



Dated  
April 21, 2010

### Policy:

- The U.S. House of Representatives held a hearing on Tuesday morning this week to review dairy policy. The hearing was held at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, and Pennsylvania Secretary Russell Redding, Center for Dairy Excellence Executive Director John Frey, and several Pennsylvania dairy producers were among those who testified. To read Frey's testimony, go to [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) **	\$14.59/cwt.	▲ 0.3 %	▲ 0.9 %	▲ 26.5 %
Corn (May)	\$3.59/bushel	▲ 0.8 %	▼ 3.0 %	▼ 11.4 %
SBean Meal (May)	\$293/ton	▲ 3.7 %	▲ 8.0 %	▼ 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.

- Milk production in the U.S. was up 0.6 percent in March, according to the USDA Milk Production Report. Total milk production was estimated at 16.58 billion pounds, with an average of 58.8 pounds per cow per day, up 1.5 pounds or 2.7 percent from a year ago. Cow numbers were unchanged from February but down 162,000 head from last March. In Pennsylvania, production grew 1.6 percent, driven by a jump in milk production per cow. Cow numbers were down 1,000 head from February and 10,000 head from March '09.
- Production grew the most in Wisconsin, where total milk output was up 6.3 percent in March. The state has 4,000 more cows than a year ago, with cow output up 60 pounds per month.
- The U.S. dairy herd is expected to average 9.065 million head in 2010, a 1.5% decline from last year according to USDA's "Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry report."

### Industry:

- CWT (Cooperatives Working Together) accepted 10 bids to provide export bonuses on 4.5 million lbs. of cheddar last week. Most of the product will be delivered between now and July. In four weeks, CWT has accepted export-assistance bids on 13.6 million lbs. of cheese. CWT also expanded the list of varieties eligible for bonuses to include gouda, colby and monterey jack.

### 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

