Fluid Milk and Cream - Central U.S.

Report 20 - Released on May 18, 2023

Bottling orders continue to ebb ahead of school districts' summer breaks. Milk handlers have growing concerns about school downtime coinciding with the current amount of spring flush milk moving into all Class uses. Upper Midwestern weather, despite being somewhat pluvial, is not yet warm enough to suppress milk output. In fact, contacts in the region say weather has been somewhat optimal for cow comfort, with warmer days and cooler nights/mornings. Cheesemakers continue to report sub-Class prices across the board. Most reported spot milk prices are falling between \$10 and \$7 under Class III. Soft serve ice cream manufacturing has begun to edge seasonally higher, although not enough to keep extra cream loads out of the butter churn at multiples in the low 1.20s in the upper Midwest, while cream multiples in the southern portion of the region were reported below 1.20 this week. Retail packaged ice cream is considered slower than typical for mid-May, as inventories are noted as plentiful. Generally, though, overall cream availability for all uses is steady week to week. Corn planting has begun in the upper Midwest. Some contacts say their respective areas are at roughly halfway planted, while others say wet weather is keeping farmers from putting equipment in their fields. Winter wheat outlooks remain very mixed. Some contacts in areas in the southern portion of the region have bullish expectations, while others are not expecting strong yields. Contacts in areas of Kansas and Oklahoma say rainy weather in recent weeks was too late for their winter wheat harvest, or at least a majority of their harvest.

Price Range - Class III Milk; \$/CWT; Spot Basis: -11.00 - -4.00 Trade Activity: Active

Midwestern U.S., F.O.B. Cream

Price Range - All Classes; \$/LB Butterfat: 2.8144 - 3.1031

Multiples Range - All Classes: 1.1700 - 1.2900

Price Range - Class II; \$/LB Butterfat: 3.0069 - 3.1031

Multiples Range - Class II: 1.2500 - 1.2900

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