



European Dairy Market Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service
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WESTERN EUROPEAN OVERVIEW: In many parts of Western Europe, dairy industry contacts suggest the peak of milk production may be just past. Although European milk deliveries are generally thought to be at levels higher than previous years, in some countries like France and the UK, it is being compared to weak production years. As a result, some market observers report milk prices have been supported. The monthly weighted average price for farm milk in the EU-27 has held steady between 46 and 46.5 euros per 100 kg for the first five months of the year. Manufacturers are seeking additional milk and looking to hold on to their farmer patrons. A large European dairy cooperative recently announced the June guaranteed milk price will increase by 0.5 euros to 47.75 euros per 100 kg. In addition, current weekly spot milk prices in some locations have risen to the low/mid 50 euros per 100 kg range.

In a lead up to the European Parliament elections on June 6-9, Spanish and French farmers staged protests and blocked roads to bring attention to the demands the agriculture sector presented in protests earlier this spring. The elections may be pivotal in determining policy directions for agriculture within the EU. Farmers are seeking greater income protections, an easing of regulatory impositions on agriculture, and more balanced trade requirements.

EASTERN EUROPEAN OVERVIEW: In parts of Eastern Europe, milk production is at or near peak production. Typically, milk production peaks in May for Poland and Ukraine, July for Belarus, and August for some Baltic States. Online information services report March 2024 Ukrainian milk production was 573,000 tons, compared to 585,000 tons in March 2023. Prior to the Russian invasion, March 2021 Ukrainian milk production was 696,000 tons. The average March milk price in Ukraine was approximately 32.7 euros per 100kg, well below the average March milk price of 46.38 euros per 100 kg in the EU-27 and 47.84 euros per 100 kg in Poland.

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