



Fluid Milk and Cream - Central U.S.

Agricultural Marketing Service
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Fluid milk and cream handlers are under strong pressure to find destinations for their trucks. Holiday production schedules throughout the Classes have been light, and in some cases lighter than expected. Some manufacturing plant managers are allotting four-day weekends. Bottling orders shifted lower earlier than some expected last week, and spot milk prices and cream multiples this week are evidence of an abundance of milk and plant schedule downtime. Cheesemakers are taking on spot milk loads as low as \$8-under Class III and the highest reported price was \$2-under Class. Last year's prices during week 52 ranged from \$10- to \$3-under Class. Condensed skim availability is noted as ample. Contacts say a portion of skim solids is also moving into Class III plants for fortification. Cream is readily available for all uses. Class II and III manufacturers are quiet for the season. Butter makers in the Midwest reportedly have cream trucks lined up at the plants, as spot cream multiples ranged as low as .5, pushing prices lower. Early-week spot cream multiples were at and around 1.00.

Price Range - Class III Milk; \$/CWT; Spot Basis: - 8.00 - - 2.00

Trade Activity: Moderate

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

Commodity			Low Price	High Price
Cream	All Classes	\$/LB Butterfat	1.2898	2.7343
Cream	All Classes	Multiples Range	0.5000	1.0600
Cream	Class II	\$/LB Butterfat	2.5795	2.7343
Cream	Class II	Multiples Range	1.0000	1.0600

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