





Center for Dairy EXCELLENCE

Dairy Week In Review



Dated December 11, 2024

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (Dec)	\$18.83/cwt.	▲ 0.3 %	▼ 5.9 %	▲ 16.2 %
Class IV Milk Price (Dec)	\$20.75/cwt.	▲ 1.0 %	▼ 1.5 %	▲ 8.0 %
Corn (Dec)	\$ 4.40/bushel	▲ 3.9 %	▲ 5.0 %	▼ 3.5 %
SBean Meal (Dec)	\$ 288.8/ton	▲ 9.7 %	▼ 3.7 %	▼ 45.8 %
DMC Margin (Oct)*	\$ 15.17/cwt.	—	▼ 2.6 %	▲ 60.7 %

**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.*

Markets:

- Based on the USDA Dairy Product report, PA butter production increased 66% from September 2024 at 4.05 million pounds to October 2024 at 6.73 million pounds. U.S. butter production totaled 167 million pounds, up 3.1% from October 2023 at 162 million pounds and 4.4% from September 2024 at 160 million. The butter production growth could be primarily driven by increased holiday demand and increased cream supplies.
- Total cheese production equaled 1.23 billion pounds for October 2024, up 1% year over year and 5.6% month over month. Italian type cheese production increased 4.9% from September's 487 million pounds to 512 million pounds in October. Mozzarella, parmesan, provolone, ricotta, and other Italian type cheese all experienced production growth from September to October. American type cheese reached 486 million pounds in October, a 6.6% jump from September's production levels. Cheddar production increased 6.2% from September's 312 million pounds to October's 332 million pounds.
- Non-fat dry milk production dipped 2.7% from October 2023 to 125 million pounds. This could be influenced by domestic and international demand. It could also be a result of fat and protein being redirected into other dairy products, such as ice cream, yogurt, and sour cream that experienced 11.8%, 11.9% and 0.3% growth in production year over year, respectively. Month over month, sour cream and ice cream also saw production increases of 16.0% and 5.9%.
- In October 2024, U.S. cheese exports were up over 12% from October 2023. Over the last year, cream cheese and mozzarella exports experienced a 22% increase, while gouda and cheddar exports followed suit and climbed 21%. Shredded cheese exports jumped 5% year over year.
- From October 2023 to 2024, U.S. low-protein whey protein concentrate exports dropped 14%. Year over year, dry whey exports fell 2%, while permeate felt a 20% decline in exports. Decreased demand in Southeast Asia, Mexico, and Japan in October contributed to the fall of the low-protein whey product exports.

Government/Industry:

- On Dec. 6, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced a new Federal Order, requiring raw milk samples nationwide to be collected and tested for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) as a part of their National Milk Testing Strategy (NMTS). The three requirements outlined are sharing raw milk samples (upon request), any laboratory that detects a positive must report it to the USDA, and dairy farmers with positive cattle to provide information to conduct contact tracing. The first round of silo testing under the Federal Order is scheduled to start the week of Dec. 16, however, Pennsylvania's mandatory milk tanker truck testing already is compatible with the NMTS.
- In addition to the mandatory testing order on all tanker loads originating from PA dairy farms, the Pennsylvania Dept. of Ag is encouraging all dairy farms to enroll in voluntary testing at the bulk tank level. 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 PDA or USDA will provide necessary sampling supplies after enrollment. Contact the Department at (717) 307-3259 or RA-ahds@pa.gov to enroll.
- The Center offers biosecurity kits and "No Trespassing" signs at no cost to Pennsylvania dairy farmers. The biosecurity kits contain resources, tools, and signage from Secure Milk Supply and the National Dairy FARM Program to help dairies improve biosecurity on their operations. The "No Trespassing" signs encourage visitors to stop and call before entering the farm. To order either of these or additional free materials, visit the Center's website.