CDE DAIRY MARKETS & MARKET **JANAGEMENT UPDATE** 

except where noted

Milk prices continue to improve: After several years of low to borderline milk prices, current market conditions show significant improvement to milk prices as we begin 2022. Milk futures on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) are showing the highest Class III and IV prices since 2014. The Class III price in 2014 averaged \$22.34 per cwt and Class IV averaged \$22,09. Class IV and III milk prices inversed in November 2021 with Class III settling at \$18.03 per cwt, and Class IV settling 76 cents per cwt higher at \$18.79. The gap widened in December with Class IV settling at \$19.88 per cwt, \$1.52 higher than the \$18.36 per cwt Class III settled price. According to the futures market at the end of business on January 18, Class IV is expected to remain higher than Class III all next year. The current Class III milk futures market averages \$21.30 per cwt, \$1.04 per cwt less than 2014, and Class IV averages \$22.42, 33 cents per cwt higher than

2014

Each month the USDA releases a World Agricultural Supply and Demands Estimate (WASDE) report. The most recent WASDE report, dated January 12, 2022, shows improved milk price projections in 2022. It reported an increase over the December 2021 WASDE projections that result from the recent increase in dairy product prices and milk prices through the end of December into the first part of January prior to publishing of the January WASDE report. Class III is projected to average 19.65 per cwt in 2022. This is \$1.50 more than the projected average reported last month and \$2.57 higher than the projected final 2021 average. The Class IV milk price estimate for 2022 is \$20.90 per cwt. This is an increase of \$1.90 over last month's projection for Class IV during 2022 and an impressive \$4.81 higher than the projected 2021 Class IV final price of \$16.09 per cwt. The projected U.S. all-milk price follows the same trend. The January WASDE report projects the all-milk price to equal \$22.60 per cwt. This is a \$1.85 increase over the December 2021 projection for 2022 and \$3.95 higher than

signing up for Dairy Margin (DMC) now Coverage that 2022 is looking to be perhaps the best milk prices since 2014 when the U.S. all-milk price averaged \$23.98 per cwt. I understand the hesitation.

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However, DMC should be looked at as an insurance policy that sets a milk price floor, not whether it is projected to provide a benefit. Based on the USDA's online DMC Decision Tool, the DMC feed cost is expected to average \$11.74 per cwt in 2022. If a dairy farmer elects the maximum \$9.50 per cwt margin coverage for 15 cents per cwt., that sets a U.S. allmilk price floor of \$21,24 for up to 5 million pounds of production history.

The DMC Decision Tool still reports a blended alfalfa hay price and has not been updated to include the change to 100% of the high-quality alfalfa hay price. So, the projected price floor will increase once the tool is updated to include the correct hay price. The \$9.50 margin coverage premium per 1 million pounds is \$1,500, relatively inexpensive considering the high milk price floor it sets. DMC enrollment is open now at your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office until February 18, 2022. During enrollment for 2020, the DMC Decision Tool was not projecting a payment. A lot of the nation's dairy farmers used those projections as a basis to not enroll. However, within three month of the 2020 enrollment deadline, Class III and IV milk prices dropped to their lowest since the 2009 market crash and DMC ended up providing a net benefit of 72 cents per cwt after the retroactive hay price change became official last year. There is still ample concern that the pandemic will spike again this winter and put downward pressure on an already volatile market.

Don't forget the PA Dairy Summit Feb. 2-3 in Lancaster. It is hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and the Center for Dairy Excellence and sponsored by numerous businesses from across the state and region. Please thank our 2022 sponsors by visiting them at the trade



YR AGO **CME SPOT CHEESE: BARRELS** 1.9050 / 40 LB BLOCKS 1.8450 NC \* = \* NEW **CURRENT FEDERAL ORDER VALUES (\$/LB)** WEIGHTED AVG. 4-WK DEC. 1-31, 2021 \* DEC. 2021 LK-PA **PRODUCT** VALUE MAKE ALLOW **COMPONENTS** 0(NOV) 11

ALL-MILK BF *MAILBOX	" = NEW P	ANNOUNC	ED FEDER	KAL UKDE	R PRICES (\$	/CWT)
FL \$21.70 3.69 <b>\$20.05</b> SE <b>\$20.60</b> 3.66 <b>\$18.96</b>	CL I ADV11	CL IITT	CL III11	CL IV11	ALL-MILK-U.S	ALL-MIL
APP \$20.20 3.76 \$18.63 LENG \$19.40 3.97 \$18.66	19.71(JAN)	19.84(DEC)	18.36(DEC)	19.88(DEC)	20.80(NOV) 11	21.50

78.6011

YEAR AGO 56.75

68 50

Price

averages do not include lower-end 'common'

Average to high dressing

4.15F 4.11F MONTH AGO 19.17 18.40 18.03 18.79 19.70 19.90 YEAR AGO 14.01 15.72 20.20

71.7511 64.6011

50.50

48.50

60 25

52.50

CATTLE - DAIRY PURPOSES(\$/HD) NORTHEAST (Avg. Jan. 19, 2022 sale New Holland, PA) Open: 300-600 lbs Beef X 600-900 lbs 900-1000 lbs COWS: Fresh Bred Springing HEIFERS: Bred Springing Beef x

1135 1175 N/A 1150 1300 1175 N/A 2 WEEKS AGO COMPARISON 1200 1150 1200 900 1150 N/A 375

N/A 625 750 Avg. of prices reported by USDA Market News for PA Auction Markets Jan. 13-18, 2022 FED HOLSTEIN STEERS (\$/CWT LIVEWEIGHT) CURRENT Beef X WEEK AGO PA Auction Markets Jan. 13-18, 2022

CULL MARKET COWS (\$/CWT LIVEWEIGHT Choice & Prime 1250-1550 lbs light test 107.00 110.00 **BULL CALVES:** No. 1 & 2, 90-130 lbs 125.00 **Premium White Breakers Boners** Lean 60.00

70-85 lbs N/A brought to you by: **Dairy** EXCELLENCE

CHEESE

BUTTER

DRYWHEY

NFDM

1.7542

2.0641

1.5471

0.6391

N/A

0.2003

0.1715

0.1678

0.1991

pennsylvania

1.5539

1.8926 11

1.3793

0.4400 11

1050 LTD 1200 LTD

**PROT** 

B.FAT

N.FAT

OTHER

2.5937

2.2919

0.4532

BULLS(1000 lb)

1075 LTD

N/A

YR AGO

75.00

72.00

75.00

11