

Cheese and Butter Prices

On Friday, March 5, 2010 on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the weekly average price for 40-pound blocks fell \$.04 to \$1.32 per pound. Blocks were trading on Friday at \$1.29 per pound. The weekly average for barrel cheese decreased \$.05 to \$1.27 per pound. Barrels were trading on Friday at \$1.25 per pound.

On the Chicago Butter Market on Friday, March 5, 2010 the weekly average for the AA price of butter increased \$.04 to \$1.43 per pound. On Friday butter was trading at \$1.45 per pound.

January Milk Production down .8 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 14.8 billion pounds, down 0.6 percent from January 2009. December revised production at 14.6 billion pounds, was down 0.7 percent from December 2008. The December revision represented an increase of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,782 pounds for January, 30 pounds above January 2009. **The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.32 million head, 191,000 head less than January 2009, but 4,000 head more than December 2009.

The annual production of milk for the U.S. during 2009 was 189 billion pounds, 0.3 percent below 2008. Revisions to 2008 production decreased the annual total 10 million pounds. Revised 2009 production was up 61 million pounds from last month's publication.

Other News: Agri-Mark year-end profits announced at \$14.9 million, patronage distribution of \$.45/cwt. with \$.10 or \$.13 in cash.

Agri-Mark Forecasts for Boston Zone Uniform Price

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
January 2009	\$14.14
February	\$11.75
March	\$11.56
April	\$12.08
May	\$12.18
June	\$11.93
July	\$11.99
August	\$12.35
September	\$12.93
October	\$14.06
November	\$15.02
December	\$16.11
January 2010	\$16.26 A
February	\$16.19
March	\$15.50
April	\$15.14