

Leong Hup International (LHIB MK)

1Q25 within expectations

Maintain BUY with an unchanged TP of MYR0.80

1Q25 earnings were within ours and consensus expectations. Resilient poultry demand across its core markets and the potential input cost savings from the downtrend in corn and soybean ASPs, alongside the appreciation of MYR against USD, should keep sequential earnings stable in FY25E. We keep our earnings estimates, BUY call and TP unchanged at MYR0.80 (based on 8x FY25E PER, mean).

1Q25 made up 28% of our FY25E

1Q25 net profit of MYR102m (+80% YoY, -28% QoQ) was within expectations at 28%/26% of ours and consensus full-year earnings estimates. LHIB also declared a first interim dividend of 1sen/shr (1Q24: 1.3sen/shr).

Weaker feedmill contribution YoY

Group revenue came in weaker by -8% YoY in 1Q25 mainly due to the underperformance in its feedmill segment (-19% YoY) as feed ASPs declined across all LHIB's countries of operations in conjunction with the decrease in feed raw material costs (corn & soybean). Feed sales volume also softened in Vietnam and Malaysia. 1Q25 livestock segmental sales posted flattish growth of +1% YoY as stronger poultry ASPs in the Philippines were offset by weaker sales volume in Malaysia and Singapore. Meanwhile, group EBITDA grew +9% YoY predominantly from higher poultry ASPs and lower operating expenses in Malaysia, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Maintaining earnings estimates

We keep our earnings estimates unchanged. Poultry demand should remain stable across LHIB's countries of operations. The global uncertainties surrounding the effects of the US reciprocal tariffs have also led to weaker corn and soybean ASPs, which may potentially translate to higher livestock margins over time. In reverse, LHIB will also be progressively passing on input cost savings - from lower corn & soybean ASPs to its customers. Hence, feedmill EBITDA margins should soften in the short-term.

FYE Dec (MYR m)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	9,540	9,309	9,257	9,471	9,704
EBITDA	1,043	1,204	1,107	1,081	1,101
Core net profit	302	429	367	375	373
Core EPS (sen)	8.3	11.8	10.1	10.3	10.2
Core EPS growth (%)	37.8	42.2	(14.3)	2.1	(0.7)
Net DPS (sen)	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.1	3.1
Core P/E (x)	6.8	5.1	6.1	5.9	6.0
P/BV (x)	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Net dividend yield (%)	5.3	5.8	5.0	5.1	5.0
ROAE (%)	14.2	18.3	14.2	13.2	12.0
ROAA (%)	4.6	6.6	4.8	4.1	3.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.5	3.7	4.5	4.3	4.3
Net gearing (%) (incl perps)	65.6	42.1	47.5	33.1	29.9
Consensus net profit	-	-	376	375	376
MIBG vs. Consensus (%)	-	-	(2.3)	0.0	(0.9)

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BUY

Share Price	MYR 0.61
12m Price Target	MYR 0.80 (+37%)
Previous Price Target	MYR 0.80

Company Description

The company is an integrated poultry player with operations across Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines

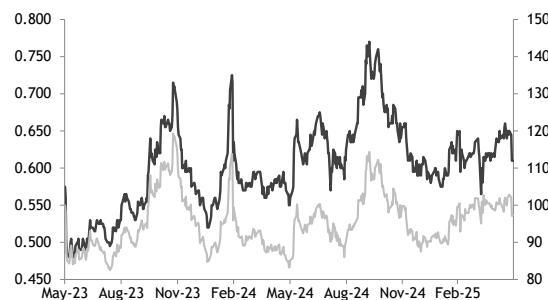
Statistics

52w high/low (MYR)	0.77/0.55
3m avg turnover (USDm)	0.8
Free float (%)	27.4
Issued shares (m)	3,650
Market capitalisation	MYR2.2B
	USD525M

Major shareholders:

Emerging Glory Sdn. Bhd.	52.8%
Concordant Investments Pte Ltd.	9.0%

Price Performance



— Leong Hup - (LHS, MYR) — Leong Hup / Kuala Lumpur Composite Index - (RHS, %)

	-1M	-3M	-12M
Absolute (%)	(1)	(5)	11
Relative to index (%)	(1)	(2)	17

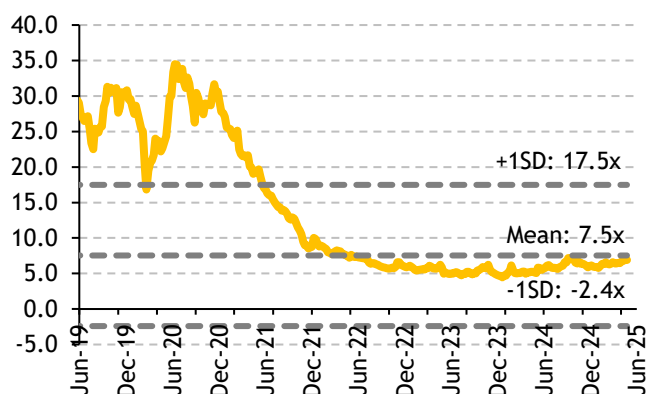
Source: FactSet

Fig 1: Leong Hup International: Results Summary Table

FY Dec (MYR m)	Quarterly				
	1Q25	1Q24	% YoY	4Q24	% QoQ
Revenue	2,210.9	2,411.0	(8.3)	2,315.1	(4.5)
EBITDA	261.1	240.6	8.5	357.4	(27.0)
Depreciation	(76.4)	(79.5)	(3.9)	(79.2)	(3.5)
EBIT	184.6	161.1	14.6	278.2	(33.6)
Interest expense	(26.4)	(36.2)	(27.2)	(29.3)	(9.9)
Associates	0.1	0.0	>100.0	0.3	(54.3)
Pretax profit	158.4	124.9	26.8	249.2	(36.4)
Tax	(17.7)	(30.0)	(40.9)	(43.2)	(59.0)
Minority interest	(38.9)	(38.3)	1.4	(65.2)	(40.4)
Net profit	101.8	56.6	79.9	140.8	(27.7)
Core net profit	101.8	56.6	79.9	140.8	(27.7)
			+/- p.ptsYoY		+/- p.ptsQoQ
<i>EBITDA margin (%)</i>	11.8	10.0	1.8	15.4	(3.6)
<i>EBIT margin (%)</i>	8.4	6.7	1.7	12.0	(3.7)
<i>Tax rate (%)</i>	(11.2)	(24.0)	12.8	(17.3)	6.1
<u>Revenue:</u>			% YoY		% QoQ
Livestock	1,324.7	1,315.8	0.7	1,403.5	(5.6)
Feedmill	882.7	1,092.3	(19.2)	908.8	(2.9)
Others	3.5	2.9	17.9	2.8	22.3
Total	2,210.9	2,411.0	(8.3)	2,315.1	(4.5)
<u>EBITDA:</u>			% YoY		% QoQ
Livestock	113.6	78.9	43.9	206.0	(44.8)
Feedmill	148.2	164.6	(9.9)	158.5	(6.5)
Others	(0.7)	(2.9)	(74.1)	(7.1)	(89.5)
Total	261.1	240.6	8.5	357.4	(27.0)
<u>EBITDA margin (%):</u>			+/- p.ptsYoY		+/- p.ptsQoQ
Livestock	8.6	6.0	2.6	14.7	(6.1)
Feedmill	16.8	15.1	1.7	17.4	(0.7)
Others	(21.6)	(98.3)	76.8	(251.2)	>100.0
Total	11.8	10.0	1.8	15.4	(3.6)

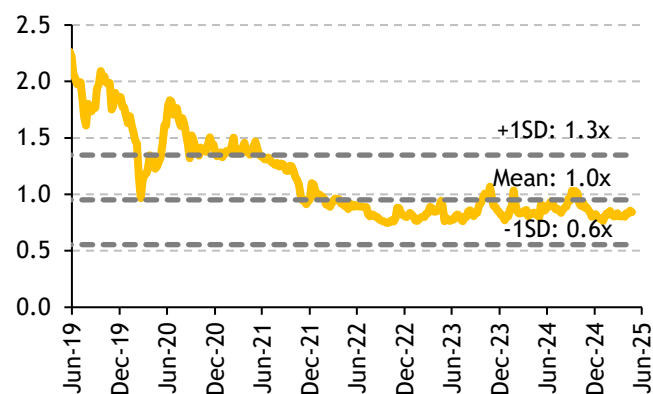
Source: Company

Fig 2: Forward PER (x)



Source: Bloomberg, Maybank IBG Research

Fig 3: Forward PBV (x)



Source: Bloomberg, Maybank IBG Research

Risk statement

There are several risk factors to our earnings estimates, target price and rating for LHIB. The group is subject to market volatility in selling prices as well as demand-supply imbalances, both in feed and poultry. Moreover, poultry is vulnerable to disease and epidemic outbreaks that could further exacerbate demand-supply imbalances.

FYE 31 Dec	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Key Metrics					
P/E (reported) (x)	6.6	5.3	6.1	5.9	6.0
Core P/E (x)	6.8	5.1	6.1	5.9	6.0
P/BV (x)	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
P/NTA (x)	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Net dividend yield (%)	5.3	5.8	5.0	5.1	5.0
FCF yield (%)	33.3	32.4	8.1	25.0	7.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.5	3.7	4.5	4.3	4.3
EV/EBIT (x)	6.5	5.0	6.5	6.3	6.3

INCOME STATEMENT (MYR m)

Revenue	9,539.5	9,309.5	9,256.8	9,470.5	9,703.6
EBITDA	1,043.4	1,203.7	1,107.2	1,081.4	1,100.9
Depreciation	(276.2)	(269.3)	(292.5)	(302.6)	(311.8)
Amortisation	(43.2)	(43.6)	(43.9)	(43.9)	(43.9)
EBIT	724.0	890.8	770.9	734.9	745.2
Net interest income /(exp)	(169.6)	(130.6)	(176.5)	(189.1)	(201.7)
Associates & JV	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Pretax profit	554.7	760.5	594.7	546.2	543.8
Income tax	(124.9)	(129.7)	(101.4)	(93.1)	(92.8)
Minorities	(128.1)	(201.9)	(125.9)	(77.8)	(78.5)
Reported net profit	301.7	428.9	367.4	375.2	372.5
Core net profit	301.7	428.9	367.4	375.2	372.5

BALANCE SHEET (MYR m)

Cash & Short Term Investments	699.5	770.7	2,474.7	3,182.1	3,492.4
Accounts receivable	729.4	623.2	818.7	656.5	855.0
Inventory	978.8	968.6	1,141.0	1,051.1	1,203.0
Reinsurance assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Property, Plant & Equip (net)	2,730.3	2,683.3	3,215.9	3,313.6	3,402.1
Intangible assets	102.5	91.2	90.9	90.6	90.3
Investment in Associates & JVs	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Other assets	1,284.4	1,305.5	1,216.4	1,208.1	1,201.1
Total assets	6,526.6	6,444.3	8,959.4	9,503.8	10,245.9
ST interest bearing debt	1,615.3	1,449.5	2,430.1	2,597.7	2,765.3
Accounts payable	359.6	311.6	429.2	340.6	451.0
Insurance contract liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LT interest bearing debt	1,022.0	721.3	1,811.5	1,926.7	2,041.9
Other liabilities	575.0	634.0	570.0	579.0	589.0
Total Liabilities	3,571.5	3,116.9	5,240.4	5,444.3	5,847.1
Shareholders Equity	2,236.7	2,448.6	2,714.4	2,977.0	3,237.8
Minority Interest	718.4	878.8	1,004.7	1,082.5	1,161.0
Total shareholder equity	2,955.1	3,327.4	3,719.1	4,059.5	4,398.8
Total liabilities and equity	6,526.6	6,444.3	8,959.4	9,503.8	10,245.9

CASH FLOW (MYR m)

Pretax profit	554.7	760.5	594.7	546.2	543.8
Depreciation & amortisation	319.4	313.0	336.4	346.5	355.7
Cash taxes paid	(124.9)	(129.7)	(101.4)	(93.1)	(92.8)
Other operating cash flow	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from operations	902.8	1,006.6	579.3	957.0	559.0
Capex	(215.9)	(292.2)	(400.0)	(400.0)	(400.0)
Free cash flow	686.9	714.4	179.3	557.0	159.0
Dividends paid	(77.0)	(178.0)	(110.2)	(112.6)	(111.8)
Equity raised / (purchased)	0.0	(11.5)	4.4	0.0	0.0
Change in Debt	(696.3)	(530.8)	2,070.8	282.8	282.8
Other invest/financing cash flow	51.3	(32.8)	(15.2)	(19.4)	(19.4)
Net cash flow	(35.0)	(38.7)	2,129.1	707.8	310.6

FYE 31 Dec	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Key Ratios					
Growth ratios (%)					
Revenue growth	5.5	(2.4)	(0.6)	2.3	2.5
EBITDA growth	36.3	15.4	(8.0)	(2.3)	1.8
EBIT growth	56.0	23.0	(13.5)	(4.7)	1.4
Pretax growth	69.9	37.1	(21.8)	(8.2)	(0.4)
Reported net profit growth	37.8	42.2	(14.3)	2.1	(0.7)
Core net profit growth	37.8	42.2	(14.3)	2.1	(0.7)
Profitability ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	10.9	12.9	12.0	11.4	11.3
EBIT margin	7.6	9.6	8.3	7.8	7.7
Pretax profit margin	5.8	8.2	6.4	5.8	5.6
Payout ratio	36.3	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
DuPont analysis					
Net profit margin (%)	3.2	4.6	4.0	4.0	3.8
Revenue/Assets (x)	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.0	0.9
Assets/Equity (x)	2.9	2.6	3.3	3.2	3.2
ROAE (%)	14.2	18.3	14.2	13.2	12.0
ROAA (%)	4.6	6.6	4.8	4.1	3.8
Liquidity & Efficiency					
Cash conversion cycle	56.9	56.8	60.0	60.0	60.0
Days receivable outstanding	26.0	26.2	28.0	28.0	28.0
Days inventory outstanding	48.2	46.7	49.2	49.2	49.2
Days payables outstanding	17.3	16.1	17.3	17.3	17.3
Dividend cover (x)	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Current ratio (x)	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.7
Leverage & Expense Analysis					
Asset/Liability (x)	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.8
Net gearing (%) (incl perps)	65.6	42.1	47.5	33.1	29.9
Net gearing (%) (excl. perps)	65.6	42.1	47.5	33.1	29.9
Net interest cover (x)	4.3	6.8	4.4	3.9	3.7
Debt/EBITDA (x)	2.5	1.8	3.8	4.2	4.4
Capex/revenue (%)	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.2	4.1
Net debt/ (net cash)	1,937.8	1,400.1	1,767.0	1,342.3	1,314.8

Source: Company; Maybank IBG Research

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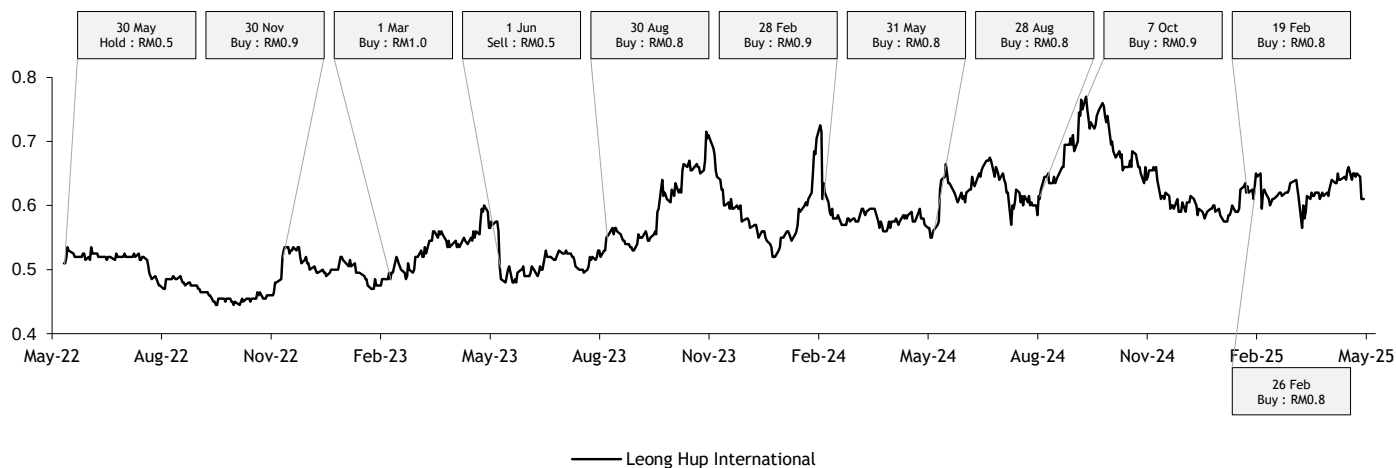
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