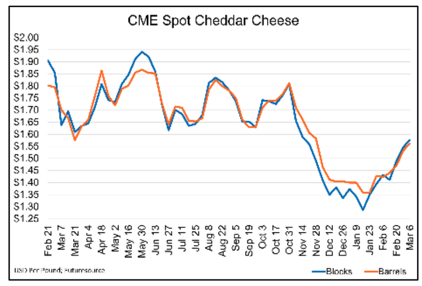
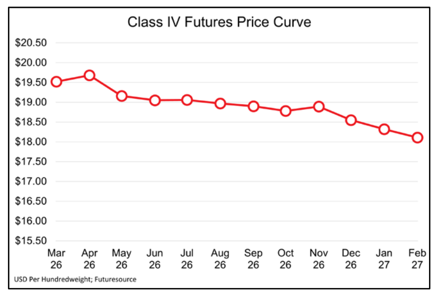
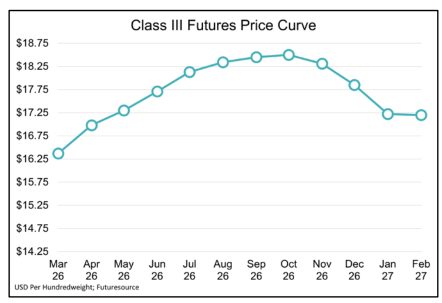
Weekly Dairy Market Report

March 6, 2026







- Butter finished $0.1700 above last Friday at $2.0100 per pound – trading the largest single-day volume since October 2024. Monday's 26.50-cent leap marks the largest ever for "new-crop" butter and surpasses the previous record from 2021. Blocks jumped to $1.6175 per pound, a $0.0950 gain from last Friday. Barrels edged up to $1.5700 per pound, gaining $0.0100 on the week. US nonfat dry milk remains more expensive than global competitors at $1.68 per pound, down $0.0300.
- US cheese production continues to grow rapidly, according to USDA's January Dairy Products report. Total cheese production reached 1.278 billion pounds, up 4.7% (+57.6 million pounds) year-over-year. Butter production climbed to 231.4 million pounds in January, up 6.0% (+13.2 million pounds) year-over-year.
- With increasing conflict in the Middle East and oil prices closing over $90 per barrel, concerns about fertilizer availability and pricing for this crop year are increasing. March corn futures rose to $4.470 per bushel, up $0.0550 on the week. March soybeans jumped to $11.8500 per bushel, $0.2125 cents higher than last Friday.
- Retail sales rose 3.2% year-over-year in January, up to $733.5 billion. Food service sales climbed 4.5%, ahead of menu prices that increased 4.2% year-over-year. Grocery store spending increased 1.5% while prices rose 2.1% year-over-year.

	Milk Futures				Grain Futures			US All Milk	USDA DMC
	Class III Futures	Weekly Change	Class IV Futures	Weekly Change	Corn	Soybeans	Soybean Meal	Based on Futures	Margin Estimate
Mar-26	$16.37	+$0.44	$19.52	+$6.12	$4.47	$11.85	$313.10	$20.12	$10.92
Apr-26	$16.98	+$1.87	$19.68	+$6.18				$20.43	$11.38
May-26	$17.30	+$2.01	$19.16	+$5.16	$4.61	$12.01	$317.20	$20.12	$11.11
Jun-26	$17.71	+$2.10	$19.05	+$4.65				$20.11	$11.06
Jul-26	$18.13	+$1.99	$19.06	+$4.36	$4.71	$12.13	$319.60	$20.35	$11.26
Aug-26	$18.34	+$1.99	$18.97	+$3.91		$11.97	$317.20	$20.61	$11.54
Sep-26	$18.45	+$1.80	$18.90	+$3.52	$4.72	$11.55	$314.60	$20.95	$11.87
Oct-26	$18.50	+$1.51	$18.78	+$3.03			$312.20	$21.28	$12.15
Nov-26	$18.31	+$1.01	$18.89	+$2.82		$11.47		$21.56	$12.30
Dec-26	$17.85	+$0.41	$18.55	+$2.26	$4.85		$314.40	$21.40	$12.06
Jan-27	$17.22	--$0.28	$18.32	+$1.93		$11.55	$313.90	$21.02	$11.57
Average	**$17.70**		**$18.92**		**$4.67**	**$11.79**	**$315.28**	**$20.72**	**$11.56**

Tale of the Tape

Market	This Week	Last Week	Change	Last Year	Change
Barrel Cheddar (CME Average, USD/LB)	$ 1.5620	$ 1.5320	+2%	$ 1.7005	-8%
Block Cheddar (CME Average, USD/LB)	$ 1.5770	$ 1.5460	+2%	$ 1.6380	-4%
Butter (CME Average, USD/LB)	$ 2.0625	$ 1.8320	+13%	$ 2.2975	-10%
Nonfat Dry Milk (CME Average, USD/LB)	$ 1.6640	$ 1.6775	-1%	$ 1.1750	+42%
Dry Whey (CME Average, USD/LB)	$ 0.6320	$ 0.6400	-1%	$ 0.4980	+27%
WPC34 (AMS Central/West AOM, USD/LB)	$ 1.6250	$ 1.6250	0%	$ 1.7650	-8%
Lactose (AMS West AOM, USD/LB)	$ 0.5200	$ 0.5300	-2%	$ 0.3900	+33%
Dry Buttermilk (AMS West AOM, USD/LB)	$ 1.1450	$ 1.3700	-16%	$ 1.3000	-12%
Midwest Class II Cream (AMS Multiple)	1.26	1.21	+4%	1.04	+21%
Midwest Spot Milk Basis (AMS, USD/CWT)	+$0.50	+$0.50	0%	-$0.75	+167%
Class III Milk Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/CWT)	$ 16.99	$ 16.28	+4%	$ 17.20	-1%
Class IV Milk Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/CWT)	$ 19.68	$ 19.65	0%	$ 18.20	+8%
Cheese Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/LB)	$ 1.6590	$ 1.5790	+5%	$ 1.7180	-3%
Butter Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/LB)	$ 2.0453	$ 2.0100	+2%	$ 2.3750	-14%
Nonfat Dry Milk Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/LB)	$ 1.5775	$ 1.5878	-1%	$ 1.1950	+32%
Dry Whey Futures (CME, Contract 2, USD/LB)	$ 0.6375	$ 0.6650	-4%	$ 0.4868	+31%