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Dairy Products Prices

Released March 20, 2009, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Dairy Products Prices* call Joe Gaynor at 202-690-2168, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

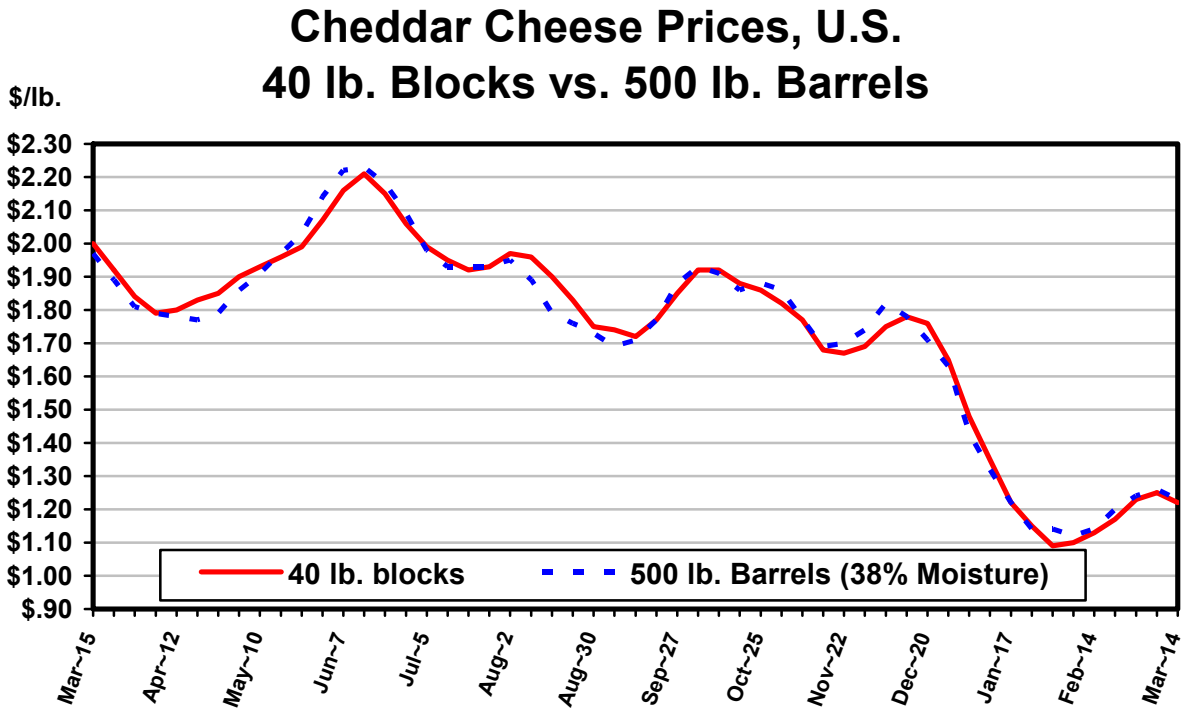
Dairy Products Prices Highlights

Cheddar Cheese prices received for US 40 pound Blocks averaged $1.22 per pound for the week ending March 14. The price per pound decreased 3.0 cents from the previous week. The price for US 500 pound Barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged $1.23 per pound, down 2.7 cents from the previous week.

Butter prices received for 25 kilogram and 68 pound boxes meeting USDA Grade AA standards averaged $1.13 per pound for the week ending March 14. The U.S. price per pound increased 1.2 cents from the previous week.

Nonfat Dry Milk prices received for bag, tote and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade or USPH Grade A standards averaged $0.82 per pound for the week ending March 14. The U.S. price per pound increased 0.1 cent from the previous week.

Dry Whey prices received for bag, tote and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade standards averaged 16.5 cents per pound for the week ending March 14. The U.S. price per pound increased 0.3 cents from the previous week.



Cheddar Cheese Prices by Style and Region

Style and Region	Week Ending				
	Mar 14, 2009	Mar 7, 2009	Feb 28, 2009	Feb 21, 2009	Feb 14, 2009
	Dol./Lb.	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*
40 Lb. Blocks					
Avg. Price [1]					
MN/WI	1.3114	*1.3191	1.3522	1.2430	1.2236
Oth Sts	1.2166	1.2487	1.2214	1.1628	1.1238
US	1.2233	1.2531	1.2301	1.1701	*1.1309
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Sales Volume [2]					
MN/WI	888,742	*842,428	831,853	1,109,942	809,344
Oth Sts	11,590,829	12,556,537	11,721,550	11,061,792	10,443,919
US	12,479,571	*13,398,965	12,553,403	12,171,734	11,253,263
	Dol./Lb.	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*
500 Lb. Barrels					
Avg. Price [1]					
MN/WI	1.2798	1.3134	1.3228	1.2655	1.2098
Oth Sts	1.2928	1.3202	1.2844	1.2521	1.2009
US	1.2874	1.3175	1.2988	1.2576	1.2037
Price Adj. to 38% Moisture					
MN/WI	1.2329	1.2661	1.2756	1.2187	1.1648
Oth Sts	1.2293	1.2526	1.2193	1.1816	1.1353
US	1.2308	1.2580	1.2403	1.1965	1.1444
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Sales Volume [2]					
MN/WI	4,114,940	4,159,864	4,402,578	4,647,509	3,984,607
Oth Sts	5,848,714	6,121,614	7,312,482	6,775,175	8,733,566
US	9,963,654	10,281,478	11,715,060	11,422,684	12,718,173
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Moisture Content					
MN/WI	35.64	35.69	35.71	35.62	35.60
Oth Sts	34.80	34.65	34.69	34.30	34.42
US	35.15	35.07	35.07	34.84	34.79

* Revised.
[1] Prices weighted by volumes reported.
[2] Sales as reported by participating manufacturers.

Butter Prices

Region	Week Ending				
	Mar 14, 2009	Mar 7, 2009	Feb 28, 2009	Feb 21, 2009	Feb 14, 2009
	Dol./Lb.	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*
Avg. Price [1]					
US	1.1281	1.1161	1.0943	1.0836	1.0789
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Sales Volume [2]					
US	3,189,054	4,508,160	5,229,516	5,116,006	3,801,485

[1] Prices weighted by volumes reported.
[2] Sales as reported by participating manufacturers.

Nonfat Dry Milk Prices

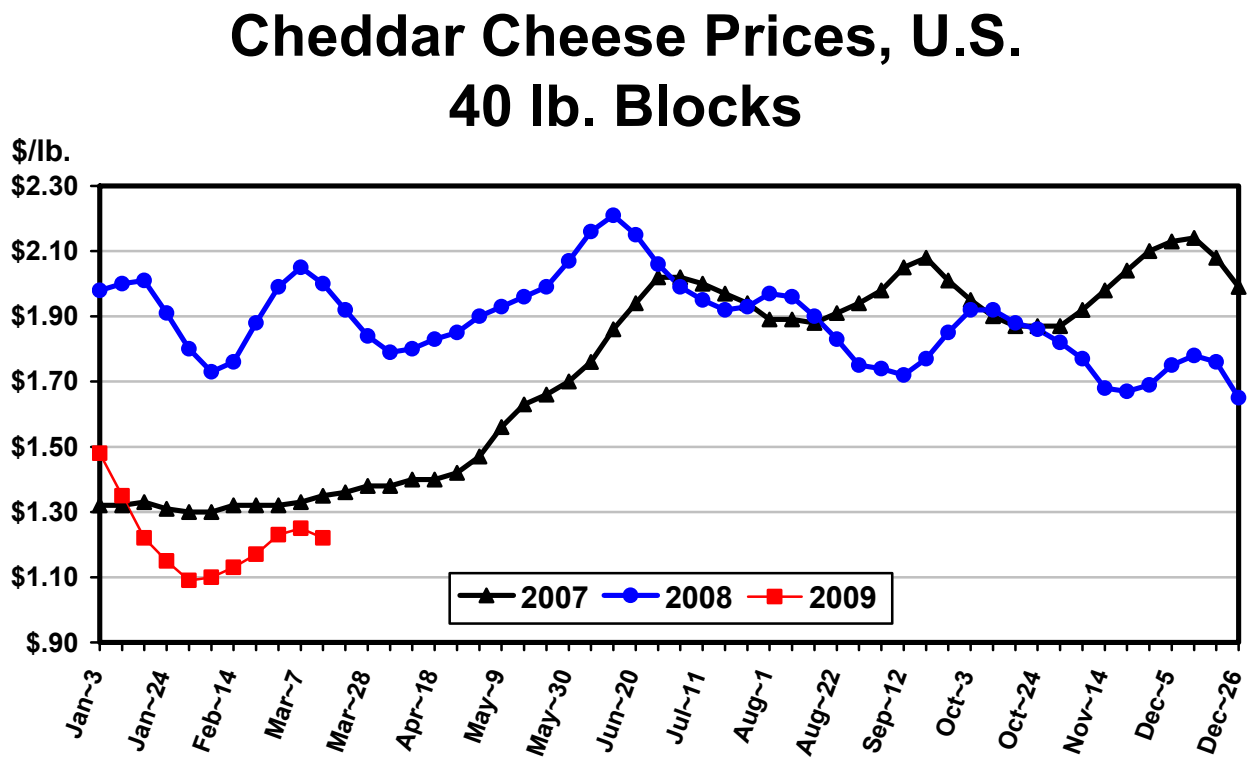
Region	Week Ending				
	Mar 14, 2009	Mar 7, 2009	Feb 28, 2009	Feb 21, 2009	Feb 14, 2009
	Dol./Lb.	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*
Avg. Price [1] US	0.8156	0.8149	0.8192	0.8141	0.8177
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Sales Volume [2] US	24,248,844	*25,782,972	31,383,452	24,689,200	29,332,434

* Revised.
[1] Prices weighted by volumes reported.
[2] Sales as reported by participating manufacturers.

Dry Whey Prices

Region	Week Ending				
	Mar 14, 2009	Mar 7, 2009	Feb 28, 2009	Feb 21, 2009	Feb 14, 2009
	Dol./Lb.	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*	*Dol./Lb.*
Avg. Price [1] US	0.1649	0.1619	0.1568	0.1591	0.1555
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Sales Volume [2] US	11,327,300	14,295,824	11,589,188	10,562,465	12,509,346

[1] Prices weighted by volumes reported.
[2] Sales as reported by participating manufacturers.



Procedures and Reliability: The Weekly Dairy Product Prices program consists of 92 qualifying manufacturing plants. There are 11 plants in the Atlantic Region, 26 plants in the East North Central Region, 3 plants in the South Central Region, 34 plants in the West Region, and 18 plants in the West North Central Region. Plants that report for multiple commodities are only counted once. Price information included in this report is provided each week by manufacturers of these products. Data are collected by fax and electronic mail each week for the previous week. Price information collected is for the (wholesale) point of sale for:

1) Natural, unaged cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks and 500 pound barrels.
2) Boxes of butter meeting USDA Grade AA standards, 80% butterfat, salted, fresh or storage.
3) USDA Extra Grade edible nonhygroscopic dry whey.
4) USDA Extra Grade and USPH Grade A, nonfortified nonfat dry milk.

A transaction is complete when the product is "shipped out" and title transfers. Resales of purchased product, forward pricing and intra-company sales are excluded.

Revision Policy: Price data for the prior 4 weeks are subject to revision.

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