

**UNCTAD GLOBAL COMMODITIES FORUM**  
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**What is the new normal in commodity markets?**

By

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect  
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# CYCLOPE

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**What is the new normal in commodity markets ?  
Lendemains de chocs : la nouvelle « normalité »  
des marchés mondiaux  
For whom the bell tolls ?**

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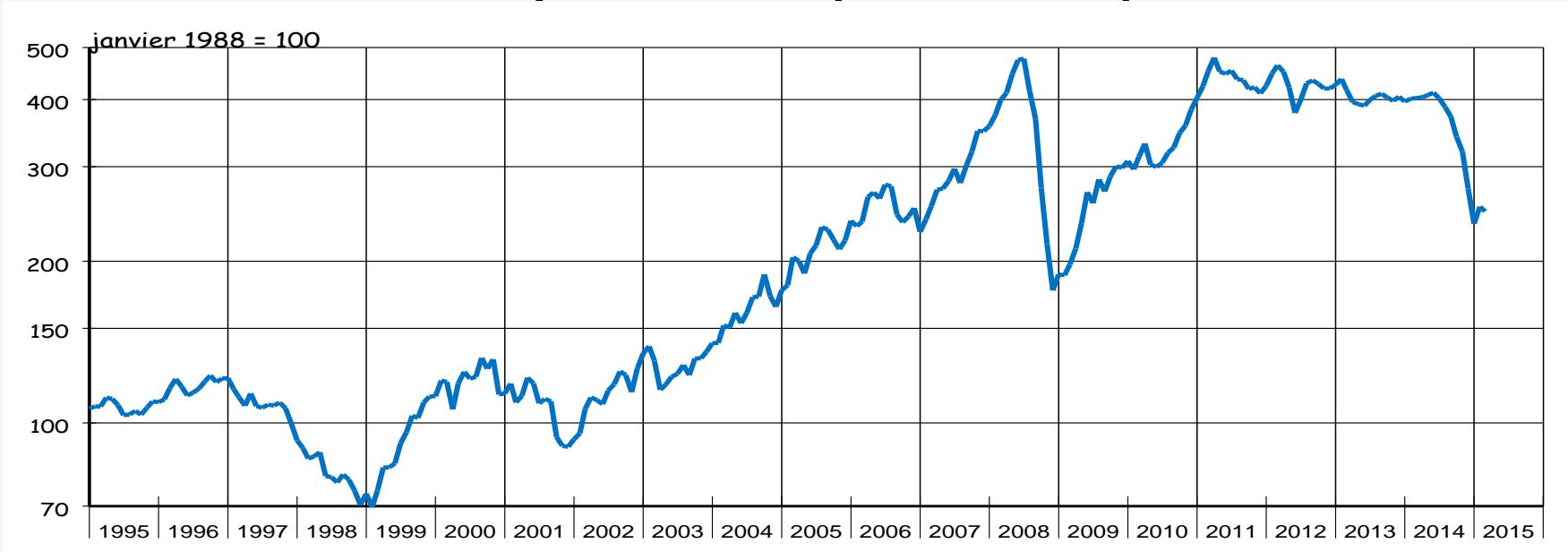
April 2015

**Cyclope**  
European leading research  
Institute on commodity  
markets

# The « 2006-2013 » commodity shock might be over

Indices Rexecode des cours des matières premières en \$

Ensemble y c. métaux précieux et pétrole

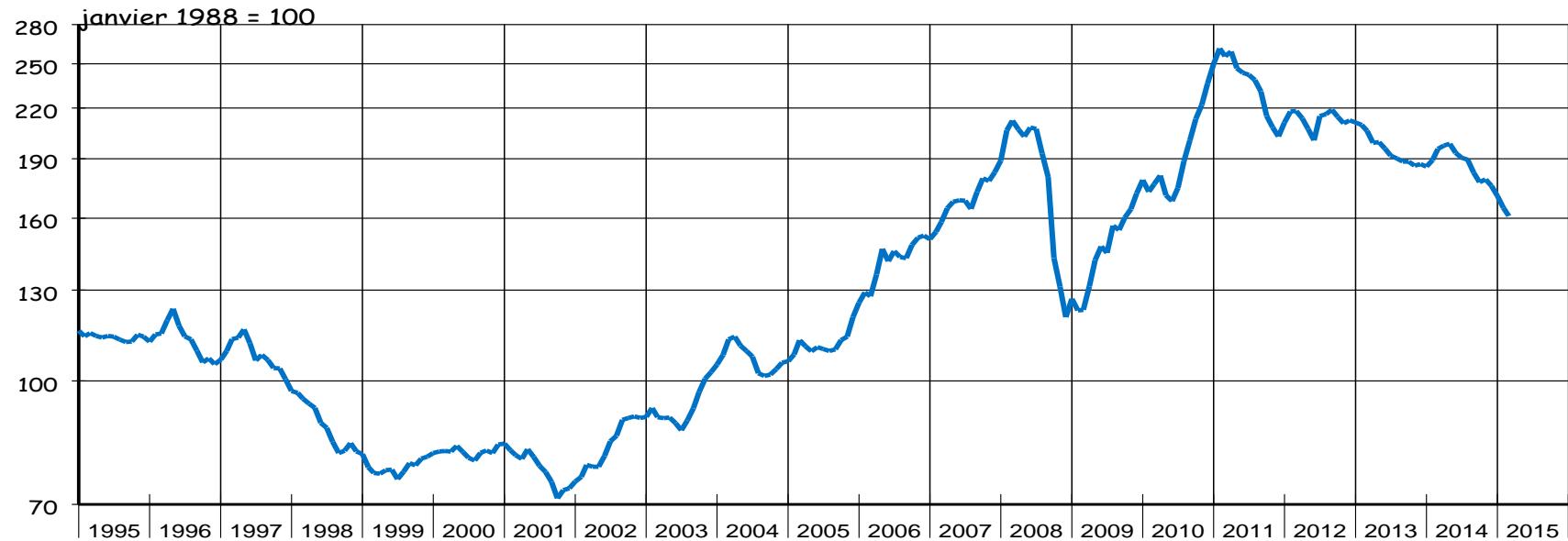


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# Even if you don't take oil into account

Indices Rexecode des cours des matières premières en \$

Ensemble hors métaux précieux et pétrole



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## What happened ?

- a demand – driven boom
- investment « time lag »

→ Skyrocketing prices for almost all commodities  
oil, grains, tropicals, metals, freight ...  
before and after 2008 economic crisis

## What followed ?

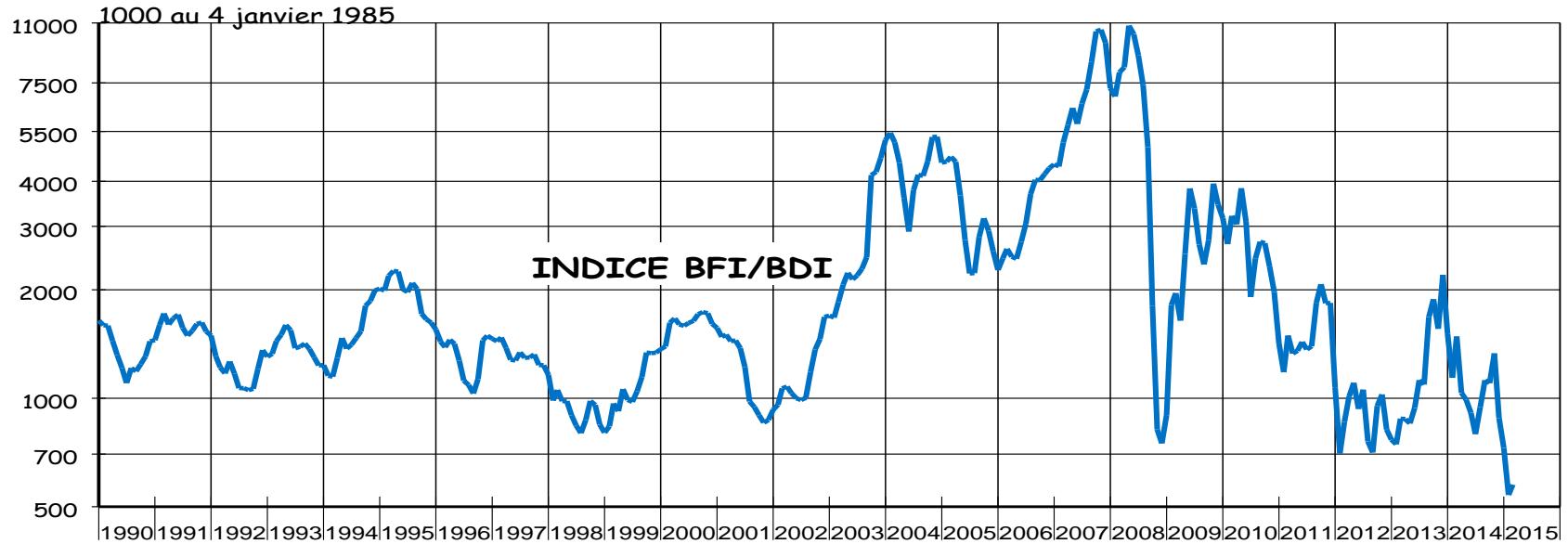
- investment in new capacities
  - energy revolution in the US
  - giant ships
  - new mines
  - etc ...
- Troubles in emerging countries

→ the end of the « super-cycle » ?

# Dry freight : the worst case

Cours des matières premières

Frêts maritimes (cargaisons sèches)

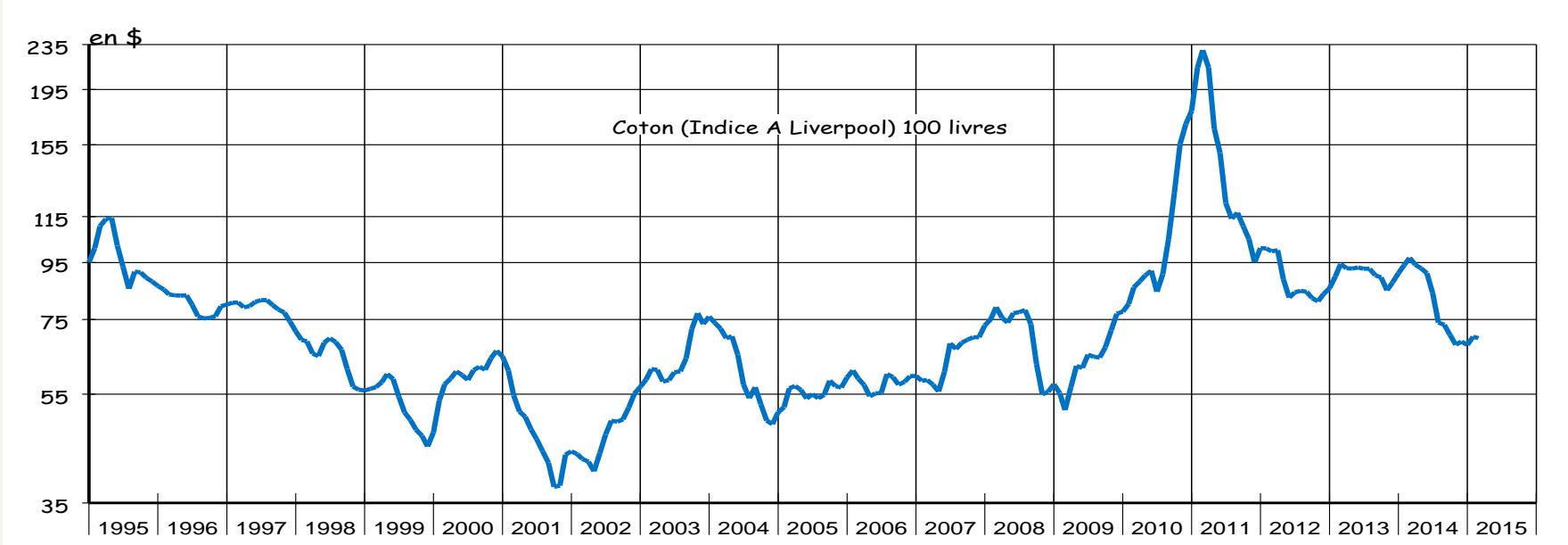


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# Cotton

**Cours des matières premières**

**Coton**

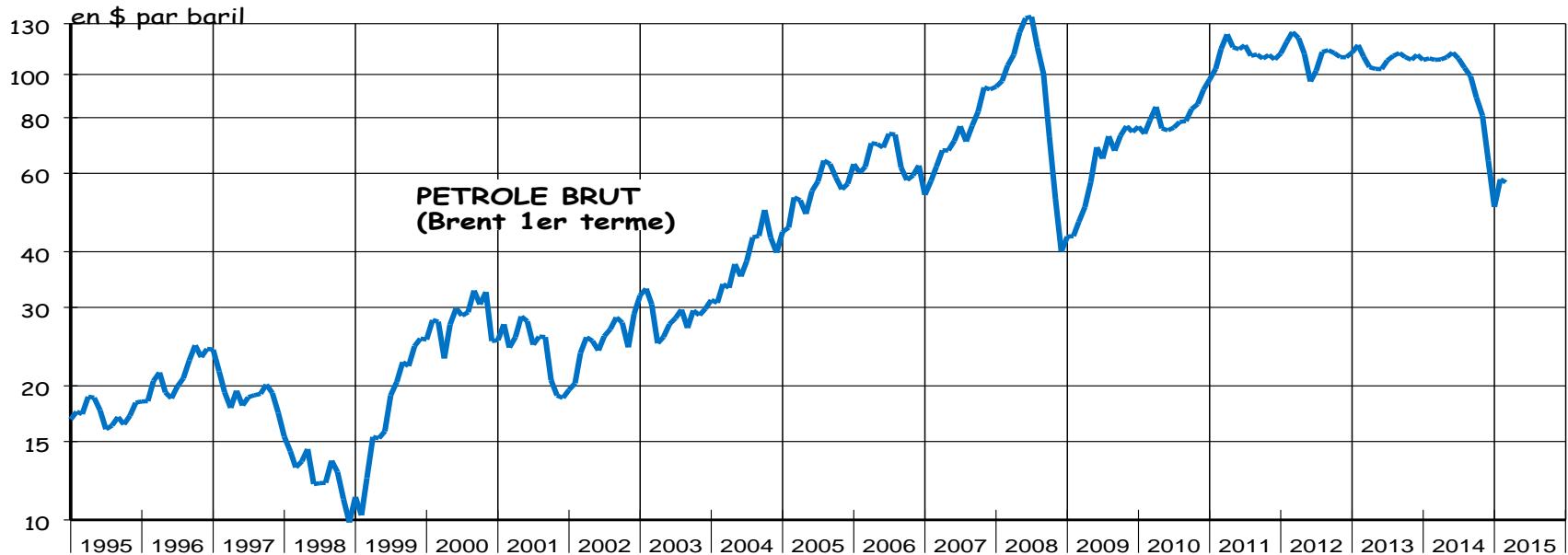


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# Oil of course

Cours des matières premières

## Pétrole brut

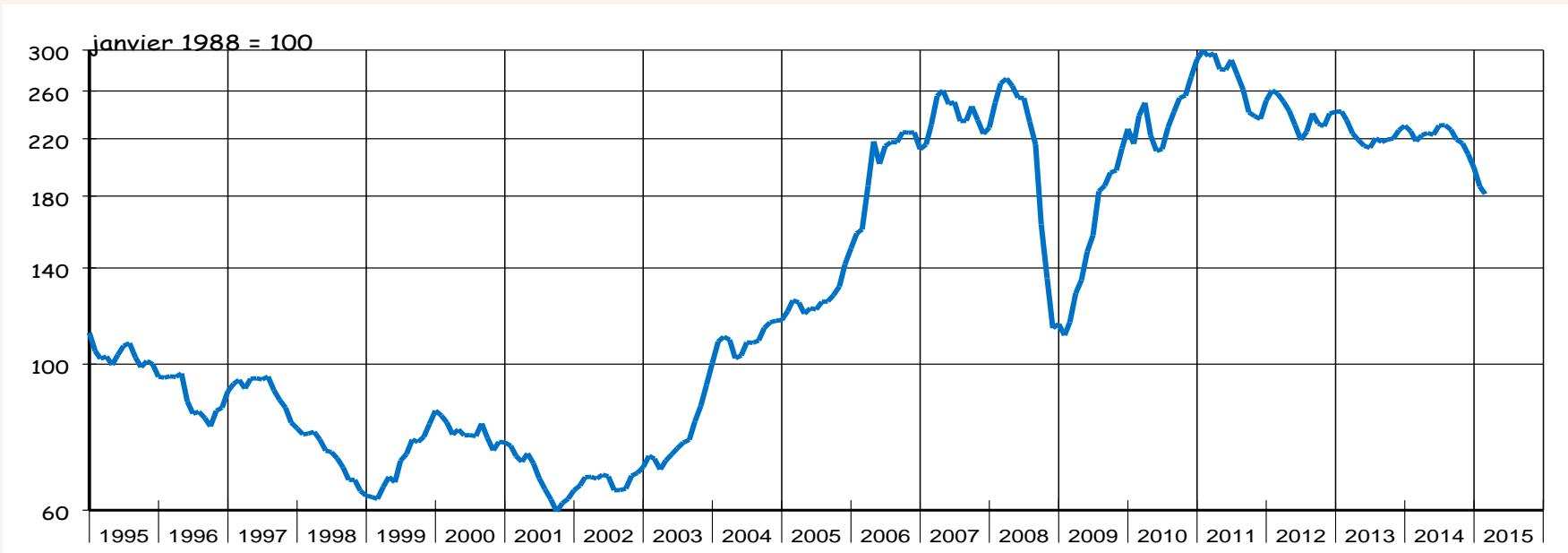


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## And non ferrous metals

Indices Rexecode des cours des matières premières en \$

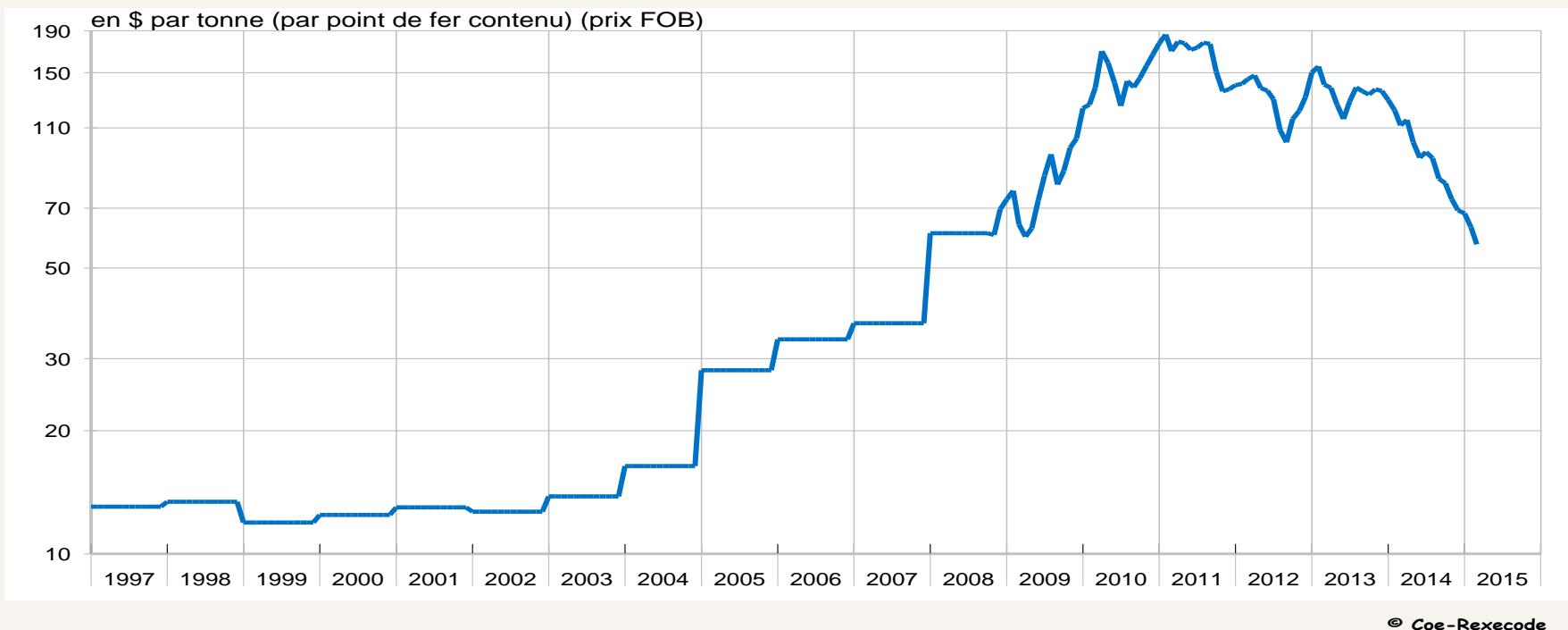
Métaux communs



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# Iron ore : A « new » commodity

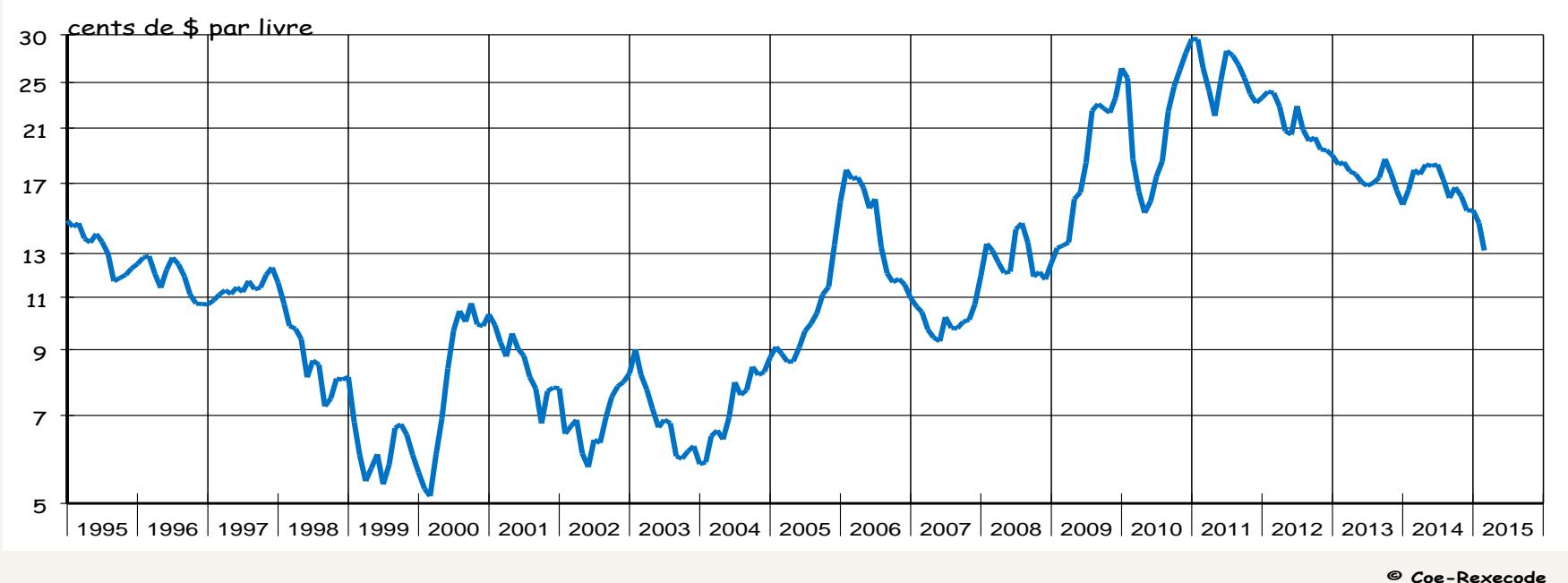
## Minerai de fer



# And sugar

## Cours des matières premières

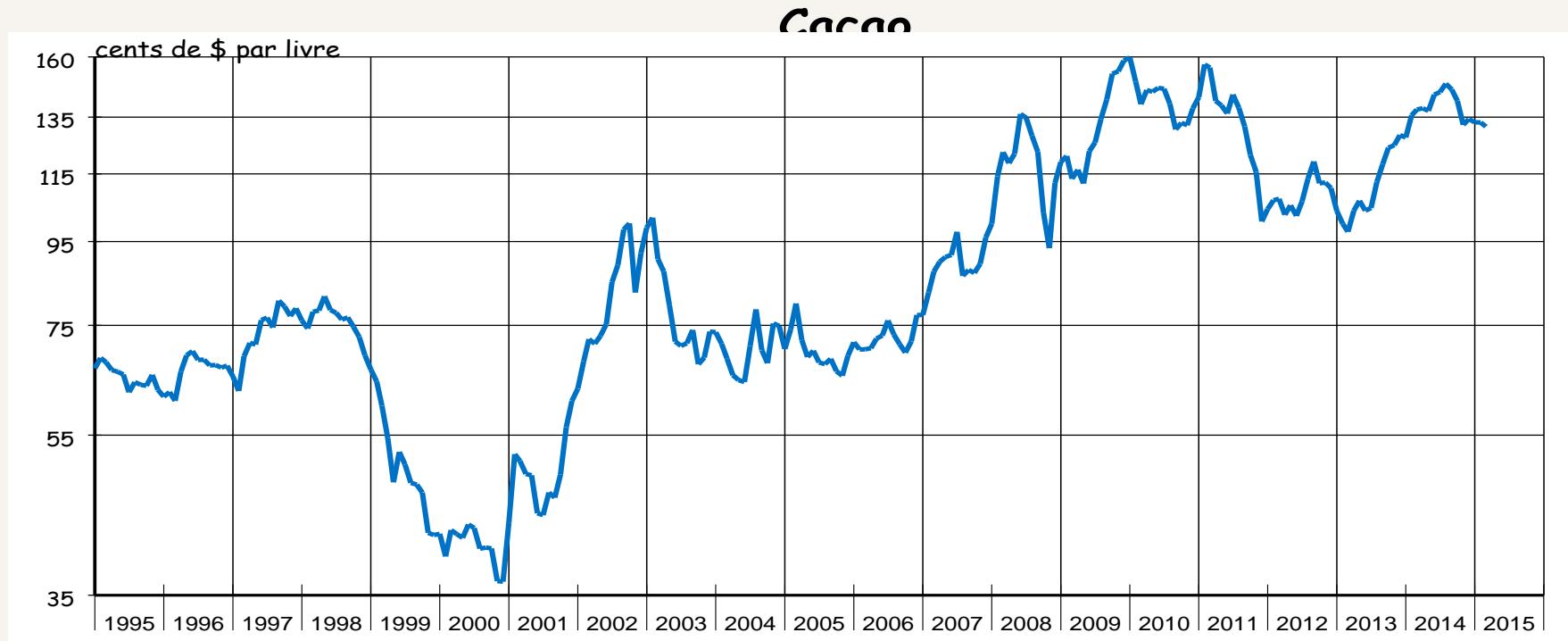
### Sucre



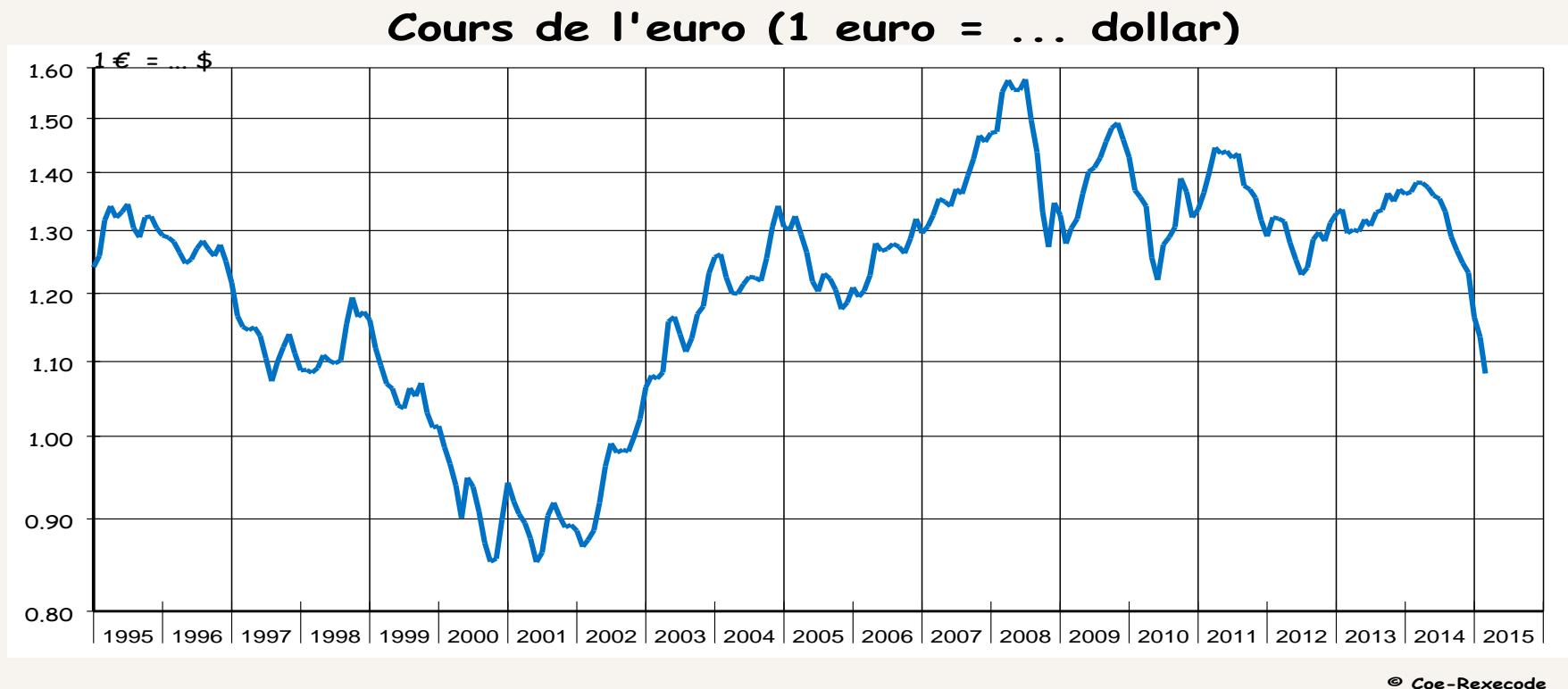
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# Cocoa is a sweet exception

Cours des matières premières



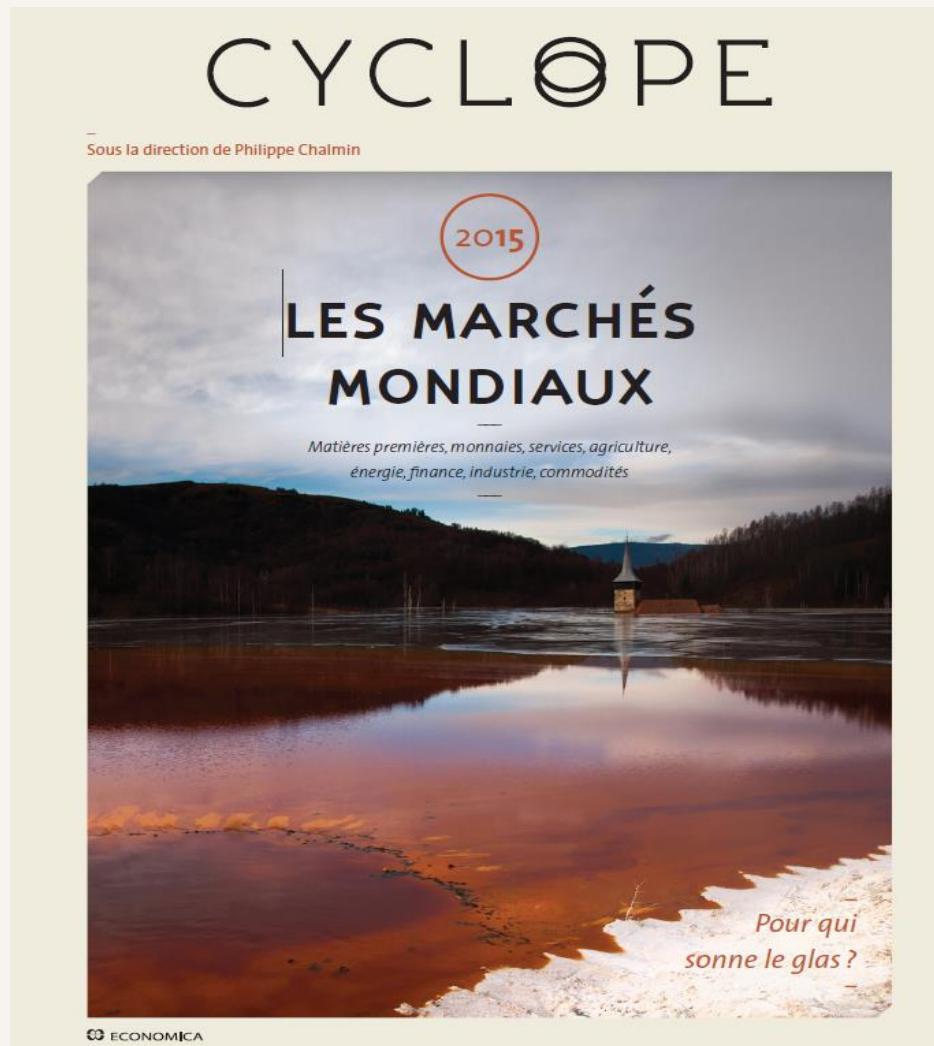
All this in a « rising » commodity called « dollar »



## Back to « normal times » ?

- supply and demand
  - the Chinese interrogation
- more instability and volatility
  - derivative markets
  - farm policies
- the « commodity curse » is not over

« For whom the bell tolls ? »



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