

**Cheese and Butter Prices** -- On Friday, January 27, 2012, on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the weekly average price for 40-pound blocks fell \$.05 to \$1.50 per pound. Blocks were trading on Friday at \$1.51 per pound. The weekly average for barrel cheese fell \$.04 to \$1.48 per pound. Barrels were trading on Friday at \$1.49 per pound. On the Chicago Butter Market on January 27th, the weekly average for the AA price of butter fell \$.03 to \$1.55 per pound. On Friday butter was trading at \$1.55 per pound.

**December Milk Production Up 2.7 Percent**

**Milk production** in the 23 major States during December totaled 15.4 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from December 2010. November revised production at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 2.2 percent from November 2010. The November revision represented an increase of 3 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,818 pounds for December, 27 pounds above December 2010. **The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.49 million head, 99,000 head more than December 2010, and 12,000 head more than November 2011.

**Agri-Mark Forecasts for Boston Zone Uniform Price;  
Component Values Per Pound and Boston PPD \* per Hundredweight**

Agri-Mark's estimates for the Market Administrator's Boston Zone uniform price per hundredweight at 3.5% butterfat, 3.0% protein and 5.7% other solids.

Month	Northeast Federal Order Uniform Price	Butterfat	Protein	Other Solids	Boston PPD *	MILC Payment
<i>2010 Yearly Avg.</i>	<b>\$16.92</b>	<b>\$1.85</b>	<b>\$2.31</b>	<b>\$.18</b>	<b>\$2.51</b>	<b>\$.02</b>
January 2011	\$17.01	\$2.02	\$1.76	\$.20	\$3.53	\$.00
February	\$18.75	\$2.30	\$2.56	\$.23	\$1.75	\$.00
March	\$20.28	\$2.28	\$3.30	\$.26	\$.88	\$.00
April	\$20.38	\$2.21	\$2.50	\$.29	\$3.51	\$.00
May	\$20.79	\$2.24	\$2.33	\$.30	\$4.27	\$.00
June	\$22.09	\$2.37	\$2.98	\$.33	\$2.98	\$.00
July	\$22.76	\$2.25	\$3.83	\$.36	\$1.37	\$.00
August	\$23.22	\$2.29	\$3.83	\$.38	\$1.55	\$.00
September	\$22.23	\$2.20	\$3.02	\$.40	\$3.16	\$.00
October	\$20.42	\$1.96	\$2.92	\$.43	\$2.39	\$.00
November	\$20.23	\$1.95	\$3.23	\$.45	\$1.16	\$.00
December	<b>\$19.57 A</b>	<b>\$1.74 A</b>	<b>\$3.34 A</b>	<b>\$.47 A</b>	<b>\$0.80 A</b>	\$.00
<i>Yearly Average</i>	<b>\$20.64</b>	<b>\$2.15</b>	<b>\$2.97</b>	<b>\$.34</b>	<b>\$2.28</b>	<b>\$.00</b>
January 2012	\$19.43	\$1.70	\$2.72	\$.51	\$2.43	\$.00
February	\$18.44	\$1.64	\$2.51	\$.49	\$2.34	\$.02
March	\$18.26	\$1.69	\$2.68	\$.46	\$1.67	\$.25
April	\$18.34	\$1.76	\$2.62	\$.43	\$1.82	\$.13
May	\$18.49	\$1.80	\$2.63	\$.42	\$1.89	\$.10

- PPD and Federal Order Uniform Price Announced on 13-15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Prices below those marked E for estimate or A for announced are also estimated.