

# BROAD COMMODITY INDEX

COMMENTARY + STRATEGY FACTS

**JULY 2022** 

**AUSPICE** Capital Advisors

SUITE 510 - 1000 7TH AVE SW CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA T2P 5L5



#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

(SINCE JANUARY 2007\*)



### **INVEST WITH AUSPICE**

Call us

888 792 9291

Visit us online to find out more

auspicecapital.com



3 Year Morningstar Rating™ for Auspice Broad Commodity Strategy Fund ETF (COM), which tracks ABCERI. Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 102 US Fund Commodities Broad Basket funds based on risk adjusted returns as of 06/30/2022\*

Futures trading is speculative and is not suitable for all customers. Past results are not necessarily indicative of future results. This document is for information purposes only and should not be to construed as an offer, recommendation or solicitation to conclude a transaction and should not be treated as giving investment advice. Auspice Capital Advisors Ltd. makes no representation or warranty relating to any information herein, which is derived from independent sources. No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about the securities offered herein and it is an offence to claim otherwise. "The performance of Auspice Broad Commodity Index prior to 9/30/2010 is simulated and hypothetical as published by the NYSE. See Important Disclaimers and Notes on last page.

#### **SUMMARY**

Commodities were again volatile in July with most broad sectors moving to the downside. While Metals moderated their recent sell-off, Grains continued to correct while Natural Gas offset petroleum weakness in the Energy sector.

The passive long-only benchmarks were mixed with the more diverse Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM) making a gain after selling off sharply in June and the energy heavy GSCI falling on the back of petroleum weakness. As highlighted last month, despite the commodity weakness, the CPI inflation continues higher, moving to 9.1% (YoY % growth) per Chart 2.

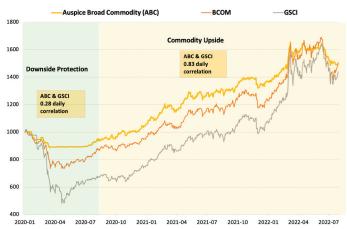
Global equity markets bounced back in July after finishing the worst first-half in over 50 years. The NASDAQ and S&P500 gained 12.4% and 9.1% yet remain in a downtrend at -20.8% and -13.3% year-to-date. The global benchmark MSCI ACWI added 7% for -14.6% on the year. Again moving in the opposite direction, Asian markets including the Hang Seng and China A50 sold-off. Canada's S&P/TSX60 added 3.6% to remain down 7.7%, aided by energy sector strength.

North American central banks continue to raise rates aggressively with the US Fed raising another 75 basis points (to 2.50%), while Canada again charged ahead with a 100bp increase mid-month to match at 2.50%. Bond markets moved higher with the benchmark US 10-year note rate falling to 2.65%. The US Dollar continues to gain adding 1.3% while commodity currencies bounced back slightly and European markets remain weak.

### **RESULTS**

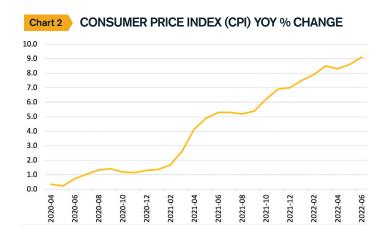
Auspice Broad Commodity softened 2.46% to remain up 9.42% year-to-date. Over the last two months of commodity weakness, the strategy has a better result than both the GSCI and the BCOM with less than half the volatility and drawdown by tactically exiting weak markets and reducing risk in markets held. While not keeping up with the long-only benchmarks in the last year, as soon as one looks longer term (noting the 5- and 10-year results in Table 1), the outperformance becomes apparent alongside far less volatility and drawdown. Per Chart 1, the Auspice index shows upside capture with a fraction of the volatility and much smaller pullbacks. While chasing short-term returns may feel good, we believe the key to a better portfolio result and investor experience is with a product that can be held full cycle from an asset allocation perspective. The Auspice index has illustrated this tactical benefit since its publication started in 2010. At near 10% volatility, the risk-adjusted and absolute results are exceptional in the category.





### Table 1 ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE

	ABCERI	BCOM ER	S&P GSCI ER	MSCI ACWI
1 Month	-2.46%	4.08%	-0.21%	6.98%
2022 YTD	9.42%	22.85%	35.04%	-14.61%
1 yr (Aug 21)	14.83%	26.54%	41.97%	-10.48%
3 yr (Aug 19)	51.77%	54.28%	48.60%	27.80%
5 yr (Aug 17)	49.72%	44.36%	57.05%	45.99%
10 yr (Aug 12)	4.15%	-15.50%	-26.80%	144.36%
15 yr (Aug 07)	94.08%	-29.35%	-46.20%	119.40%
Annualized (Jan 07)				
Return	4.79%	-2.00%	-3.35%	5.71%
Std Deviation	10.66%	16.85%	23.84%	16.48%
Sharpe Ratio	0.52	-0.02	0.00	0.47
MAR Ratio	0.11	-0.03	-0.04	0.10
Worst Drawdown	-42.90%	-73.87%	-88.06%	-54.92%





#### **OUTLOOK**

The US economy shrank for a second straight quarter in Q2, marking a technical recession. While equities bounced from lows, the S&P 500 having its best month since November 2020, most global markets remain deeply in the red for the year.

As communicated consistently over the last two years, we strongly believe we are in a new commodity supercycle alongside a potentially dismal environment for traditional stocks, bonds, and real estate. Corrections, as experienced recently to the upside in equities and downside in commodities, are to be expected. In the case of commodities, this may be an opportunity to participate.

Following four decades of declining rates and inflation we are potentially in the early days of a new regime which brings many unknowns. Diversification will likely play an increasingly important role, and "return stacking", in light of the mixed outlook, may provide a compelling solution. See this month's blog for more.

### ATTRIBUTIONS AND TRADES

Losses were again led by Ags where both Grains and Softs corrected sharply (see Chart 4). Petroleum energies were also weak contributing to the loss whereas the strategy remains without Metals exposure at this time. The tactical approach in terms of absolute positioning with the ability to go to cash alongside cutting risk has been active and beneficial in the last few months.

The strategy further reduced exposure exiting all remaining Ags to remain long 4 of 12 components or 33% of available components (see Chart 5).

The top performing position was Natural Gas which moved up against the sector trend. Negative attributions were led by Soybeans and Sugar.

#### SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

#### **ENERGY**

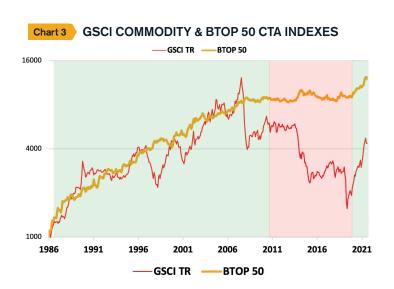
The Energy sector had a small loss with the major petroleum markets falling 4 to 8%. However, after selling off over 30% last month, Natural Gas rallied 54% to nearly offset the sector. We remain long the sector.

#### **METALS**

Metals continued to correct led by Copper falling over 3%. We do not hold any exposures in the sector.

#### **AGRICULTURE**

Both Grains and Soft commodities were weak and the strategy cut risk. Soybeans, Corn, Wheat and Sugar were exited in July to hold no exposure at this time.

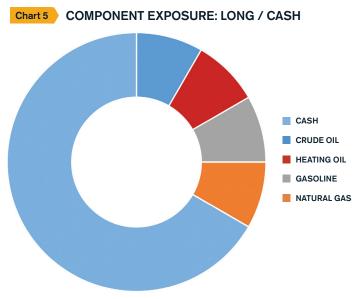


#### Table 2 CTA REGIME ANALYSIS

	1987-2010	2011-2019	2020-2022
Average CPI	2.9	1.8	4.0
Average VIX <sup>1</sup>	20.4	16.2	24.9
Ann. CTA Return	9.17%	0.78%	10.82%

1 - VIX Data commences in 1990.







#### WHY AUSPICE INDICES

The Auspice Indices are designed to meet the needs of investors that are looking to participate in liquid alternatives through a disciplined approach without sacrificing performance, diversification, and transparency. We believe Auspice Indices encompass everything from alpha to beta, across a return continuum. The indices blend elements of active management and indexing into a transparent, published, single strategy rules-based approach.

#### STRATEGY DESCRIPTION

The Auspice Broad Commodity Index aims to capture upward trends in the commodity markets while minimizing risk during downtrends.

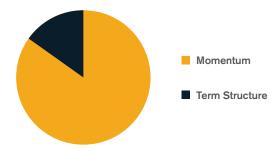
The index is tactical long strategy that focuses on Momentum and Term Structure to track either long or flat positions in a diversified portfolio of commodity futures which cover the energy, metal, and agricultural sectors. The index incorporates dynamic risk management and contract rolling methods. The index is available in total return (collateralized) and excess return (non-collateralized) versions.

#### THE MAIN POINTS OF DIFFERENTIATION INCLUDE:

Auspice Broad Commodity combines tactical commodity exposure with capital preservation. We believe that traditional passive long-only commodity indices do not provide investors with an optimal long term investment solution.

- Seeks to capture upward trends in the commodity markets while minimizing risk during downtrends
- Tactical exposure to a diversified basket of commodities that can individually position long or flat (no position)
- Rules-based quantitative methodology combined with dynamic risk management and contract roll optimization to deliver superior returns

# RETURN DRIVERS



#### **AUSPICE BROAD COMMODITY INDEX**

Long / Flat Approach

Positions can be changed on an intra-month bases

Accounts for Short-term Price Trends

Practices a Smart Roll-Yield to minimize impact of contango and backwardation

Broadly diversified (when exposed) and less concentrated in any one commodity sector

Rebalanced monthly based on volatility of each underlying commodity

#### **LONG-ONLY COMMODITY INDICES**

Long-Only Approach

Positions are always 100% long

Doesn't take into account downward price trends

Contracts typically roll into next contract month

Poorly diversified amongst single sectors

Most rebalance annually based on predetermined weightings for commodity sector

#### OTHER DETAILS

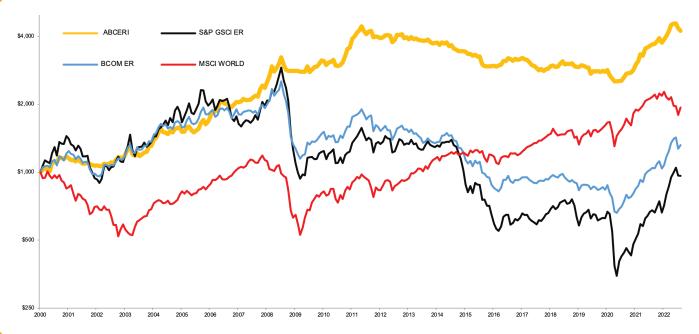
Calculated and published by NYSE since 2010. Tickers: Bloomberg ABCERI, Reuters ABCERI

#### PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

Licensing and/or sub-advisory of the strategy
Bespoke product design
ETFs: through partner firms
40 Act Mutual Funds: US investors through partner firms
Separately Managed Accounts



### COMPARATIVE BROAD COMMODITY INDEX PERFORMANCE



#### MONTHLY PERFORMANCE TABLE\*

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	RETURN
2022	3.57%	5.21%	6.42%	1.60%	-0.19%	-4.61%	-2.46%						9.42%
2021	3.09%	7.65%	-1.44%	7.25%	1.13%	1.90%	1.55%	0.38%	2.64%	3.41%	-4.62%	3.28%	28.83%
2020	-5.36%	-3.02%	-2.89%	0.07%	0.20%	0.19%	3.67%	3.62%	0.65%	0.67%	2.41%	6.13%	5.93%
2019	1.74%	-0.55%	-1.44%	-0.18%	-6.28%	2.52%	-0.27%	0.51%	-1.08%	1.17%	-0.71%	1.75%	-3.06%
2018	0.58%	-1.63%	0.40%	2.80%	2.68%	-3.16%	0.60%	-0.20%	0.72%	-2.60%	-1.09%	0.10%	-0.98%
2017	-1.59%	-0.44%	-2.38%	-3.08%	-0.56%	-2.35%	-2.06%	1.31%	-1.82%	1.74%	0.43%	2.78%	-7.92%
2016	-0.69%	1.01%	0.92%	4.00%	0.00%	2.64%	-0.61%	-1.75%	1.94%	-1.15%	0.49%	1.59%	8.55%
2015	-2.13%	-0.18%	-1.64%	0.99%	-1.78%	-0.08%	-7.77%	-1.59%	-0.27%	-0.01%	0.13%	0.29%	-13.45%
2014	-2.41%	2.68%	-1.23%	1.27%	-3.79%	1.03%	-3.57%	-0.96%	-1.64%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.54%	-8.97%
2013	2.45%	-2.32%	0.87%	-1.42%	-0.55%	-0.27%	-0.11%	1.03%	-2.26%	-1.57%	0.55%	0.39%	-3.27%
2012	0.90%	2.28%	0.09%	-0.38%	-6.43%	2.24%	5.41%	-0.37%	0.82%	-3.79%	0.64%	-1.92%	-1.02%
2011	2.44%	4.23%	-1.96%	4.32%	-5.11%	-2.84%	2.88%	0.73%	-6.28%	0.59%	-0.46%	-1.25%	0.54%
2010	-3.81%	2.61%	0.53%	1.87%	-5.57%	-0.40%	1.03%	2.64%	6.99%	7.35%	1.02%	9.66%	25.43%
2009	0.00%	-0.66%	-0.24%	0.01%	5.78%	-5.49%	2.20%	2.80%	0.39%	2.52%	4.00%	-0.66%	10.69%
2008	5.89%	10.60%	-5.20%	3.98%	4.05%	6.96%	-7.48%	-4.78%	-1.31%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.71%
2007	0.90%	2.39%	-1.25%	0.33%	0.13%	2.44%	1.74%	-0.83%	7.48%	4.05%	-2.42%	6.42%	23.04%
2006	5.59%	-0.45%	2.39%	6.87%	1.40%	-2.41%	0.07%	-2.92%	-0.44%	2.39%	2.74%	-0.23%	15.54%
2005	0.40%	4.37%	0.75%	-3.87%	-2.18%	2.07%	1.75%	5.95%	3.24%	-4.19%	2.93%	5.32%	17.16%
2004	2.18%	6.32%	3.54%	-3.42%	-0.70%	-1.49%	3.30%	-1.53%	3.98%	0.57%	0.77%	-4.43%	8.87%
2003	6.32%	2.27%	-7.68%	-1.86%	2.82%	-2.92%	1.80%	2.04%	0.32%	6.34%	0.16%	5.95%	15.63%
2002	-0.62%	-0.17%	2.53%	-0.50%	0.61%	1.42%	-0.78%	3.42%	2.43%	-0.20%	-1.02%	4.31%	11.85%
2001	-1.78%	-0.07%	-1.33%	2.07%	-2.34%	2.22%	0.48%	0.77%	-1.53%	-1.11%	-0.33%	0.21%	-7.04%
2000	2.41%	1.08%	-0.62%	-1.93%	8.62%	1.29%	-0.71%	5.78%	-0.97%	-0.86%	2.49%	-1.77%	15.24%



#### IMPORTANT DISCLAIMERS AND NOTES

Futures trading is speculative and is not suitable for all customers. Past results is not necessarily indicative of future results. This document is for information purposes only and should not be construed as an offer, recommendation or solicitation to conclude a transaction and should not be treated as giving investment advice. Auspice Capital Advisors Ltd. makes no representation or warranty relating to any information herein, which is derived from independent sources. No securities regulatory authority has expressed an opinion about the securities offered herein and it is an offence to claim otherwise.

#### **COMPARABLE INDICES**

\*Returns for **Auspice Broad Commodity Excess Return Index (ABCERI)** represent returns calculated and published by the NYSE. The index does not have commissions, management/incentive fees, or operating expenses.

The Bloomberg Commodity (Excess Return) Index **(BCOM ER)**, is a broadly diversified index that allows investors to track 19 commodity futures through a single, simple measure.

The **S&P/TSX 60 Index** is designed to represent leading companies in leading industries. Its 60 stocks make it ideal for coverage of companies with large market capitalizations and a cost-efficient way to achieve Canadian equity exposure. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **S&P 500** is an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **(MSCI) World Index**, Morgan Stanley Capital International, is designed to measure equity market performance large and mid-cap equity performance across 23 developed markets countries, covering approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each. This index offers a broad global equity benchmark, without emerging markets exposure.

The **MSCI ACWI (Net) Index**, is designed to represent performance of the full opportunity set of large- and mid-cap stocks across 23 developed and 26 emerging markets.

Excess Return (ER) Indexes do not include collateral return.

The S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Excess Return Index **(S&P GSCI ER)**, is a composite index of commodity sector returns representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified across the spectrum of commodities.

The **Barclay BTOP50 CTA Index** seeks to replicate the overall composition of the managed futures industry with regard to trading style and overall market exposure. The BTOP50 employs a top-down approach in selecting its constituents. The largest investable trading advisor programs, as measured by assets under management, are selected for inclusion in the BTOP50.

The CTA indexes do not encompass the whole universe of CTAs. The CTAs that comprise the indices have submitted their information voluntarily and the performance has not been verified by the index publisher.

The **EURO STOXX 50** is a stock index of Eurozone stocks designed by STOXX, an index provider owned by Deutsche Börse Group. As of April 2021, the index is dominated by France and Germany.

The **Hang Seng Index** is a freefloat-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted stock-market index in Hong Kong. It is used to record and monitor daily changes of the largest companies of the Hong Kong stock market and is the main indicator of the overall market performance in Hong Kong.

The **China FTSE A50** Index is a stock market index by FTSE Group, the components were chosen from Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange, which issue A-share: B-share were not included.

#### **PERFORMANCE NOTES**

The Equity benchmarks used in this material are intended to reflect the general equity market performance. They are shown to illustrate the non-correlated attributes versus other assets. Adding non-correlated assets within a portfolio has the potential to reduce portfolio volatility and drawdowns.

The performance of Auspice Broad Commodity Index prior to 9/30/2010 is simulated and hypothetical as published by the NYSE. All performance data for all indices assumes the reinvestment of all distributions. To the extent information for the index for the period prior to its initial calculation date is made available, any such information will be simulated (i.e., calculations of how the index might have performed during that time period if the index had existed). Any comparisons, assertions and conclusions regarding the performance of the index during the time period prior to the initial calculation date will be based on back-testing.

These results are based on simulated or hypothetical performance results that have certain inherent limitations. Unlike the results shown in an actual performance record, these results do not represent actual trading. Also, because these trades have not actually been executed, these results may have under-or over-compensated for the impact, if any, of certain market factors, such as lack of liquidity. Simulated or hypothetical trading programs in general are also subject to the fact that they are designed with the benefit of hindsight. No representation is being made that any account will or is likely to achieve profits or losses similar to these being shown. The index does not have commissions, management/incentive fees, or operating expenses.

### **INVEST WITH AUSPICE**

Call us

888 792 9291

Visit us online to find out more auspicecapital.com

# **AUSPICE** Capital Advisors

SUITE 510 - 1000 7TH AVE SW CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA T2P 5L5

