



Oceania Dairy Market Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service
Dairy Market News

Report 17

April 24, 2025

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Australia

According to Dairy Australia, March 2025 milk production, 595.9 million liters, was down slightly, 0.2 million liters, from March 2024. Milk production increased in New South Wales and Tasmania in March compared to a year earlier, but declined in every other state. Milk production from the start of the season in July 2024 through March 2025, 6,534.4 million liters, decreased 0.1 percent compared to the same time frame a year earlier.

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia showing milk export volumes from July 2024 - February 2025 were 110,084 MT, down 11.9 percent from the same time period a year earlier.

Two dairy processors in Australia recently announced increases to the 2024/2025 farmgate milk prices. One large dairy processor in the country announced a 20¢/kgMS increase, the second step up announced by the processor this season. A spokesperson for this processor noted market conditions have strengthened in recent months and said they plan to continue to pass on price increases to farmers. The other dairy processor which recently announced a step increase raised their farmgate milk price by 30¢/kgMS with the price increase being backdated to the start of 2025. In a recent interview a spokesperson for this processor noted contract pricing levels during the second half of the 2024/2025 season enabled them to increase their farmgate milk price.

New Zealand

Export data for March 2025 was recently released for New Zealand. This data showed a 35 percent increase in value for milk powder, butter, and cheese exported in March 2025 compared to March 2024. Fresh milk and cream export values were 79 percent higher in March 2025, when compared to a year earlier. Changes in export quantities from March 2024 to March 2025 for milk powder, milk fats (including butter) and cheese are + 0.4 percent, + 12 percent, and + 39 percent, respectively. Casein and caseinate export values in March 2025 were down 28 percent compared to a year prior.

A group in New Zealand, which forecasts dairy prices, increased the forecasted milk price for the 2024/2025 season, following GDT event 378, by 5 cents, to \$10.15/kgMS. The spot value of milk increased by 24 cents to \$11.53/kgMS. The group noted milk powder and milk fat prices appear firm through the end of the 2024/2025 season as significant volumes are currently contracted through the end of the season. The group stated prices for New Zealand products were strong at GDT event 378. The forecasted milk price for the 2025/2026 season increased by 18 cents to \$10.33/kgMS.

A group representing dairy farmers in New Zealand has recently announced an increase to their farmer levy to 4.5¢/kgMS from 3.6¢/kgMS. This group had previously kept the farmer levy unchanged, but noted the increase will enable the group to provide scientific research to dairy farmers. The increase was announced after the group previously took feedback from dairy farmers regarding possible changes. The group stated they will use this levy to focus on their major priorities of boosting on-farm productivity, helping farmers become more adaptable and resilient, and keeping dairy production sustainable and competitive.

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