

Cheese - West U.S.

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Market News

Report 5

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Retail demand for varietal cheeses is steady to stronger in the West. Food service demand is strengthening with the alleviation of most weather-related power outages and transportation difficulties during recent weeks. Demand from international buyers has strengthened over recent weeks. Class III spot loads are readily available, despite a few stakeholders noting tighter milk volumes. Class III milk demand from cheese makers is stronger. Manufacturers and convertors are running steady to stronger production schedules. Although some processors are focusing production schedules majorly on contractual commitments, loads are readily available for spot purchasers. A few stakeholders indicate more offers by sellers of downgraded cheese loads recently. The CME price today was \$1.5200 for barrels and \$1.6500 for blocks.

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Dairy Market News - Madison, WI ANDREW MATTHEIS, 608-422-8590 Email: andrew.mattheis@usda.gov

Additional Dairy Market News Information:

Dairy Market News (DMN) by Phone: (608)422-8602

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