



Lactose - Central and West U.S.

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The bottom of the lactose price range moved higher this week, but prices held steady at the top of the range and at both ends of the mostly price series. Domestic demand for lactose is strong from both spot and contract purchasers. Manufacturers report strong interest in Q3 contracts. Some report they have started working on their contracts, while others say they are waiting a few more weeks. Export interest in lactose is steady. Contacts report internationally produced loads are priced below loads produced domestically and say this is causing them to offer loads for export at prices near the bottom of the range. Lactose inventories are available, though some manufacturers say they have few spot loads available through the end of Q2. Plant managers say they are running steady lactose production schedules.

Prices for: Central and Western U.S., Spot Sales And Up to 3 Month Contracts, F.O.B., Conventional, and Edible Lactose

Price Range - Non Pharmaceutical; \$/LB:	.2500 - .4100
Mostly Range - Non Pharmaceutical; \$/LB:	.2850 - .3700

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