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**Dairy**EXCELLENCE  
 Dairy Week In Review



Dated March 25, 2026

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (Mar.)	\$ 16.12/cwt.	▼ 0.3 %	▲ 7.4 %	▼ 13.0 %
Class IV Milk Price (Mar.)	\$ 19.14/cwt.	▼ 1.2 %	▲ 19.4 %	▲ 4.2 %
Corn (May)	\$ 4.62/bushel	▲ 1.8 %	▲ 7.9 %	▲ 0.9 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$ 322.4/ton	▲ 3.4 %	▲ 3.8 %	▲ 9.3 %
DMC Margin (Jan.)*	\$ 7.81/cwt.	—	▼ 17.1 %	▼ 43.6 %

*\*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 Milk Production report, U.S. milk output totaled 18.3 billion pounds in February 2026, a 2.9 percent increase from February 2025. The nation's average monthly production per cow rose 12 pounds from February 2025 to 1,899 pounds the same month the prior year. The U.S. milking herd was 9.62 million head, up 211,000 head year over year.
- For February 2026, of the selected states, twenty marked year over year growth in milk production. Kansas' dairy industry experienced a whopping 28.7 percent growth in milk output year over year, reaching 435 million pounds. The Sunflower State's milk production growth was spurred on by a notable 51,000 head increase to their milk cow numbers from February 2025 to 2026, as well as additional large-scale processing capacity that continues to come online.
- South Dakota and Texas also experienced sizeable increases in their milk production. South Dakota' dairy landscape continues to broaden, as the milk output climbed 10.6 percent and the state's milking herd added 23,000 head year over year. From February 2025 to 2026, Texas' milk cow numbers grew by 34,000 head, contributing to the 5.2 percent rise in milk production.
- Only four states reported decreases in milk output from February 2025 to 2026. For February 2026, New Mexico and Washington saw the largest drops in milk production, down 5.7 and 4.5 percent, respectively, from the same month the prior year. This was due to a combination of weather-related challenges, environmental regulatory hurdles, and milk cow inventories shifting to states with dairy expansion.
- Pennsylvania was one of the four states that reported a loss in milk production, falling 1.9 percent year over year. The Keystone State's herd also experienced a decrease in their milk herd numbers, down 9,000 head from February 2025 to 455,000 head in February 2026. Average monthly production per cow held steady at 1,670 pounds over the same timeframe.

**Government/Industry:**

- Coming up, the Center for Dairy Excellence, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania, PA Beef Council, and Penn State Extension are collaborating to host five Animal Care Workshops in Lancaster, Berks, Centre, Franklin, and Somerset counties in late March and April. Each on-farm workshop will feature four sessions led by industry experts and educators covering animal handling and meat quality issues, calving issues/dystocia, down cows/transition cows, and farm safety. The workshops are free and count towards FARM program continuing education credits. There will also be Spanish translation services available. Lunch will be provided. To read more about the workshops or to register, visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/events](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/events).
- On June 11, the Dairy Excellence Foundation will host their annual "A Toast to Dairy" event at Melhorn Manor in Mount Joy, PA, from 6 to 9 p.m. All proceeds from the event directly support the Foundation's dairy education programs, scholarships, internships, and more. This farm-to-fork event features food stations, tasting passports with samples from local wineries and breweries, guided cheese tasting experiences, a photo booth, caricature artists, and other fun surprises. Tickets are \$85 per person with group discounts available, but if you purchase your tickets by May 1, you will get \$10 off each ticket. With 400 people attending last year, buy your tickets now before they sell out. Visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/toasttodairy](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/toasttodairy) to purchase your tickets today.