Cheesemakers continue to relay steady to stronger production schedules across all regions. The March Cold Storage report released last week revealed that March 2024 natural cheese stocks were up slightly from February 2024, but down from March 2023. In the Northeast, cheese inventories are said to be comfortable. Retail cheese demand is steady in the region. Cheese manufacturers in the Central region say demand is strengthening. Some processors shared having to turn away customers. Some contacts shared requests for cheese volumes beyond what a customer has already contracted may not be able to be accommodated. Milk availability has tightened in the region. In the West, cheese manufacturers share strong production schedules. Milk volumes are available for Class III processors at the moment, but contacts indicate milk availability may tighten in the upcoming weeks. Cheese inventories are comfortable. Domestic cheese demand is said to be stronger, while international demand is steady.

Information for the period April 29 - May 3, 2024, issued weekly

Secondary Sourced Information:

CME: Barrels closed at $1.8800 and 40# blocks at $1.7900. The weekly average for barrels is $1.8485 (+0.0780) and blocks $1.7685 (+0.0185).