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**Dairy** EXCELLENCE  
**Dairy Week In Review**

Dated November 27, 2019



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

## Markets:

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. from Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. from Year Ago
Milk Price (Nov) **	\$21.37/cwt.	▲ 0.1 %	▲ 8.7 %	▲ 38.0 %
Corn (Dec)	\$3.67/bushel	▲ 0.2 %	▼ 5.5 %	▲ 1.9 %
SBean Meal (Dec)	\$294.7/ton	▼ 1.4 %	▼ 4.6 %	▼ 4.3 %
<b>Milk Margin (October)*</b>	<b>\$13.99/cwt.</b>	—	▲ 5.3 %	▲ 19.8 %

*\*Each issue of "Dairy Week in Review" will report on current "Milk Margin," or the dollars remaining per one hundred lbs. of milk after feed is paid for, based on data for a 65-pound herd in the latest "PA Dairy Industry Performance Scorecard." Milk margin is affected by both milk & feed prices. \*\* The milk price reported is the Class III futures price for the next month plus a basis of \$1.00, an estimate of what could be on your milk check next month.*

- Total cheese stocks in October were down 2.4 percent year over year and 2.3 percent under September levels, falling to 1.342 billion pounds on Oct. 31. American cheese inventories were down 8 percent from a year ago, while other type cheeses were up 8 percent. Butter inventories were up 3 percent from a year ago to 237.7 million pounds, falling 18 percent from September's levels. The 52.9 million pound drawdown from September was comparable to last year but more than double the five-year average of 23 million pounds from September to October.
- The dairy price index on the latest Global Dairy Trade auction was up 1.7 percent to \$3,481 per metric ton, marking the seventh consecutive increase between auctions. Cheddar cheese, whole milk powder and skim milk powder were all up, increasing 2.5, 2.2 and 3.3 percent, respectively. Butter prices fell 1.3 percent from the previous auction.

## Government and Industry:

- The House Judiciary Committee approved the agriculture labor bill, the "Farm Workforce Modernization Act," last week, which achieves dairy-friendly objectives in reforming the nation's immigration policy. The bill will now have to go before the full US House of Representatives.
- The deadline to sign up for the USDA Market Facilitation Program is approaching. Farmers have until December 6 to enroll in the program. The first payment for dairy producers of \$0.20/cwt on 50 percent of their production history was made available in August. A second payment on an additional 25 percent of their production history is being distributed this month, with a third payment possible in January. To enroll, farms should visit their local FSA office.
- Sign-up for the 2020 Dairy Margin Coverage Program began October 7, 2019. All dairy farmers who want 2020 coverage must visit their local USDA Service Center office to pay the annual administrative fee, which is \$100. Producers must visit their local office before December 13, 2019, to enroll in 2020.
- The Penn State Extension Dairy Team will host the Women in Dairy Conference on Tuesday, December 3, from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. at the Best Western Premier Hotel in Harrisburg. The keynote speaker will be Sadie Frericks from Blue Diamond Dairy, who will share practical tips on managing our mental, physical and spiritual well being. Learn more at [extension.psu.edu/women-in-dairy-conference](http://extension.psu.edu/women-in-dairy-conference).
- The Center is now accepting applications for its On-Farm Program. Grants are available for Transformation, Transition and Profit Teams, with funds covering paid team members and discovery-related costs. Farms can also apply for a Dairy Decisions Consultant Grant. Contact Melissa Anderson at 717-346-0849 for more information.