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978-0-521-18264-5 - A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

Marian Radetzki

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A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

The world is going through an exceptional commodity boom triggered by a global demand shock largely caused by the sudden emergence of China and India as sizeable raw material importers. Prices of numerous commodities tripled between 2003 and 2006, resulting in huge windfalls for producers and a financial squeeze on consumers. *A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy* is a guide to the ins and outs of this increasingly crucial part of the world economy. Assuming nothing more from readers than a basic understanding of economics, Marian Radetzki introduces and explains pertinent issues surrounding international commodity markets such as the global geography of raw materials, price formation, price trends, the role of commodity exchanges, the threat of depletion, cartel action, state ownership and the new commodity nationalism.

MARIAN RADETZKI is Professor of Economics at Luleå University of Technology, Sweden. He is the author of over 20 books and has undertaken a number of consulting assignments for multinational corporations, governments of developing countries, and international organizations like the World Bank and the UNDP.

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[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> vi
<i>List of tables</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
Introduction	1
1. The historical framework	7
2. The geography of commodity production and trade	22
3. Comparative advantage and the trade policy distortions	47
4. Price formation and price trends in commodities	57
5. The commodity exchanges, commodity investments, and speculation	86
6. The economics of exhaustible resource depletion	111
7. Fears of, and measures to assure, supply security	126
8. Producer cartels in international commodity markets	144
9. Public ownership in primary commodity production	166
10. The monoeconomies: issues raised by heavy dependence on commodity production and exports	188
<i>References</i>	216
<i>Index</i>	226

Figures

Figure 1.1	Share of primary sector in GDP in 2004	<i>page</i> 9
Figure 4.1	Short-run price determination	58
Figure 4.2	Long-run price determination	58
Figure 4.3	Industry cash cost curve	62
Figure 4.4	Commodity price indices in constant US\$. 2000 = 100	67
Figure 6.1	US oil reserve prices 1982–2003, constant (2003) US\$/bl (results from 1,500 transactions)	116
Figure 6.2	Oil resources and economic price, constant (2004) US\$/bl	120
Figure 8.1	Maximization of profit and maximization of revenue	145
Figure 8.2	OPEC and oil price formation	162
Figure 10.1	Price stabilization with variable demand	195
Figure 10.2	Price stabilization with variable supply	195

Tables

Table 1.1	Share of agriculture and mining in GDP, percent. Time series, 1938–2002	<i>page</i> 9
Table 1.2	Value in US\$ per kg at prices in 2000	11
Table 2.1	Global exports by commodity group over forty years	27
Table 2.2	Global export value for individual primary commodities, annual averages, billion dollars	28
Table 2.3	World production and exports of selected primary commodities, 2005	30
Table 2.4	Commodity and total goods trade by region, annual average 2003–5, billion dollars	32
Table 2.5	Share of world exports for selected countries and commodities in 2003–5, percent	34
Table 2.6	Country share of world oil exports in 2003–5, percent	37
Table 2.7	Consumption developments for four important industrial commodities in four regions	41
Table 2.8	Commercial energy at the primary stage: ratio of production to consumption	42
Table 2A.1	World exports, volume and value	45
Table 3.1	An illustration of tariff escalation: nominal versus effective tariff rates	55
Table 4.1	Average operating costs in the non-socialist world copper industry, and LME copper prices, constant 2005 \$/lb	64
Table 4.2	Growth patterns during three booms, percent	68
Table 4.3	Peaks in constant dollar commodity price indices during three booms	69
Table 5.1	The major commodity exchanges	88
Table 6.1	Proved reserves and R/P ratios for four minerals	114
Table 6.2	Operating cash costs for three metals	118

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-18264-5 - A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

Marian Radetzki

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

List of tables

Table 7.1	Oil prices and the macroeconomy	133
Table 8.1	The price elasticities of demand for output from a cartel (E_{DC}) which controls 60% of world supply ($M = 0.6$)	147
Table 8.2	Bauxite output among leading producers in the non-socialist world (NSW)	155
Table 8.3	World oil production, mbd, share, and percentage change	161
Table 9.1	State-controlled share of Western world production, %	170
Table 10.1	The monoeconomies: leading non-fuel commodity accounted for 40% or more of total exports in 2002–3	190
Table 10.2	The oil monoeconomies: oil and oil products accounted for more than 73% of total exports in 2002–3	191

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978-0-521-18264-5 - A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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