

CENTER FOR
Dairy EXCELLENCE
 Dairy Week In Review

Dated April 19, 2023



Markets:

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (April)	\$18.64/cwt.	▼ 0.2 %	▲ 3.3 %	▼ 23.2 %
Class IV Milk Price (April)	\$17.98/cwt.	▲ 0.5 %	▼ 2.4 %	▼ 28.1 %
Com (May)	\$ 6.72/bushel	▲ 2.4 %	▲ 6.1 %	▼ 17.6 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$454.4/ton	▼ 1.3 %	▲ 0.6 %	▼ 3.6 %
DMC Margin (February)*	\$ 6.19/cwt.	—	▼ 22.1 %	▼ 43.7 %

*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.

- US total milk production was up 0.5 percent year over year in March to 19.805 billion pounds. Milk production per cow was up 4 pounds, while total cow numbers were up 31,000 head from a year ago, up 6,000 head from last month. The nation's top milk producer, California, was actually down 2.0 percent in total milk production, with 3.642 million pounds. Milk production per cow in California was down 45 pounds for the month, while cow numbers were up 1,000 head. Wisconsin, Idaho, and New York were all up modestly in total milk production, growing by 0.4, 2.7 and 2.1 percent, respectively. Texas was up by 4.7 percent, while Michigan and Minnesota had modest growth, at 2.9 and 1.2 percent, respectively. Pennsylvania's total milk production was down just 0.2 percent, with 1,000 fewer cows from a year ago and milk production per cow that was flat from a year ago. Cow numbers in the Keystone State have remained flat since January, when the herd grew by 1,000 head from a December low of 465,000 head.
- The dairy price index on the latest Global Dairy Trade auction was up 3.2 percent from the last session to \$3,362 per metric ton. The skim milk powder price was up 7 percent, while the Cheddar cheese price was up 5.7 percent and the butter price was up 4.9 percent. Whole milk powder prices were up 1 percent from the previous session.
- Global food prices are still on the decline. The Food Index Price, published by the Food and Agriculture Organization, peaked in March 2022 at 159.7 points and has declined every month since. In March, it fell to 126.9 points, its lowest since 2021. The Dairy Price Index fell in eight of the last nine months, now at 19.9 points, or 13.3 percent lower than its peak in June 2022. According to the FAO, the Dairy Price Index remains elevated, with it never exceeding 130 points from August 2014 to December 2022.
- Beef prices remain at all-time high levels, with drought in key beef regions causing a shortage in beef supplies. Cattle futures prices reached an all-time high this week, with USDA predicting a 5 percent decline in beef production in 2023 compared to 2022.

Government and Industry:

- The last of five Animal Care Workshops will be held on Tuesday, April 25, at Hoffman Family Farm LLC in Shinglehouse, Potter County. The Center, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Beef Council hosted a series of five animal care workshops across the state in March and April. Registration is still open, and walk-ins are welcome. The workshop will focus on hands-on skill-building to help farmers and their employees meet National FARM compliance. Stations will include calf care, dry cow management, biosecurity, and animal handling. A certificate of completion will be provided at the end of each workshop. For more information or to register, visit centerfordairyexcellence.org/animal-care or call 717-346-0849.