The seasonal distinctions of week-over-week milk output are beginning to become more pronounced between the South Central states and the Midwest/Upper Midwest. With warmer days in the southern states and a stronger pull from processors, contacts in that area of the Central region say spot milk availability is moving from seasonally flush to balanced even as bottling plant orders have lightened with the culmination of the schoolyear in the area. In the Midwest, milk availability is variant from one area to the next. Although, in that area, processing plant downtime is continuing to play a part in keeping milk available. Class III spot milk prices ranged from $4-under to $1-over Class III in the Upper Midwest. The aforementioned processing plant downtime is the cause of prices moving lower again this week. Most prices received were from $1-under to $1-over Class. When comparing spot milk prices to 2023, week 20 prices ranged from $11- to $4-under Class. Cream remains available for all Class uses, but prices are beginning to tick higher. Ice cream manufacturing is shifting up seasonally, but cream handlers suggest Class III end users are a greater impact on decreasing the overall cream pool moving into mid-May. Farmers in parts of the southern states in the region are preparing for the winter wheat harvest, but stormy/wet conditions are keeping combines out of the fields at report time. Moving north, into the Midwest/Upper Midwest, corn planting and hay harvests are facing some of the same conditions.

Price Range - Class III Milk; $/CWT; Spot Basis: - 4.00 - 1.00
Trade Activity: Moderate

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<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Low Price</th>
<th>High Price</th>
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Information for the period May 13 - 17, 2024, issued weekly