

Fluid Milk and Cream - Central U.S.

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Market News Report 46

Report Correction on 11/16/2023

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Component levels continue to increase seasonally in the region. Upper Midwestern producers and processors say cooler weather, and a growth in feed availability have improved milk-per-cow numbers. That said, component numbers, specifically milkfat, have markedly improved since September. Class I milk use has remained somewhat steady, despite upcoming school downtime. Holiday-related retail ordering has likely balanced out some of the losses from school holidays. Spot milk prices into the cheese vats, though, remain exclusively above Class III. Cheesemakers say offers have yet to really pick up. Spot milk prices were reported from \$25- to \$1-over Class III. Last year, prices were \$50-under to \$1-over Class. Contacts have already suggested milk availability is not where it was expected for the week ahead of Thanksgiving. They say next week will likely give a better indication of milk availability, as a majority of plants will see lighter activity during the week and over the weekend. Cream is clearly not in the same steadily moving boat as fluid milk. Cream multiples continue to mirror decreasing butter market prices. Butter makers are trying to limit end-of-year inventories, as are other cream end users, namely cream cheese and ice cream manufacturers. Despite some situational cream trading taking place below reportable prices, multiples continue to generally fall in the 1.15 to low 1.20s for regional Class IV processing.

Price Range - Class III Milk; \$/CWT; Spot Basis: 25 -1.00

Trade Activity: Slow

UPDATED: All-Class Cream Multiple Range

Midwestern U.S. F.O.B. Cream				
Commodity			Low Price	High Price
Cream	All Classes	\$/LB Butterfat	3.1931	3.5853
Cream	All Classes	Multiples Range	1.1400	1.2800
Cream	Class II	\$/LB Butterfat	3.5013	3.5853
Cream	Class II	Multiples Range	1.2500	1.2800

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