities	0	9	0	0	(1
Other non-cash items	635 (5 510)	(184) 252	0	0	(475
Change in working capital	(5,519)		1,645	(871)	(475
ash flow from operations	(1,896)	8,138	7,808	5,732	6,56
apex - maintenance apex - new investment	(4,947)	(9,785)	(2,435)	(3,159)	(3,203
et acquisitions & disposals	-	-	-	-	
other investments (net)				_	
ash flow from investing	(4,947)	(9,785)	(2,435)	(3,159)	(3,203
lividends paid	(589)	(799)	(1,338)	(1,483)	(1,626
quity finance	(303)	56	469	0	(1,020
lebt finance	8,960	2,756	(4,746)	(1,002)	(1,873
ther financing cash flows	(1,931)	36	(32)	(200)	(1,070
ash flow from financing	6,475	2,049	(5,648)	(2,685)	(3,500
on-recurring cash flows	-	_,• .•	(0,0.0)	(_,,	(0,000
other adjustments	0	0	0	0	
et other adjustments	0	0	0	0	
lovement in cash	(368)	402	(274)	(113)	(139
ree cash flow to firm (FCFF)	(6,349.87)	(801.37)	6,380.43	3,590.56	4,351.6
ree cash flow to equity (FCFE)	184.99	1,145.83	594.59	1,369.90	1,486.8
er share (THB)					
CFF per share	(1.12)	(0.14)	1.13	0.64	0.7
CFE per share	0.03	0.20	0.11	0.24	0.2
Recurring cash flow per share	0.64	1.35	1.00	1.07	1.1
alance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025
angible fixed assets (gross)	19,682	23,182	26,182	29,182	32,18
ess: Accumulated depreciation	(3,316)	(1,879)	(5,366)	(9,003)	(12,790
angible fixed assets (net)	16,366	21,302	20,815	20,178	19,39
tangible fixed assets (net)	179	213	179	179	17
ong-term financial assets	-	-	-	-	
vest. in associates & subsidiaries	704	605	605	605	60
ash & equivalents	416	818	544	431	29
/C receivable	2,829	3,531	3,238	3,359	3,51
iventories	4,863	6,963	5,537	5,724	5,97
ther current assets	7,001	7,452	6,146	6,376	6,66
urrent assets	15,109	18,764	15,465	15,890	16,44
other assets	3,210	4,786	4,255	4,414	4,61
otal assets	35,567	45,670	41,319	41,266	41,23
common equity	11,556	15,568	17,343	18,626	20,25
linorities etc.	14	18	18	18	1
otal shareholders' equity	11,570	15,587	17,361	18,643	20,26
ong term debt	8,229	11,960	8,132	7,532	6,83
ther long-term liabilities	442	462	567	589	61
ong-term liabilities	8,670	12,422	8,699	8,121	7,44
/C payable	3,434	4,733	4,430	4,579	4,77
hort term debt	11,734	12,370	10,356	9,432	8,23
ther current liabilities	159	557	473	490	51
urrent liabilities	15,326	17,661	15,259	14,502	13,52
otal liabilities and shareholders' equity	35,567	45,670	41,319	41,266	41,23
et working capital	11,100	12,655	10,019	10,389	10,86
vested capital	31,559	39,562	35,873	35,765	35,65
ncludes convertibles and preferred stock which is be	ing treated as debt				
er share (THB)					
ook value per share	2.05	2.67	2.81	3.02	3.2
angible book value per share	2.02	2.63	2.78	2.99	3.2
nancial strength					
et debt/equity (%)	168.9	150.8	103.4	88.7	72.
et debt/total assets (%)	55.0	51.5	43.4	40.1	35.
urrent ratio (x)	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.
F interest cover (x)	1.3	2.1	1.6	2.3	2.
aluation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025
ecurring P/E (x) *	47.8	5.9	11.0	9.9	9.
ecurring P/E @ target price (x) *	52.2	6.4	12.0	10.8	9.
eported P/E (x)	47.8	5.9	11.0	9.9	9.
ividend yield (%)	1.9	8.4	4.6	5.1	5.
rice/book (x)	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.
rice/tangible book (x)	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.
V/EBITDA (x) **	11.9	4.9	6.2	5.6	5.
V/EBITDA @ target price (x) **	12.5	5.2	6.5	6.0	5.
V/invested capital (x)	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.:

Sources: Thai Foods Group; FSSIA estimates



Public disclosures related to sustainable development evaluation of Thai listed companies

Rating regarding the sustainable development of Thai listed companies, both on the SET and MAI, are publicly available on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand (SEC). Currently, ratings available are 1) "CG Score" by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD); 2) "AGM Checklist" by the Thai Investors Association (TIA), a "CAC certified member" of the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC); and 3) Sustainability Investment List (THSI) by the Stock Exchange of Thailand. The ratings are updated on an annual basis. FSS International Investment Advisory Company Limited does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such ratings.

CG Score by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)¹

The CG Score indicates corporate governance (CG) strength in the sustainable development of Thai listed companies. Annually, the Thai IOD, with support from the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), surveys and assesses the CG practices of companies and publishes the results on the <u>Thai IOD website</u> in a bid to promote and enhance the CG of Thai listed companies in order to promote compliance with international standards for better investment decisions. The results are from the perspective of a third party, not an evaluation of operations, as of the date appearing in the report, and may be changed after that date.

The five underlying categories and weighting used for the CG scoring in 2022 include the rights of shareholders and equitable treatment of shareholders (weight 25% combined), the role of stakeholders (25%), disclosure and transparency (15%), and board responsibilities (35%).

The CGR report rates CG in six categories: 5 for Excellent (score range 90-100), 4 for Very Good (score range 80-89), 3 for Good (Score range 70-79), 2 for Fair (score range 60-69), 1 for Pass (score range 60-69), and not rated (score below 50).

AGM Checklist by the Thai Investors Association (TIA)²

The "<u>AGM Checklist</u>" quantifies the extent to which shareholders' rights and equitable treatment are incorporated into business operations and the extent to which information is sufficiently disclosed and the level of its transparency. All the considered factors form important elements of two out of five the CG components. Annually, the TIA, with support from the SEC, leads the project to evaluate the quality of Annual General Meetings of Shareholders (AGMs) and to rate quality of the meetings.

The <u>Checklist</u> contains the minimum requirements under law that companies must comply with, or best practices according to international CG guidance. Representatives of the TIA will attend the meetings and perform the evaluation. The assessment criteria cover AGM procedures before the meeting (45%), at the meeting date (45%), and after the meeting (10%). The first assesses 1) advance circulation of sufficient information for voting; and 2) facilitating of how voting rights can be exercised. The second assesses 1) the ease of attending meetings; 2) transparency and verifiability; and 3) openness for Q&A. The third involves the meeting minutes that should contain discussion issues, resolutions and voting results.

The results are classified into four categories: 5 for Excellent (score 100), 4 for Very Good (score 90-99), 3 for Fair (score 80-89), and not rated (score below 79).

CAC certified member by the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)³

A <u>CAC certified member</u> is a listed company whose Checklist satisfies the CAC Certification's criteria and is approved by the CAC Council. The core elements of the Checklist include corruption risk assessment, establishment of key controls, and the monitoring and developing of policies. Note that the CAC does not certify the behaviour of the employees nor whether the companies have engaged in bribery, and Certification is good for three years.

Companies deciding to become a CAC certified member <u>start with</u> by submitting a Declaration of Intent signed by the Chairman of the Board to kick off the 18-month deadline for companies to submit the CAC Checklist for Certification. The 18-month provision is for risk assessment, in place of policy and control, training of managers and employees, establishment of whistleblowing channels, and communication of policies to all stakeholders.

The checklist document will be reviewed by the CAC Certification Committee for adequate information and evidence. It is worth noting that the committee consists of nine professionals in business law, corporate governance, internal audit, financial audit and experienced representatives from certified members.

A passed Checklist will move on to the <u>CAC Council</u> for granting certification approvals. The CAC Council consists of twelve prominent individuals who are highly respected in professionalism and ethical achievements. Among them are former ministers, a former central bank governor, the former head of the Thai Listed Companies Association, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Organizations (Thailand), Chairman of Thai Institute of Directors, and reputable academic scholars.

Sustainability Investment (THSI)⁴ by the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)

Thailand Sustainability Investment (<u>THSI</u>) quantifies responsibility in <u>Environmental</u>, and <u>Social</u> issues, by managing business with transparency in <u>Governance</u>. The THSI serves as another choice for investors who desire to adopt a responsible investment approach, according to the SET.

Annually, the SET will announce the voluntary participation of the company candidates which pass the preemptive criteria, and whose two key crucial conditions are met, i.e. no irregular trading of the board members and executives and a free float of >150 by the number of shareholders, and combined holding must >15% of paid-up capital. Some key disqualifying criteria include a CG score of below 70%; independent directors and free float violation; executives' wrongdoing related to CG, social and environmental impacts, equity in negative territory, and earnings in the red for more than three years in the last five years. To become eligible for THSI, the candidate must pass three indicators in data declaration: <u>E</u>conomic (CG, risk management, customer relation management, supply chain management, and novation); <u>E</u>nvironmental (environmental management, eco-efficiency, and climate risk); <u>S</u>ocial (human rights, talent attraction, operational health & safety, community development, and stakeholder engagement); and the incorporation of ESG in business operations.

To be approved for THSI inclusion, verified data must be scored at a 50% minimum for each indicator, unless the company is a part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices⁵ (DJSI) during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality.

Note that, from the <u>THSI list</u>, the SET further developed a sustainability <u>SETTHSI Index</u> in June 2018 from selected THSI companies whose 1) market capitalisation > THB5b (~USD150b); 2) free float >20%; and 3) liquidity >0.5% of paid-up capital for at least 9 out of 12 months. The SETTHSI Index is a market capitalisation-weighted index, cap 5% quarterly weight at maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.

Sources: <u>SEC</u>; <u>Thai IOD</u>; <u>Thai CAC</u>; <u>SET</u>; FSSIA's compilation

Disclaimer:

⁵ Dow Jones Sustainability Indices – <u>Wikipedia</u> – Launched in 1999, DJSI evaluates the sustainability performance of companies based on corporate economic, environmental, and social performance.



¹ Thai Institute of Directors Association (<u>Thai IOD</u>) was established in December 1999 and is a membership organisation that strives to promote professionalism in directorship. The Thai IOD offers directors certification and professional development courses, provides a variety of seminars, forums and networking events, and conducts research on board governance issues and practices. Membership comprises board members from companies ranging from large publicly listed companies to small private firms.

² Thai Investors Association (<u>TIA</u>) was established in 1983 with a mission to promote investment knowledge and to protect the investment rights of Thai investors. In 2002, the association was appointed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to represent individual shareholders. To obtain information for evaluation, the association recruits volunteer investors to join AGMs and score the meetings. Weightings for each meeting are at a 45:45:10 ratio. They have been applied since 2017 and subject to change.

³ Thai Private Sector Collective Action against Corruption (<u>CAC</u>) was founded in 2010 and is 100% privately funded. It is an initiative by the Thai private sector to take part in tackling corruption problems via collective action. The CAC promotes the implementation of effective anti-corruption policies in order to create a transparent business ecosystem by developing a unique certification program for large/medium/small companies to apply for and to control corruption risk systematically and efficiently. The CAC's operations are sponsored by the US-based Center for Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the UK Prosperity Fund.

⁴ Sustainability Investment List (<u>THSI</u>), created by the Stock Exchange of Thailand in 2015, comprises the listed companies that conduct sustainable business operations.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION

Sureeporn Teewasuwet FSS International Investment Advisory Securities Co., Ltd

The individual(s) identified above certify(ies) that (i) all views expressed in this report accurately reflect the personal view of the analyst(s) with regard to any and all of the subject securities, companies or issuers mentioned in this report; and (ii) no part of the compensation of the analyst(s) was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed herein.

This report has been prepared by FSS International Investment Advisory Company Limited (FSSIA). The information herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable and accurate; however FSS makes no representation as to the accuracy and completeness of such information. Information and opinions expressed herein are subject to change without notice. FSS has no intention to solicit investors to buy or sell any security in this report. In addition, FSS does not guarantee returns nor price of the securities described in the report nor accept any liability for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of such information or opinions in this report. Investors should study this report carefully in making investment decisions. All rights are reserved.

This report may not be reproduced, distributed or published by any person in any manner for any purpose without permission of FSSIA. Investment in securities has risks. Investors are advised to consider carefully before making investment decisions.

History of change in investment rating and/or target price



Sureeporn Teewasuwet started covering this stock from 03-Feb-2023

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Thai Foods Group	TFG TB	THB 4.76	HOLD	Downside and upside risks to our P/E-based TP are 1) a slower or faster-than-expected consumption recovery; 2) a potential rise or fall in meat and raw material prices; 3) a stronger or weaker-than-expected THB against USD.

Source: FSSIA estimates

Additional Disclosures

Target price history, stock price charts, valuation and risk details, and equity rating histories applicable to each company rated in this report is available in our most recently published reports. You can contact the analyst named on the front of this note or your representative at Finansia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited

FSSIA may incorporate the recommendations and target prices of companies currently covered by FSS Research into equity research reports, denoted by an 'FSS' before the recommendation. FSS Research is part of Finansia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited, which is the parent company of FSSIA.

All share prices are as at market close on 03-May-2023 unless otherwise stated.

FINANSIA

RECOMMENDATION STRUCTURE

Stock ratings

Stock ratings are based on absolute upside or downside, which we define as (target price* - current price) / current price.

BUY (B). The upside is 10% or more.

HOLD (H). The upside or downside is less than 10%.

REDUCE (R). The downside is 10% or more.

Unless otherwise specified, these recommendations are set with a 12-month horizon. Thus, it is possible that future price volatility may cause a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock based on market price and the formal recommendation.

* In most cases, the target price will equal the analyst's assessment of the current fair value of the stock. However, if the analyst doesn't think the market will reassess the stock over the specified time horizon due to a lack of events or catalysts, then the target price may differ from fair value. In most cases, therefore, our recommendation is an assessment of the mismatch between current market price and our assessment of current fair value.

Industry Recommendations

Overweight. The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be positive over the next 12 months. **Neutral.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be maintained over the next 12 months. **Underweight.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be negative over the next 12 months.

Country (Strategy) Recommendations

Overweight (O). Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on two or more of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

Neutral (N). Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on one of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

Underweight (U). Over the next 12 months, the analyst does not expect the market to score positively on any of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

FINANSIA