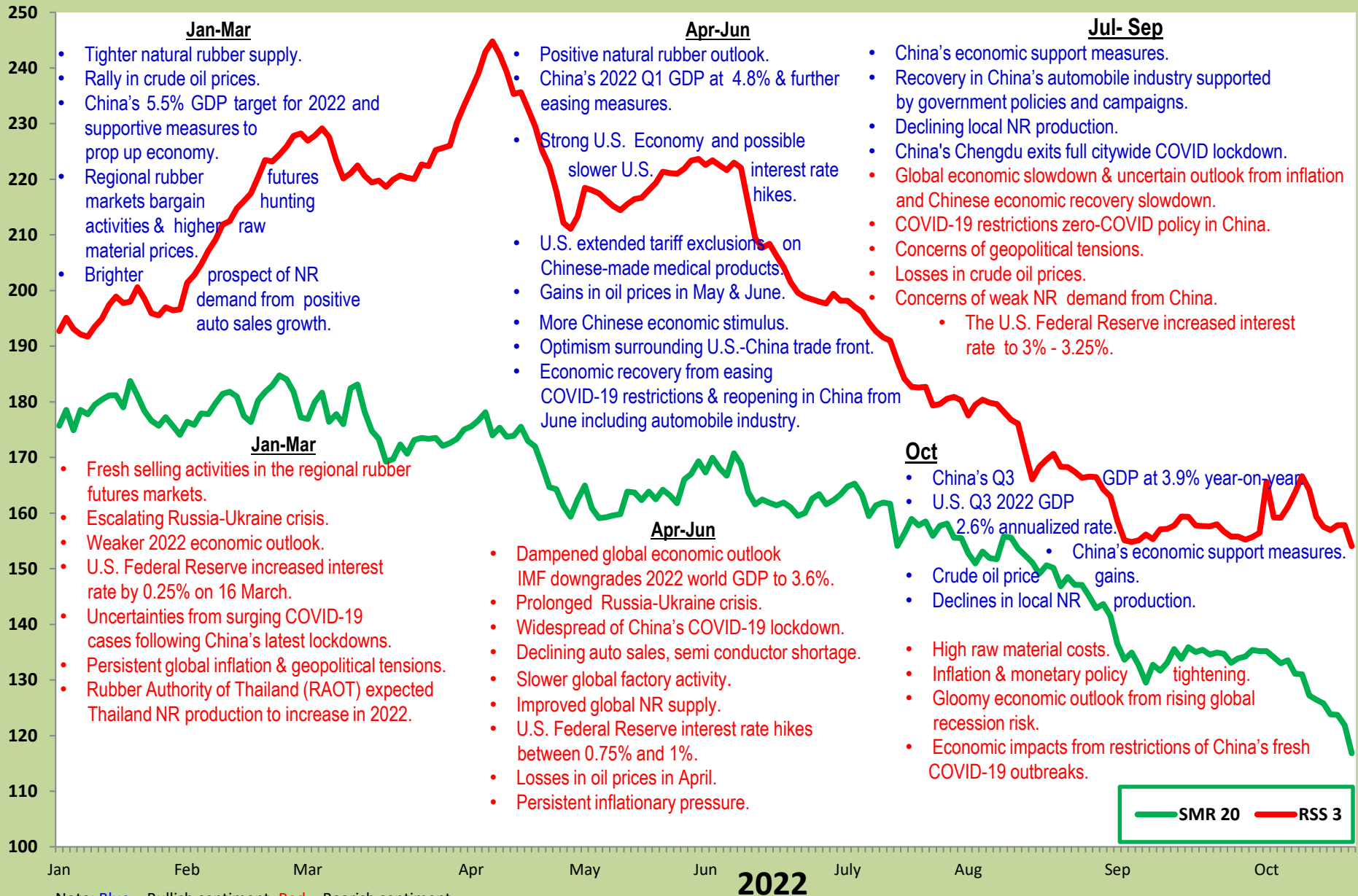


# PRICES OF SMR 20 (MRB) AND RSS 3 (TRA), US CENTS/KG (JANUARY - OCTOBER 2022)

US cents/kg



**Jan-Mar**

- Tighter natural rubber supply.
- Rally in crude oil prices.
- China's 5.5% GDP target for 2022 and supportive measures to prop up economy.
- Regional rubber markets bargain activities & higher raw material prices.
- Brighter prospect of NR demand from positive auto sales growth.
- futures hunting

**Apr-Jun**

- Positive natural rubber outlook.
- China's 2022 Q1 GDP at 4.8% & further easing measures.
- Strong U.S. Economy and possible slower U.S. interest rate hikes.
- U.S. extended tariff exclusions on Chinese-made medical products.
- Gains in oil prices in May & June.
- More Chinese economic stimulus.
- Optimism surrounding U.S.-China trade front.
- Economic recovery from easing COVID-19 restrictions & reopening in China from June including automobile industry.

**Jul-Sep**

- China's economic support measures.
- Recovery in China's automobile industry supported by government policies and campaigns.
- Declining local NR production.
- China's Chengdu exits full citywide COVID lockdown.
- Global economic slowdown & uncertain outlook from inflation and Chinese economic recovery slowdown.
- COVID-19 restrictions zero-COVID policy in China.
- Concerns of geopolitical tensions.
- Losses in crude oil prices.
- Concerns of weak NR demand from China.
  - The U.S. Federal Reserve increased interest rate to 3% - 3.25%.

**Jan-Mar**

- Fresh selling activities in the regional rubber futures markets.
- Escalating Russia-Ukraine crisis.
- Weaker 2022 economic outlook.
- U.S. Federal Reserve increased interest rate by 0.25% on 16 March.
- Uncertainties from surging COVID-19 cases following China's latest lockdowns.
- Persistent global inflation & geopolitical tensions.
- Rubber Authority of Thailand (RAOT) expected Thailand NR production to increase in 2022.

**Apr-Jun**

- Dampened global economic outlook IMF downgrades 2022 world GDP to 3.6%.
- Prolonged Russia-Ukraine crisis.
- Widespread of China's COVID-19 lockdown.
- Declining auto sales, semi conductor shortage.
- Slower global factory activity.
- Improved global NR supply.
- U.S. Federal Reserve interest rate hikes between 0.75% and 1%.
- Losses in oil prices in April.
- Persistent inflationary pressure.

**Oct**

- China's Q3 GDP at 3.9% year-on-year
- U.S. Q3 2022 GDP 2.6% annualized rate.
- China's economic support measures.
- Crude oil price gains.
- Declines in local NR production.
- High raw material costs.
- Inflation & monetary policy tightening.
- Gloomy economic outlook from rising global recession risk.
- Economic impacts from restrictions of China's fresh COVID-19 outbreaks.

Note: Blue – Bullish sentiment Red – Bearish sentiment

2022