



Dated  
April 14, 2010

# Dairy Week In Review

## Policy:

- The USDA Dairy Industry Advisory Committee met in Washington D.C. on Tuesday—Thursday, April 13 - 15. The committee reviewed farm milk price volatility and dairy farmer profitability. Pennsylvania's representatives on the committee, Erick Coolidge and Robert Schupper, posted comments about the meetings on the center's Web site at [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org).

## Markets:

Dairy Prices	Price	Chge. From Week Ago	Chge. from Month Ago	Chge. From Year Ago
Milk Price (Mar) **	\$14.56/cwt.	▲ 0.3 %	▲ 0.4 %	▲ 26.5 %
Corn (May)	\$3.54/bushel	▲ 0.5 %	▼ 0.5 %	▼ 11.4 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$282.2/ton	▼ 5.8 %	▲ 8.2 %	▼ 14.7 %
Milk Margin*	\$11.25/cwt.	—	▼ 6.5 %	▲ 71.9 %

*\*Each issue of "Dairy Week in Review" will report on current and projected "Milk Margin," or the dollars remaining per one hundred lbs. of milk after feed is paid for. Milk margin is affected by both*

*milk & feed prices. \*\* The milk price reported is the Class III futures price for the next month plus a basis of \$1.75, which is an estimate of what you can expect to see on your milk check for the coming month.*

- In February, U.S. exports of milk powders, whey proteins, cheese, butterfat and lactose all grew, with shipments valued at \$221.4 million, up 41% from a year ago, and the highest figure (on a daily-average basis) since October 2008, according to USDA/FAS data. For the month, exports of whey proteins were up 30% from a year ago, while Nonfat and Skim Milk Powder was up 22 percent, cheese was up 17 percent, lactose was up 16 percent and butterfat grew by 21 percent, according to the USDA.
- Fluid milk sales were down 0.8 percent from a year ago in the December-February period, according to Federal Order and California state data

## Industry:

- CWT accepted 13 bids to provide export bonuses on 3.5 million lbs. of cheddar last week. Most of the product will be delivered between now and July. In three weeks, CWT has accepted export-assistance bids on 9.0 million lbs. of cheese.
- The Center for Dairy Excellence introduced a new program called "Dairy Decisions Consultants" which offers funding for producers to sit down with a consultant to review their business viability and options.

## Events:

- The Center for Dairy Excellence will host a "Mastering the Dairy Business" Conference Call on April 28, from 12 - 1:30 p.m. with Joanna Samuelson, author of the Northeast Dairy Farm Summary, a study of the financial health and progress of dairy farms in the Northeast. The call will give participants the opportunity to compare their operations to the benchmarks identified within the summary. To register, call the center at 717-346-0849.

