



CENTER FOR
Dairy EXCELLENCE
Dairy Week In Review



Dated April 22, 2026

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Class III Milk Price (Apr.)	\$ 16.85/cwt.	▼ 0.7 %	▲ 4.5 %	▼ 3.0 %
Class IV Milk Price (Apr.)	\$ 20.20/cwt.	—	▲ 5.5 %	▲ 12.6 %
Corn (May)	\$ 4.54/bushel	▲ 2.5 %	▼ 1.7 %	▼ 4.6 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$325.3/ton	▼ 1.3 %	▲ 0.9 %	▲ 11.4 %
DMC Margin (Feb.)*	\$ 8.46/cwt.	—	▲ 8.3 %	▼ 35.5 %

*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:

- In the latest USDA Crop Progress Report, only about 1 percent of the estimated corn planting in Pennsylvania has been completed as of the week ending April 19. Across the 18 top corn producing states, 11 percent of the corn crop is in the ground, which is slightly above the five-year average for this week of 9 percent. Cooler temperatures early this week slowed the planting progress, as a cold front brought below average temperatures to the Mid-Atlantic region.
- The latest USDA Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report is projecting that US corn production will average about 447.8 million metric tons, up about 14 percent from last year's estimated production. Soybean production is expected to be about 126.24 million metric tons, down about 1.9 percent from a year ago. Soybean meal production is expected to be about 58.39 million metric tons, up about 6 percent from a year ago.
- Corn and soybean futures prices for new crop production in 2026 on the CME hover around \$4.65 and \$11.50 per bushel, respectively. That's above last year's season-average prices of \$4.15 and \$10.30 per bushel, respectively. Corn and soybean prices remain below the five-year average prices of \$6.03 and \$12.65 per bushel, respectively.
- After going through a short-term downturn earlier this year, dairy prices are now increasing, with Class IV milk futures now above \$21 per hundredweight in May and June before dipping down to \$20 in July and averaging \$19.75 for the remainder of the year. Class III milk prices are also stronger than they were at the beginning of the year, averaging at around \$18 to \$18.50 for the remainder of the year.

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 the last Animal Care Workshop in Somerset County on April 28. The 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.
- 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 to purchase your tickets today.