

WESTERN UNITED DAIRIES

WEEKLY UPDATE | JANUARY 29, 2025

New Season of Seen & Heard Kicks Off: Legislative Wins, Challenges Ahead, and Dairy's Strategic Path in 2025

In this episode of Seen and Heard, Amanda Russell is joined by Western United Dairies' Anja Raudabaugh for a deep dive into the legislative highlights and battles from 2024, and what's on the horizon for California's dairy industry in 2025. Topics include securing funding for methane reduction and farm-to-school programs, defeating anti-dairy initiatives, navigating budget shortages, and strategizing for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and climate bond negotiations.

Tune in for insights into how Western United is protecting the future of dairy in a rapidly changing legislative landscape. The episode is available on all podcast platforms or [our website](#).

REMINDER: Apply for Disaster Assistance by January 30, 2025

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) deadline to apply for the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) is fast approaching—applications must be submitted by January 30, 2025.

This program provides financial assistance for losses incurred in 2024 due to adverse conditions, including those experienced by dairy producers impacted by H5N1.

Key Details for Dairy H5N1 Assistance:

- Only adult dairy cattle actively maintained for commercial milk production and currently lactating are eligible.
- Assistance covers up to 120 days following a confirmed H5N1 positive test.

Producers with impact periods spanning 2024 and 2025 must:

1. Submit a notice of loss and application for payment by January 30, 2025, for losses incurred in 2024.
2. File a separate notice of loss for the remaining affected days in 2025.

For more details, visit the ELAP for H5N1-impacted dairies.

Weekly Update Delivery Options

Send change of address or request for delivery to WUD by phone or email at:

(209)527-6453

info@wudairies.com

Struggling with Depression?

Call 1-800-784-2433 any time, 24x7, for a live, trained person to talk with or to find local resources.

LUC: Lecheros Unidos de California

Western United Dairies is proud to host LUC, a clearinghouse of resources to assist in all aspects of searching for and hiring employees for your dairy.

LUC services are offered in Spanish & English & include:

- Free advertisement of job postings to a wide audience of potential employees
- Phone call interviews with translation services
- Access to a pool of pre-screened employees with dairy experience

For more information, visit:

westernuniteddairies.com/lecheros-unidos

UPDATED: WUD Board of Directors Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of this year’s Board of Directors election:

- **Central Valley:** Jack Hoekstra and Jason Does
- **North Coast:** Robert Vevoda and Zach Cahill
- **South State:** Brian Schouten

Thank you to all who participated in the election, and congratulations to the newly elected board members!

Order Labor Law Posters/Spiral Binders for 2025

To place your order, email Rashell at rashell@wudairies.com
OR
Scan to order on the website.



Come See us at the World Ag Expo!

February 11 - February 13, 2025

Tuesday, 2/11

9am-11am: What’s the Deal? Dairy Economics *with Tiffany LaMendola*
2pm - 4pm: Dairy Environmental In-the-Know, *Paul Sousa*

Wednesday, 2/12

9am - 11am: Free Legal Advice, Anthony Raimondo
11am - 1pm: What’s the Deal? Dairy Economics *with Tiffany LaMendola*
1pm - 3pm: Free Legal Advice, Anthony Raimondo

Thursday, 2/13

9am - 11am: Dairy Environmental In-the-Know, *Paul Sousa*
1pm - 3pm: Chat with the CEO, *Anja Raudabaugh*

THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT SPONSORS.

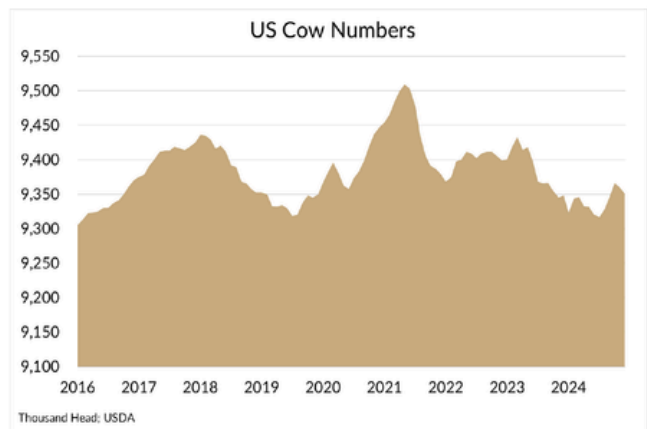
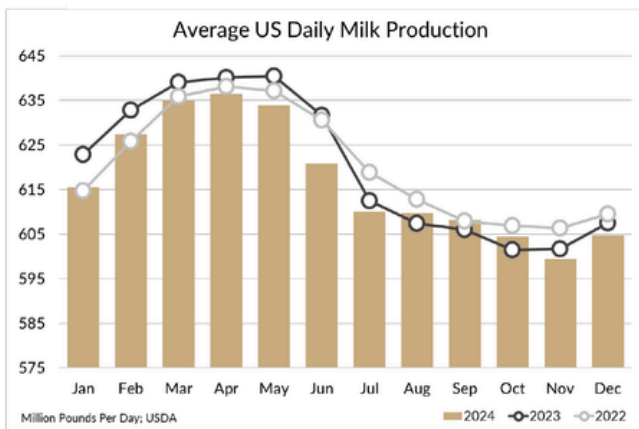
ADVERTISE WITH US



WEEKLY MARKET UPDATE

US milk output totaled 18.7 billion pounds in December, down 0.5% on the year and below expectations for the second straight month. California production continued to show strain due to HPAI, with output down 6.8% on a weak year-over-year comparison.

- The US dairy herd totaled 9.351 million head in December, down 9,000 cows versus November, but up 3,000 year-over-year. Slaughter rates are down, keeping herd numbers decent, though rising beef prices could drive culling higher in the months ahead.
- Volatility in the cheese markets continues. This week “up” has been the theme so far. Spot blocks are getting closer to the \$1.90-per-pound mark, while barrels advanced to the mid-\$1.80s.
- USDA’s December *Cold Storage* report was neutral for cheese, with total cheese inventories at 1.355 billion pounds. Stocks increased at an above-average pace month-to-month, while American-type cheese inventories grew at a slower rate.
- There weren’t any surprises for US butter stocks in December. Inventories totaled 222.4 million pounds, up on the year and on the month.
- With ample supplies, the CME butter market gained some ground, trying to climb back to the mid-\$2.50s, only to slip again to \$2.50 per pound, the lowest price since December.
- Milk powder prices climbed higher at the latest GlobalDairyTrade Pulse event, with skim milk powder up 3.8% to \$1.29 per pound and whole milk powder up 6.3% to \$1.82 per pound. The price increase didn’t move the needle for CME nonfat dry milk, which remained in the mid-\$1.30s.
- Nearby grain markets have been choppy in recent days. The March corn contract backed off its high of \$4.90 per bushel and slipped into the low-\$4.80s. March soybeans also retreated, dipping to the mid-\$10.40s.



Dairy Revenue Protection Program		
Futures	Milk Price (Floor) Guarantee @ 95%	Premium Per CWT (CA)
April - June 2025		
Class III	\$19.45	\$18.48
Class IV	\$20.21	\$19.20
July - September 2025		
Class III	\$19.01	\$18.06
Class IV	\$20.41	\$19.39
October - December 2025		
Class III	\$18.83	\$17.89
Class IV	\$20.48	\$19.46
January - March 2026		
Class III	\$18.02	\$17.12
Class IV	\$18.67	\$17.73
April - June 2026		
Class III	\$17.72	\$16.83
Class IV	\$17.50	\$16.63

*As of 01/28/25 for 95% coverage, 1.0 Protection Factor



Tiffany LaMendola
209.768.6313

CME Commodity Prices					
	Blocks	Barrels	Butter	NDM	Dry Whey
Jan-22	\$1.7750	\$1.8100	\$2.5225	\$1.3525	\$0.7000
Jan-23	\$1.8200	\$1.8200	\$2.5125	\$1.3525	\$0.7000
Jan-24	\$1.8325	\$1.8200	\$2.5300	\$1.3475	\$0.6975
Jan-27	\$1.8700	\$1.8400	\$2.5300	\$1.3475	\$0.6975
Jan-28	\$1.8900	\$1.8650	\$2.5000	\$1.3475	\$0.6975
Average	\$1.8375	\$1.8310	\$2.5190	\$1.3495	\$0.6985
Weekly Change	0.1100	0.0150	-0.0350	0.0000	-0.0400

Order 51: Latest Prices					
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Class I LA	\$25.47	\$24.83	\$23.73	\$22.68	\$23.57
Class II	\$21.01	\$21.52	\$21.28		
Class III	\$22.85	\$19.95	\$18.62		
Class IV	\$20.90	\$21.12	\$20.74		
PPD	-\$1.38	\$1.33	\$1.37		
Blend: LA*	\$21.47	\$21.28	\$19.99		
Blend: Tulare*	\$20.97	\$20.78	\$19.49		

*Does not include Quota Deduction

USDA Dairy Margin Coverage (per CWT)

	Month	All Milk	Feed	Margin Estimate	Indemnity
					Estimate @ 9.50 Margin
2024 Program	Jan-24	\$ 20.10	\$ 11.62	\$ 8.48	\$ 1.02
	Feb-24	\$ 20.60	\$ 11.16	\$ 9.44	\$ 0.06
	Mar-24	\$ 20.70	\$ 11.05	\$ 9.65	\$ -
	Apr-24	\$ 20.50	\$ 10.90	\$ 9.60	\$ -
	May-24	\$ 22.00	\$ 11.48	\$ 10.52	\$ -
	Jun-24	\$ 22.80	\$ 11.14	\$ 11.66	\$ -
	Jul-24	\$ 22.80	\$ 10.47	\$ 12.33	\$ -
	Aug-24	\$ 23.60	\$ 9.88	\$ 13.72	\$ -
	Sep-24	\$ 25.50	\$ 9.93	\$ 15.57	\$ -
	Oct-24	\$ 25.20	\$ 10.03	\$ 15.17	\$ -
	Nov-24	\$ 24.20	\$ 9.91	\$ 14.29	\$ -
	Dec-24	\$ 22.93	\$ 10.13	\$ 12.80	\$ -

Estimates only. As of 1/28/2025 and based on futures markets which can change daily.

