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Cheese - Northeastern U.S.

Report 35 - Released on August 30, 2023

Bottling orders have drawn upon milk volumes previously available for cheese production. Some cheese plant managers say that labor issues persist, and that there is some scheduled downtime for Labor Day weekend. Outside of holiday weekend plant downtime, contacts share that production of cheddar, Colby Jack, and mozzarella is strong. Additionally, contacts say that demand for process American and mozzarella is strong while cheddar demand is steady. Demand for cheese is strong on both retail and foodservice fronts. Last week's National Retail Report lists that sliced cheese in 6-8-ounce packages was the most advertised conventional cheese item this week, with a weighted average advertised price of \$2.19, down from \$2.45 last week. Market prices for cheese blocks on industry cash exchanges closed at \$1.8900 last Wednesday but slid to \$1.8600 as of report publishing time. In the Northeast, wholesale prices for cheddar and muenster are down \$0.0675 and process cheese prices are down \$0.0100. Grade A Swiss prices are unchanged.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES: DELIVERED
DOLLARS PER POUND(MIXED LOTS (1000-5000 POUNDS))

Cheddar 40 pound Block	2.4125-2.7000
Muenster	2.4000-2.7500
Process American 5 pound Sliced	1.9050-2.3850
Swiss 10-14 pound Cuts	3.2650-5.5875

Information for the period August 28 - September 1, 2023, issued weekly

Secondary Sourced Information:

This week a cooperative export assistance program accepted requests for export assistance on contracts to sell 1.2 million (526 metric tons) of American-type cheese and 150,000 pounds (68 metric tons) of cream cheese. So far this year, the program has assisted member cooperatives who have contracts to sell 33.5 million pounds of American-type cheeses and 6.2 million pounds of cream cheese in export markets.

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2023 were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 2 percent from July 31, 2022.

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