USDA

Organic Dairy Fluid Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Market News

Report 18

May 3, 2024

MMN Slug ID 1594 / Slug Name: MD_DA902

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ORGANIC MILK UTILIZATION AND FAT CONTENT.

Federal Milk Market Order 1, in New England, reports utilization of types of organic milk by pool plants. During March 2024, organic whole milk utilization totaled 19.15 million pounds, down from 19.18 million pounds the previous year. The butterfat content, 3.29 percent, is up from 3.27 a year ago. The utilization of organic reduced fat milk, 15.67 million pounds, decreased from 18.19 million pounds a year ago. The butterfat content, 1.49 percent, is up from 1.42 percent the previous year.

ORGANIC MILK EXPORTS

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) releases monthly export data which includes export volumes and values for organic milk categorized as HS-10 code 0401201000. Recently released data for March 2024 indicated organic milk exports were 132,223 liters, down 44.0 percent from the month prior, and down 18.9 percent from 2023. Exports of organic milk from the start of the year through March are up 7.3 percent, compared to the same time period one year ago.

ORGANIC MILK PRODUCT SALES

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) reported February 2024 estimated fluid product sales. The U.S. sale of total organic milk products was 235 million pounds, up 7.8 percent from the previous year, and up 3.7 percent year-to-date. Organic whole milk sales, 120 million pounds, rose 12.9 percent compared to a year earlier and increased 10.5 percent year-to-date. Reduced fat milk (2%) sales were 76 million pounds, up 8.3 percent from the previous year, and up 1.3 percent year-to-date. Organic flavored whole milk sales, 1 million pounds, decreased 0.8 percent from the previous year, but increased 11.1 percent year-to-date.

ESTIMATED TOTAL U.S. SALES OF ORGANIC FLUID MILK PRODUCTS March 2024, with comparisons

	SALES1		CHANGE	from:			
PRODUCT NAME	January	Y-T-D	Prev Yr.	Y-T-D			
	(million pounds)		(perc	(percent)			
Organic Production Practice	9						
Whole Milk	120	255	12.9	10.5			
Flavored Whole Milk	1	1	-0.8	11.1			
Reduced Fat Milk (2%)	76	157	8.3	- 1.3			
Low Fat Milk (1%)	21	48	- 3.6	- 6.8			
Fat-Free Milk (Skim)	11	23	- 10.6	- 11.9			
Flavored Fat-Reduced Milk	5	10	- 14.3	- 23.2			
Other Fluid Milk Products	1	1	215.2	69.6			
Total Fat-Reduced Milk	113	236	2.5	- 1.1			
Tot. Organic Milk Products	235	493	7.8	3.7			
1 Data may not add due to rounding.							

EUROPEAN AVERAGE ORGANIC MILK PAY PRICES

The February 2024 European organic milk average pay price increased in Austria, Germany and Bavaria compared to January, but decreased in France.

Additional information is shown in the table below.

Organic Milk Pay Prices in Europe

February 2024						
E	Euros/100L	*(\$USD/100KG)	% Change	% Change		
			January 2024	February 2023		
Austria(1)	53.00	\$56.79	+ 0.74	- 14.14		
Austria(2)	58.91	\$63.12	+ 0.60	- 12.69		



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Germany	55.99	\$59.99	+ 0.27	- 9.25
Bavaria	56.01	\$60.01	+ 0.41	- 9.12
France	48.27	\$51.72	- 1.21	- 0.31

^{*}Results are based on the February 15, 2024, exchange rate of 1 Euro/1.07149 \$USD.

DUTCH ORGANIC MILK PAY PRICE

A large Dutch organic milk processor announced that the guaranteed price for organic farm milk in May 2024 is 56.50 EUR/100kg (\$60.86 USD), unchanged from April 2024. The processor stated they anticipate organic farm milk reference prices to stay relatively unchanged from last month. The guaranteed organic price applies to 100kg of milk with standard contents protein (3.58%) and fat (4.45%). The amounts apply to an average supply of 550,000 kg of milk annually.

UK ORGANIC MILK PAY PRICE

A cooperative announced a 1.5 eurocent per kilogram increase for their May organic milk pay price in the UK, bringing the price to 49.98 pounds (\$62.83 USD) per liter. In announcing this increase the cooperative stated strengthening demand for organic milk is contributing to higher milk pay prices.

ORGANIC COW AUCTION PRICES

In a recent report from a Pacific Northwest livestock auction, the top 10 organic cull cows traded lower than conventional cull cows, while the overall average for organic cull cow prices traded higher than the overall average for conventional cull cows. The average price for the top 10 organic cows auctioned was \$129.71 per hundredweight, compared to an average price of \$131.71 per hundredweight for auctioned top 10 conventional cows. The average weight for the top 10 conventional cows was 1413.0 pounds compared to 1285.5 pounds for the top 10 organic cows. The overall price for organic cows auctioned was \$121.02 per hundredweight with an average weight of 1238.2 pounds, while the overall price or conventional cows auctioned was \$107.16 per hundredweight and had an average weight of 1290.9 pounds.

NHAES MILK PRODUCTION STUDY

Scientists at the at the University of New Hampshire's New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station (NHAES) have been examining how an essential oils blend composed of wild carrot and coriander, made to meet USDA organic guidelines, could impact organic dairy cow methane emissions, milk composition, and production. Research began in the spring of 2023 with the addition of the essential oil blend to cows' diets prior to the transition from indoor winter feeding, to pasture feeding. The scientists stated this time was chosen as they hope to determine the optimal time to add the blend to a cow's diet. Researchers say early results showed a 6.5 percent increase in milk production and a 6 percent reduction in methane produced per pound of energy corrected milk.

NATIONAL ORGANIC GRAIN FEEDSTUFF

Compared to last period, trade activity was light to moderate for organic feed corn, trading 9 cents higher FOB. Trade activity and demand was light for organic feed soybeans. There were few reported spot trades of organic feed soybeans, but too few to establish a trend. There were a few forward contracts for organic feed corn, wheat, and soybeans. Most forward contracts were for organic feed corn. Trade was inactive for all other organic grains. The next available report will be Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

Information for the period April 22 - May 3, 2024, issued biweekly

Austria (1) prices excludes "haymilk," Austria (2) prices include "haymilk" which is produced by cows mainly fed grasses and dry hay, rather than silage.



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