

Charoen Pokphand Foods (CPF TB)

4Q25 Results Preview: Weak Gross Profit Margin To Pressure Earnings

Highlights

- CPF is expected to report a core profit of Bt2,281m, down 64% yoy and 62% qoq. The qoq decline in gross profit margin will be mainly driven by lower ASPs.
- Despite short-term gains in domestic and Vietnam swine prices, earnings remain unexciting due to weak China prices, limited further reduction in raw material costs, and a high 1H25 base. Maintain HOLD with a lower target price of Bt21.50 (previously Bt23.00).

Analysis

- Expect 4Q25 earnings to decrease qoq and yoy.** Charoen Pokphand Foods (CPF) is expected to report a net profit of Bt2,593m for 4Q25, falling 38% yoy and 50% qoq. Excluding one-off items, 4Q25 core earnings are projected at Bt2,281m, down 64% yoy and 62% qoq.
- Lowest profitability in 2025.** We expect the pressure on earnings to be from a lower gross profit margin of 13.2% in 4Q25, down from 15.7% and 16.5% in 4Q24 and 3Q25 respectively, following lower domestic livestock prices especially in the Thailand and Vietnam markets. Domestic swine prices were at Bt61.20/kg in 4Q25 (-13.3% yoy, -4.4% qoq). Broiler prices were at Bt37.20/kg (-2.4% yoy, -5.3% qoq). Vietnamese swine prices in 4Q25 stood at VND53,329/kg (-11.6% yoy, -9.3% qoq).
- Raw material costs unlikely to decline further.** Although raw material costs remained low in 4Q25, we expect limited downside in raw material costs, given that soybean meal prices have risen in Jan 26, which could cap further cost relief going forward. In 4Q25, corn prices were at Bt9.80/kg (-12.5% yoy, flat qoq) and soybean meal prices were at Bt15.20/kg (-19.6% yoy, -4% qoq).
- Lower share of profit yoy.** We expect a lower share of profit at Bt3.3b for 4Q25, down yoy, but up qoq. The key pressure for the yoy drop is expected to stem from lower China swine prices and a lower share of profit from CPAXT.

Key Financials

Year to 31 Dec (Btm)	2023	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Net turnover	585,844.1	580,747.2	564,356.8	569,418.2	583,548.2
EBITDA	30,446.6	60,354.9	72,767.9	61,493.0	62,836.2
Operating profit	5,325.6	34,608.8	47,478.6	36,936.8	38,944.2
Net profit (rep./act.)	(5,207.4)	19,558.1	26,705.0	21,642.6	23,882.7
Net profit (adj.)	(18,862.9)	17,141.6	28,038.1	21,642.6	23,882.7
EPS	(2.2)	2.0	3.3	2.6	2.8
PE (x)	(9.4)	10.3	6.3	8.2	7.4
P/B (x)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	22.3	10.9	8.5	9.8	9.2
Dividend yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Net margin (%)	(0.9)	3.4	4.7	3.8	4.1
Net debt/(cash) to equity(%)	189.4	175.0	148.7	135.6	121.6
Interest cover (x)	1.2	2.5	3.0	2.5	2.6
ROE (%)	(2.6)	9.4	12.4	9.8	10.5
Consensus net profit	n.a	n.a	28,771.3	22,889.9	25,331.8
UOBKH/Consensus (x)	n.a	n.a	1.0	1.0	0.9

Source: CPF., Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

HOLD (Maintained)

Share Price	Bt21.60
Target Price	Bt21.50
Upside	-0.01%
Previous TP	Bt23.00

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Stock Data

GICS Sector	Consumer Staples
Bloomberg ticker	CPF TB
Shares issued (m)	8,172.1
Market cap (Btm)	176,517.0
Market cap (US\$m)	5,649.1
3-mth avg daily t'over (US\$m)	10.9

Price Performance (%)

52-week high/low				Bt26.5/Bt19.8
1mth	3mth	6mth	1yr	YTD
0.5	(0.9)	(6.5)	(3.6)	(0.9)

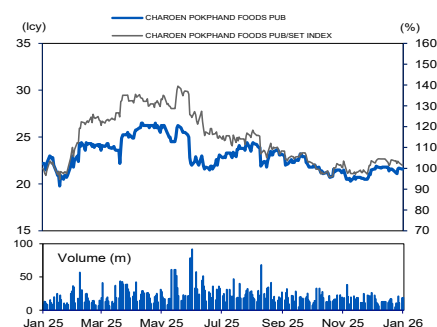
Major Shareholders

	%
Charoen Pokphand Group Co., Ltd.	25.02
Thai NVDR	10.40
UBS AG LONDON BRANCH	9.21

Balance Sheet Metrics

	%
FY26 NAV/Share (Bt)	28.70
FY26 Net Debt/Share (Bt)	45.97

Price Chart



Source: Bloomberg

Company Description

CPF, which is Thailand's leading conglomerate, engages in the agro-industrial processing of feed, farm and food.

- **Earnings are expected to improve qoq into 1Q26, but decline yoy from a high base in 1Q25.** We expect 1Q26 earnings to improve qoq, supported by higher livestock ASPs, particularly in the swine businesses in Thailand and Vietnam. However, earnings are likely to remain under pressure from a lower share of profit qoq, reflecting persistently weak China swine prices amid an oversupply situation. In addition, a qoq increase in key raw material costs, such as soybean meal prices.
- **Update on IPO process.** Management guided that the planned spin-off of its Vietnam subsidiary has been postponed to 2H26. Meanwhile, the timeline for the spin-off of other markets remains uncertain.

4Q25 Results Preview

Year to 31 Dec (Btm)	4Q25F	4Q24	3Q25	yoy(%)	qoq(%)
Revenue	134,021	148,509	138,565	-9.8%	-3.3%
Gross profit	17,691	23,274	22,910	-24.0%	-22.8%
SG&A/Sales	12,026	12,873	11,690	-6.6%	2.9%
EBIT	5,665	10,401	11,220	-45.5%	-49.5%
Net profit	2,593	4,173	5,186	-37.9%	-50.0%
Core profit	2,281	6,250	6,071	-63.5%	-62.4%
Core EPS (Bt)	0.27	0.74	0.72	-63.5%	-62.4%
Gross Margin (%)	13.2%	15.7%	16.5%	-2.5%	-3.3%
%SG&A/revenue	9.0%	8.7%	8.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Net Margin (%)	1.9%	2.8%	3.7%	-0.9%	-1.8%

Source: CPF, Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

Valuation/Recommendation

- **Maintain HOLD with a lower target price of Bt21.50 (previously Bt23.00),** based on 2026 EPS to reflect the softer earnings outlook. We peg its PE target to its five-year PE, at -1SD of 8x, excluding the period of 4Q22-1Q23 when livestock price trends saw unusual changes. Although we see a short-term improvement in domestic and Vietnam swine prices in Jan 26, following the price increase mom, we still expect unexciting earnings due to: a) China swine prices remaining weak, b) limited downside in raw material costs, and c) a high base in 1H25.

Earnings Revision/Risk

- We have revised down our 2026 earnings forecast by around 8% to reflect the lower-than-expectation of gross profit margin assumption in 2026.

Share Price Catalyst

- a) Increase in livestock prices, and b) a decline in raw material prices.

Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG)

CG Report: 5

SET ESG Rating: AAA

Environmental

- CPF aims to be a net zero company by 2050 and plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions from land use and fossil fuels by 30.3% and 42.0% respectively by 2030. The company plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions from land use and fossil fuels by 72% and 90% by 2050.

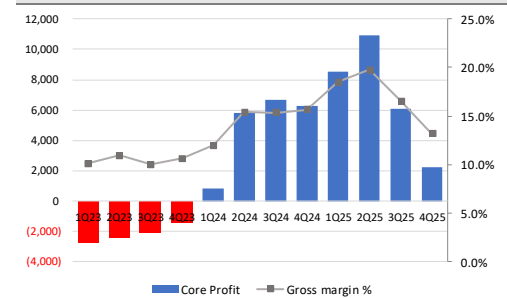
Social

- The company focuses on personnel development to train both ethical and talented employees. It pledges to improve employees' skills through lifelong learning.

Governance

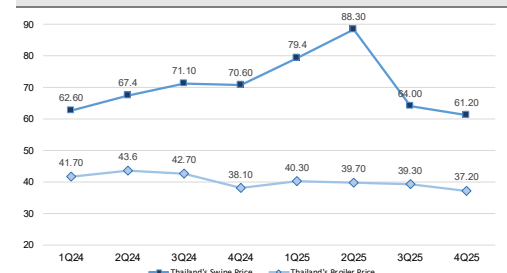
- Good governance practices. CPF is committed to operating its business in accordance with good corporate governance policies. It received the "Excellent" rating on good corporate governance from the Thai Institute of Directors (IOD).

Core Profit



Source: CPF, UOB Kay Hian

Domestic Swine & Chicken Price



Source: CPF, UOB Kay Hian

China Swine Price Trend



Source: CPF, UOB Kay Hian

Vietnamese Swine Price Trend



Source: CPF, UOB Kay Hian

Profit & Loss

Year to 31 Dec (Btm)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Net turnover	580,747	564,357	569,418	583,548
EBITDA	60,355	72,768	61,493	62,836
Deprec. & amort.	25,746	25,289	24,556	23,892
EBIT	34,609	47,479	36,937	38,944
Total other non-operating income	5,592	4,435	4,526	4,682
Associate contributions	12,699	12,422	13,841	14,547
Net interest income/(expense)	(24,575)	(24,322)	(24,886)	(23,885)
Pre-tax profit	27,972	38,681	30,418	34,289
Tax	(5,673)	(8,553)	(6,084)	(7,372)
Minorities	(2,741)	(3,423)	(2,692)	(3,034)
Net profit	19,558	26,705	21,643	23,883
Net profit (adj.)	17,142	28,038	21,643	23,883

Balance Sheet

Year to 31 Dec (Btm)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Fixed assets	255,585	248,175	241,463	235,382
Other LT assets	421,079	424,438	427,878	431,399
Cash/ST investment	24,944	70,812	71,374	75,030
Other current assets	175,117	162,450	162,530	162,430
Total assets	876,724	905,875	903,246	904,241
ST debt	194,995	223,480	257,617	287,340
Other current liabilities	68,339	73,746	77,918	81,832
LT debt	260,642	238,311	185,543	138,052
Other LT liabilities	59,525	60,206	60,901	61,611
Shareholders' equity	246,041	262,949	274,083	288,222
Minority interest	47,183	47,183	47,183	47,183
Total liabilities & equity	876,724	905,875	903,246	904,241

Cash Flow

Year to 31 Dec (Btm)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Operating	65,140	70,137	50,368	51,875
Pre-tax profit	27,972	38,681	30,418	34,289
Tax	(5,673)	(8,553)	(6,084)	(7,372)
Deprec. & amort.	25,746	25,289	24,556	23,892
Associates	12,699	12,422	13,841	14,547
Working capital changes	(7,956)	18,143	4,169	4,100
Other operating cashflows	12,352	(15,845)	(16,533)	(17,581)
Investing	(14,493)	(20,626)	(20,667)	(20,708)
Capex (growth)	(15,569)	(17,500)	(17,500)	(17,500)
Others	1,076	(3,126)	(3,167)	(3,208)
Financing	(50,289)	(3,643)	(29,139)	(27,512)
Dividend payments	(4,742)	(9,797)	(10,508)	(9,744)
Issue of shares	56	0	0	0
Proceeds from borrowings	47,063	(22,331)	(52,768)	(47,491)
Loan repayment	(43,190)	0	0	0
Others/interest paid	(49,476)	28,485	34,137	29,723
Net cash inflow (outflow)	358	45,868	562	3,655
Beginning cash & cash equivalent	26,136	24,944	70,812	71,374
Changes due to forex impact	(730)	0	0	0
Ending cash & cash equivalent	25,764	70,812	71,374	75,030

Key Metrics

Year to 31 Dec (%)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Profitability				
EBITDA margin	10.4	12.9	10.8	10.8
Pre-tax margin	4.8	6.8	5.3	5.9
Net margin	3.4	4.7	3.8	4.1
ROA	2.7	3.6	2.9	3.2
ROE	9.4	12.4	9.8	10.5
Growth				
Turnover	15.8	12.5	13.5	16.4
EBITDA	149.6	200.9	154.3	159.9
Pre-tax profit	54.1	113.1	67.6	88.9
Net profit	28.2	75.0	41.8	56.5
Net profit (adj.)	0.0	63.6	(22.8)	10.4
EPS	352.8	640.7	471.7	530.9
Leverage				
Debt to total capital	155.4	148.9	137.9	126.8
Debt to equity	185.2	175.6	161.7	147.6
Net debt/(cash) to equity	175.0	148.7	135.6	121.6
Interest cover	2.5	3.0	2.5	2.6

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