



USDA
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DAIRY PRODUCTS PRICES

News Release

October 2, 1998

USDA TO PUBLISH WEEKLY DAIRY PRODUCTS PRICES REPORT

SIoux FALLS, October 1, 1998 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service will begin publishing weekly prices for butter, nonfat dry milk, and dry whey on Friday October 9, 1998 at 8:30 a.m. This is according to Bill Hamlin, director of their South Dakota office. Prices for these three items will be published along with the price of cheddar cheese in a new report entitled Dairy Products Prices. The new report will provide information on weighted average prices received and aggregated volumes of sales. The October 9 report will contain data for the weeks ending September 5 through October 3, 1998. Subsequent weekly reports will have the most recent five weeks of data in each report.

The Dairy Products Prices report is based on a survey of manufacturers that sell these specific products on a bulk, wholesale basis. The surveys were begun at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture. The purpose of the report is to provide a statistically defensible price series for cheddar cheese, butter, nonfat dry milk, and dry whey to satisfy industry and USDA needs.

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