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**Dairy**EXCELLENCE  
 Dairy Week In Review



Dated January 29, 2025

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (Jan)	\$20.32/cwt.	▲ 0.2 %	▲ 8.6 %	▲ 4.6 %
Class IV Milk Price (Jan)	\$20.86/cwt.	—	▲ 0.5 %	▲ 5.1 %
Corn (Mar)	\$ 4.85/bushel	▼ 0.1 %	▲ 7.3 %	▼ 28.0 %
SBean Meal (Mar)	\$ 301.6/ton	▼ 3.0 %	▼ 0.3 %	▼ 35.2 %
DMC Margin (Nov)*	\$ 14.29/cwt.	—	▼ 5.8 %	▲ 49.2 %

*\*Each issue of "Dairy Week in Review" will report on the most recent Milk Margin published through USDA's Dairy Margin Coverage Program. This margin is published each month after the USDA Ag Prices Report is released.*

**Markets:**

- Based on the Dec. 2024 USDA Milk Production report, U.S. milk production came in at 18.7 billion pounds, down 0.5% from Dec. 2023. For the last quarter, milk production reached 55.5 billion pounds, a 0.1% decrease year over year. U.S. milk cow numbers dropped 47 thousand head from Dec. 2023's levels to Dec. 2024. In the final quarter of 2024, the average number of milk cows in the U.S. reached 9.36 million head, up 29,000 head from the third quarter and 10,000 head more than the same timeframe for 2023.
- California milk production dropped 6.8% year over year and made a slight recovery from the 7.9% drop from Nov. 2023 to Nov. 2024. CA milk production per cow decreased 135 pounds from Dec. 2023's 2,015 to Dec. 2024's 1,880 pounds per cow. Oregon saw the largest decline in milk production for Dec. 2024, down 8.2% from Dec. 2023's levels. Texas experienced the greatest gains in milk production with a 7.5% increase year over year.
- Based on the Dec. 2024 U.S. Cold Storage report, total natural cheese stock numbers increased 2% month over month and decreased 6% year over year. Butter stocks rose 4% from Nov. 2024's totals and jumped 11% from Dec. 2023's numbers.

**Government/Industry:**

- On Jan. 27, the PA Dept. of Ag. Announced a preliminary finding of the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) strain found in wild birds in a commercial poultry flock in Lehigh County, Lynn Township. The PDA issued 10km control, 7 km buffer, and 3 km infected zones around the affected farm. The PDA's quarantine order requires dairy farms inside the 3 km infected zone to submit weekly bulk tank or the in-line samples for testing until the control area is closed. While this strain is not the same one found in dairy cattle, these precautions were implemented to protect PA's dairies and poultry flocks. For more information on surveillance efforts, contact the PDA at RA-ahds@pa.gov.
- The 2025 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) enrollment period will run from Jan. 29 to Mar. 31, 2025. Dairy farmers can visit their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office or go online to check out the DMC Decision Tool to see 2025 margin and price forecasts. This will include catastrophic coverage, as well as higher coverage levels, for a yearly premium. Utilizing DMC can help farmers protect themselves from milk market and feed cost volatility and can be an important tool in their risk management strategy. To sign up or learn more about DMC, contact your local FSA Office.
- Jointly hosted by the Center and the Professional Dairy Managers of PA (PDMP), the 2025 PA Dairy Summit will be held next week in State College, PA from Feb. 5-6. This year's theme is "Designing Your Tomorrow Today," where engaging and informative keynote and breakout sessions will encourage attendees to start making decisions today with their career's or farm's future in mind. Dairy farmers and industry professionals will have the opportunity to strengthen their skills, as well as network with one another. To learn more and register, visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/events](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/events).
- The Center, PDMP, Penn State Extension, and PA Beef Council are working together to host a series of free Animal Care Workshops for dairy farmers and employees throughout March and April. Each workshop will run from 9am to 3pm and will offer antibiotic stewardship and pain management, calf care and nutrition, fitness to transport, and biosecurity sessions with an optional farm tour afterwards. Every participant will receive a certificate to show commitment to animal care and the National FARM program. To register for one of the five locations in Cumberland, Lancaster, Crawford, Mifflin, and Bradford counties, please use the QR code.

