



Lactose - Central and West U.S.

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Lactose prices are unchanged at the bottom of the range and mostly price series this week, but prices increased at the top of both. Spot inventories are tight and several manufacturers say they have limited or no spot availability during Q3. Some market participants are actively looking to secure loads for Q4, but most manufacturers say they are not yet pricing out loads for next quarter. Domestic demand is steady, and export interest is mixed. Some contacts say high prices are discouraging some international purchasers, who are looking to alternatives to reduce costs. Other stakeholders report strong demand, as European lactose is priced at a premium to loads produced in the U.S. Declining milk output is having a negative impact on lactose production.

Prices for: Central and Western U.S., Spot Sales And Up to 3 Month Contracts, F.O.B., Conventional, and Edible Lactose

Price Range - Non Pharmaceutical; \$/LB:	.5000 - .7500
Mostly Range - Non Pharmaceutical; \$/LB:	.5900 - .7100

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