Bloomberg 101: Commodities

There are a few different methods of examining commodities in Bloomberg. Start by logging onto Bloomberg. If the system is already on, be sure to start from the homepage—you can hit escape to get back to the homepage.

One way to start is by clicking on the Home Menu, located in the upper-lefthand corner of the homepage. Next, select option 8 Commodities.

Alternatively, you can hit f9 (the commodity shortcut key) then GO. This is the Commodity Markets Menu, which has many useful options:
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Select option 2, SECF, to search for a commodity

Search in the name field or for a ticker

For example, I am interested in Soybean Oil, so I will select the ticker BOA.
Here is the homepage for my Soybean Oil Future
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We could have selected a different option from the Commodity Markets Menu, such as option 8 GLCO. This allows us to browse prices of commodities by category.

Next, select 3, since you are interested in Agricultural commodities.
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I see soybean oil here again, as well as other important commodities.

If I select Soybean oil here, I can create a historical price graph by selecting 2 (GP stands for graph price)
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Here is the default graph. You can change any of the yellow options: date ranges (1 year, 3 years, etc.), prices (daily, monthly, etc.), etc.

You can select table (in red) to view the data in chart form. You can than select Actions, and export the table into excel.