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Dairy EXCELLENCE
 Dairy Week In Review



Dated July 19, 2024

Markets:

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (July)	\$19.76/cwt.	—	▲ 0.5 %	▲ 42.5 %
Class IV Milk Price (July)	\$21.41/cwt.	—	▲ 1.2 %	▲ 18.6 %
Corn (July)	\$ 3.95/bushel	▼ 1.3 %	▼ 11.0 %	▼ 28.1 %
SBean Meal (July)	\$ 335.3/ton	▼ 11.0 %	▼ 8.0 %	▼ 21.5 %
DMC Margin (May)*	\$ 10.52/cwt.	—	▲ 9.6 %	▲ 117.7 %

**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.*

- The latest USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates report is projecting slower growth in US milk production for both 2024 and 2025, with slower growth in per-cow production countering increasing cow numbers. The report also expects export sales to increase, with stronger overall demand driving up commodity prices. The all-milk price was increased to \$22.25 for 2024 and to \$22.260 for 2025.
- Conversely, grain prices were lowered in the latest report. The WASDE July report increased the estimated 2024-25 corn production by 1.6 percent to 15.1 billion bushels. The soybean production estimate decreased slightly from the previous month but still represents a 6.5 percent increase over the previous year. The corn price is projected at \$4.30 per bushel, down 10 cents from last month, while soybean prices fell 10 cents to \$11.10 per bushel. The average soybean meal price was left unchanged at \$330 per ton.
- A recent report from the USDA Economic Research Services shows both total farm sector asset values and debt is increasing. Total farm debt is expected to reach \$547.6 billion this year, a 40% increase since 2017 and a 5.2% increase from last year. But the value of assets — real estate and machinery, for instance — is predicted to be \$4.283 trillion in 2024, a 42% jump from 2017.

Government/Industry:

- A law in Denmark could allow the country to begin taxing farmers for greenhouse gas emissions from livestock in 2030, if it is approved by parliament. The United Nations estimates that livestock contribute 32 percent of human-caused methane emissions. Denmark is the first country to make a policy requiring a farmer tax on methane emissions.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is encouraging all Pennsylvania dairy farms to enroll in the voluntary Lactating Dairy Cow Health Monitoring Program. Enrolled farms will benefit by no longer being required to individually test cattle prior to interstate movement. Testing will be performed at no cost to producers, and the Department or USDA will provide necessary sampling supplies after enrollment. To ask questions or request an enrollment form, please contact the Department at 717-307-3259 or RA-ahds@pa.gov.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Ag is also encouraging dairies to submit biosecurity plans for evaluation. Approved plans will be necessary for obtaining permits to move milk and dairy animals off a farm in the event that avian influenza has been detected on that farm. An approved plan is also required for enrollment in the PA Lactating Dairy Cow Health Monitoring Program. Biosecurity plans and questions about the plans can be submitted by email to: RA-AGBioplans@pa.gov.