## CDE DAIRY MARKETS & MANAGEMENT UPDATE

All prices — TUESDAY, AUG. 20, 2019 -Crop Progress and corn silage harvest: Although I was not in Pennsylvania until December of 2018, I know that the crop season last year was extremely challenging. My home state, North Carolina, faced the same challenges with wet weather last year. Pennsylvania had over 28 inches more rainfall last year than average. The wet fall of 2018 contributed to poor corn silage quality across the Commonwealth due to not being able to chop corn when it was ready. This spring seemed to be a repeat of last year. Wet weather delayed corn planting, and some farmers were not able to get all their corn planted on time. The top 18 corn states only planted 92% of 2018 acreage this year.

The latest USDA Crop Progress Report shows that corn silking, dough stage and dented percentages in the top 18 corn states are running behind the 5-year average. Corn silking is at 95% versus the 5-year average of 99%. Only 55% of the corn is in the dough stage compared to a 76% 5-year average, and only 15% of the corn is dented compared to a 30% 5-year average.

One encouraging statistic reported in the Crop Progress Report for Pennsylvania is corn condition. The condition of the corn in Pennsylvania exceeds the top 18 state average for "Good" and "Excellent" condition: 75% of the corn in Pennsylvania is either "Good" or "Excellent" condition compared to 56% for the top 18 corn states. Corn condition in the field does not necessarily translate to high quality corn silage.

Several factors go into making quality corn silage. The top three, in my opinion, are the hybrid planted, chopping at the correct whole plant dry matter and getting the silo packed

Prices change daily. This market information is an example for educational purpos es. The market data below are compiled weekly by Farmshine, via CME & USDA reports

properly. Different hybrids have different nutritional characteristics and any good seed company should be able to help meet your

except where noted





needs. It does not matter how the data looks in the seed catalog for a hybrid's corn silage quality if it is not harvested at the right time and properly stored.

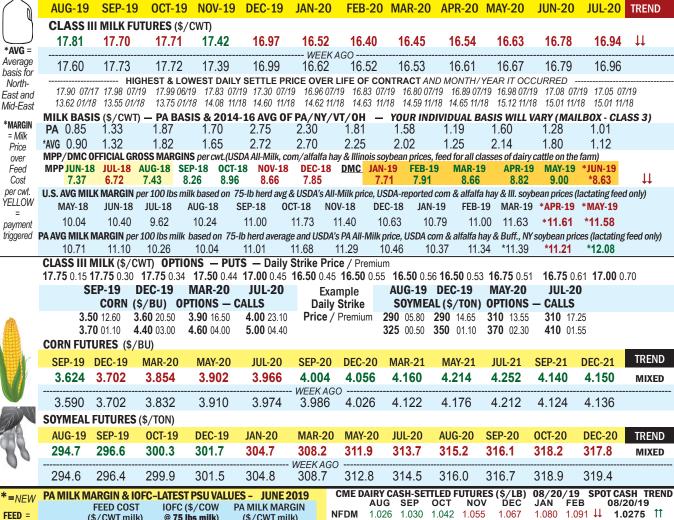
Most nutritionists I have talked to over the years like to see the finished corn silage to be a minimum of 30% dry matter (DM), but ideally 32 to 36% DM. Any wetter than 30% brings a risk for an undesirable fermentation process and loss of nutrients throughout the year due to leachate. Silage dryer than 36% DM results in less digestible fiber in the corn plant and lower quality feed once it is ensiled.

Chopping silage at the right DM is not only important from a plant nutrition perspective, but also in getting the silage packed correctly. The key to a good fermentation process is to exclude as much oxygen as possible prior to covering the silo. Dry silage does not pack well resulting in excess oxygen.

Covering the silo is important as well. Regular silo covers al-

low some oxygen to pass through. It is widely recommended to cover a bunker silo with an oxygen barrier plastic prior to the typical black and white silo cover or use a double layer of black and white silo covers. Please contact me, your local Penn State Dairy Extension

agent or your nutritionist for more details on maximizing corn silage quality. Be safe this harvest season!



CME DAILY FUTURES & OPTIONS TRADING  $-\,$  AUG. 20, 2019 AT THE CLOSE

FEED (\$/CWT milk) @ 75 lbs milk) (\$/CWT milk) \$/CWT 7.02 9.13 11 JUNE 12.18 IOFC PREV MO 7.02 9.06 YR AGO

\*CL I ADV↓ CL II↑↑

1.830 CHEESE CME SPOT CHEESE: ANNOUNCED FEDERAL ORDER PRICES (\$/CWT) CL IV11 ALL-MILK-U.S ALL-MILK-PA 16.90(JUL) 18.10(JUN) 1 18.80(JUN) 11

WHEY

BUTTER

0.369

2.358

0.360

NFDM

400

0.365

0.360

2 355 2 365 2.345 2.320 2 278 2.275 1 2.3100 1.842 1.847 1.815 BARRELS 1.7100 / 40 LB BLOCKS 1.9100 **CURRENT FEDERAL ORDER VALUES (\$/LB)** \*WEIGHTED AVG. 4-WK JULY 1-30, 2019 \*JULY 2019 **PRODUCT** VALUE MAKE ALLOW NET **COMPONENTS** CHEESE 1.8238 0.2003 1.6235 PROT 2.4032 BUTTER 2.3893 0.1715 2.2178 B.FAT 2.6858

0.361

0.362

0.360 11

0.3875

0.1689

OTHER

\*\*USDA APR. 2019\*\*
ALL-MILK MAILBO \$18.67 \$18.34 \$17.65

averages

do not

include

lower-end 'common'

cows and

heifers.

**COWS Fresh** 

1035

1050

**Premium White** 

\*17.85(SEPT) 17.61(JUL) 17.55(JUL) **MONTH AGO** 17.89 17.30 16.27 16.83 18.00 YEAR AGO 15.20 14.14 14.10

**HEIFERS:** 

CL III11

18.60 17.00 16..30 Bred Springing Open:

DRYWHEY 0.3631 0.1991 0.1640 CATTLE - DAIRY PURPOSES(\$/HD) NORTHEAST (Avg. AUG. 21, 2019 sale New Holland, PA) \*MOST RECENT REPORT 600-900 lbs 300-600 lbs 900-1200 lbs 450

0.1678

1.0393

BULLS (600-1800 lb) 450 600 N/A 600 700 FED HOLSTEIN STEERS (\$/CWT LIVEWEIGHT) CURRENT WFFK AGO YR AGO light test 86.50 86 00 83 00

65 00

0.8715

47.50

600

700

965

975

FOUR WEEK RUNNING AVG

Choice & Prime 1250-1550 lbs

**BULL CALVES:** No. 1 & 2. 90-130 lbs

**BEEF CROSS** 

**Dairy** EXCELLENCE

brought to you by: FARMSHINE

95.00

220.00



89 00

NO COMPARISON

53.00

**Springing** 

1065

1050

Bred

885

900

Avg. of prices reported by USDA Market News for

& NY Auction Markets Aug. 15-20, 2019

**CULL MARKET COWS** (\$/CWT LIVEWEIGHT)

58.35