



CENTER FOR
Dairy EXCELLENCE
 Dairy Week In Review



Dated April 10, 2019

Markets:

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Milk Price (April) **	\$16.97/cwt.	▲ 0.6 %	▲ 5.3 %	▲ 4.8 %
Corn (May)	\$3.61/bushel	—	▼ 1.4 %	▼ 2.2 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$310.1/ton	▲ 0.1 %	▲ 1.4 %	▼ 0.8 %
Milk Margin (Feb)*	\$10.60/cwt.	—	▲ 2.2 %	▲ 5.1 %

*Each issue of "Dairy Week in Review" will report on current "Milk Margin," or the dollars remaining per one hundred lbs. of milk after feed is paid for, based on data for a 65-pound herd in the latest "PA Dairy Industry Performance Scorecard." Milk margin is affected by both milk & feed prices. ** The milk price reported is the Class III futures price for the next month plus a basis of \$1.00, an estimate of what could be on your milk check next month.

- The USDA announced the Class III milk price for March at \$15.04 per hundredweight, up \$1.15 from February and 82 cents above March 2018. The March Class IV milk price was announced at \$15.71, down 15 cents from last month but up \$2.67 from March 2018.
- Cooperatives Working Together announced that it would accept four offers for export assistance, which would support sales of 253,532 pounds of Cheddar cheese, 661,387 pounds of butter, and 220,462 pounds of whole milk powder. The products are being delivered to customers in Asia and the Middle East during the period of May to August. So far this year, CWT-assisted export sales have amounted to the equivalent of 478.4 million pounds of milk on a milkfat basis.

Government and Industry:

- National Milk Producers Federation protested a White House proposal to close the border with Mexico. NMPF said closing the border to trade would devastate the dairy industry, with \$1.4 billion in annual dairy sales currently going into Mexico.
- Several dairy producers and milk haulers testified on behalf of House Bill 915 this week during a Pennsylvania House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee hearing. Chairman Martin Causer has introduced the legislation in response to the Wolf Administration issuing a disaster emergency declaration this winter, in which commercial vehicles were banned from portions or all of the state's highways. The bill would exempt milk trucks from any future travel bans. A companion bill is also expected to be introduced in the Senate.
- The Center for Dairy Excellence has announced Dairy Professional Roundtable meetings in late April and early May. Those who work directly with Pennsylvania's dairy farm families are encouraged to attend to get resources to help their customers and clients develop a risk management strategy. Learn more at centerfordairyexcellence.org.
- Dairy Revenue Protection (Dairy R-P) coverage for the last half of 2019 and first three quarters in 2020 is now available from authorized crop insurance agents. Farms can choose to cover any of the five upcoming quarterly (three month) periods, but they must enroll first. The program allows you to put a floor under your milk price, and you can choose to price your milk either based on your Class utilization or on your components. To learn more, contact your crop insurance agent. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html.
- The Dairy Decisions Consultant Program remains open and available to those farms who want assistance in making decisions that will shape the future of their farm. Once accepted into the program, farms can receive up to \$3,500 in funds to work with a DDC. Call 717-346-0849 to learn more.