

European Dairy Market Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Market News Report 23

June 5, 2025

MMN Slug ID 1033 / Slug Name: MD_DA100

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Western Europe:

According to the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF), statistics show a shortage of dairy replacement heifers born on farms. For the first four months of 2025, there were about 45,000 fewer dairy replacement calves born when compared with the same period in 2024, that is also 60,000 less than 2023. These figures suggest not only are calves and first-calving heifers going to be in very short supply in the near future, this will no doubt increase demand for heifer replacements.

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) released data showing daily milk deliveries for the week ending May 10th, averaged 38.64 million liters, down 0.7 percent from the week prior and 0.9 percent from the same week last year.

European butter markets remain tight due to reduced milk supply as seasonal flush came to an end in parts of Western Europe. U.S. butter remains heavily discounted, with U.S. product trading around \$5,500/t and European butter closer to US \$8,500/t.

Eastern Europe:

Per the Russian Agricultural Ministry, 2024 Russian dairy production rose compared to the prior year. Drinking milk production increased by 5% to 6.1 million tonnes. Cheese production increased 5.1% to 841,000 tonnes. Ice cream shot up by 16.6% to 600,000 tonnes. Cream jumped 14.7% to 362,000 tonnes. Russian dairy production is anticipated to reach 38.9 million tonnes by 2030. Domestic consumption also expects a rise by 1.5% on average per year.

Information for the period May 26 - June 6, 2025, issued biweekly

Published by:

Dairy Market News - Madison, WI JOSHUA MCNEFF, 202-937-4934 Email: joshua.mcneff@usda.gov

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