



MemberConnection

CONNECTING MEMBERS TO THE LATEST CO-OP NEWS | DECEMBER 2025



MMPA grows processing capabilities with new plant acquisition and ultrafiltered milk expansion

As shared during District Meetings in December, MMPA is proud to announce the acquisition of the Leprino Foods' plant located in Remus, Mich., a strategic move that strengthens MMPA's commitment to member-owners and enhances its product offerings. This expansion, made possible in part by support from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), will introduce cottage cheese production to MMPA's product mix.

"This acquisition represents a meaningful step forward in MMPA's long-term strategy to grow our cooperative, invest in Michigan's dairy industry and deliver increased value to our members," said Joe Diglio, President and CEO of MMPA. "With our longstanding familiarity with the Remus facility and deep ties to the surrounding community, we are excited about this opportunity to revitalize operations and bring new products to market."

The Remus, Mich., plant has a rich history with MMPA, originally purchased by the cooperative in 1983. Leprino Foods began operating it in 1987 and in 2006 they assumed full ownership of the facility. In early 2024, MMPA worked with Leprino Foods to shift the plant's product mix to fit Leprino's business needs.

In addition to this acquisition, MMPA is expanding ultrafiltered milk production capabilities at its Ovid, Mich. facility. This enhancement adds 3 million pounds of daily processing capacity to the facility and builds on MMPA's existing ultrafiltered milk capacity at Constantine, Mich.

These investments support MMPA's strategic goals of expanding its manufacturing footprint, enhancing production capabilities and strengthening the dairy supply chain, all while staying rooted in the cooperative's nearly 110-year legacy of member-focused leadership.

Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference: February 5-6 in Mt. Pleasant

The annual Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference (GLRDC) offers dairy producers the opportunity to learn new strategies and tools to help their farm thrive.

Session topics include:

- how high oleic soybeans for dairy are enhancing efficiency and sustainability
- using precision technologies to nail the transition from dry to fresh cow
- a dairy market and policy outlook, with a deep dive into industry expansion with Sarina Sharp with the Daily Dairy Report
- an in-depth look at the science on advancing the prevention and control of claw diseases in dairy cattle
- a panel discussion about sharing insights about the future of your farm's infrastructure development

The conference will take place Feb. 5-6, 2025 at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Online registration closes on February 1, 2026. On-site registration is subject to availability.

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.GLRDC.ORG. TO REGISTER BY PHONE, CALL 989-666-3773.

UPCOMING EVENT

March 18: Annual Meeting, Novi

News from Novi

I've enjoyed meeting with many of you this past month during District Meetings. Considering how busy many of you are, along with the weather we endured, we appreciate those who were able to attend. It was a great opportunity to apprise you, the member-owner, of all that is going on within your Association.

For those who weren't able to attend, you missed a valuable opportunity to hear directly from your District Directors, the Board Chairman and the management team. We addressed many questions, and recognized several of your outstanding achievements producing high-quality milk on your farms. My hope is that those who attended left feeling optimistic and energized about the future. These meetings remain an important way for us to communicate with you about current events and our long-term vision. I would also like to extend my congratulations to all board members on their reelection during District Meetings: Kurt Steiner, Brian DeMann, Amy Martin, Tony Jandernoa and Kris Wardin.

During District Meetings we were also excited to announce the news about our expansion efforts. We're excited to add cottage cheese to our product portfolio and are looking forward to producing our first batch in early 2026. At the same time, we're pleased with the expansion of our ultrafiltered milk technology in Ovid. Building a redundant asset in Ovid further strengthens our ability to extract value in the marketplace on behalf of you, the member-owner.

Adding to this momentum, the House recently passed the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which is expected to be signed by the President. We're encouraged by what this means for our youth and for continuing to position dairy as a nutritious choice in school meals. It's a great note to head into the holiday season!

—Joe Diglio, MMPA President & CEO

UPDATES & REMINDERS

District Meeting election results

During District Meetings in December, MMPA members in District 1, 2, 3 and 5 reelected Kurt Steiner of Creston, Ohio; Brian DeMann of Martin, Mich.; Amy Martin of Leroy, Mich.; and Tony Jandernoa of Fowler, Mich. respectively, to serve a three-year term beginning March 18, 2026, as District Directors on the MMPA board of directors. In addition, members reelected Kris Wardin of St. Johns, Mich. to serve a three-year term as an at-large director on the MMPA board of directors beginning March 18, 2026. The at-large ballots were collected and sealed during District Meetings and appointed inspectors gathered on Dec. 16 to count them.

A complete list of election results, including elected district officers and nominating committee members will be printed in the January/February issue of the *Milk Messenger*.

Domestic Production Activities Deduction

MMPA has elected to pass through a tax benefit available to members under Section 199A(g) of the Internal Revenue Code Deduction. A statement is being mailed to all members this month indicating your portion of the 199A(g) Deduction for use in the 2025 tax year. For the year ended September 30, 2025, MMPA's Section 199A(g) Deduction is being passed through to members based on the same formula used to determine members' share of MMPA's patronage income. The value of the Fiscal Year 2025 deduction equates to approximately \$0.47 per hundredweight on average.

The Section 199A(g) Deduction is a tax benefit that replaces the Domestic Production Activities Deduction ("DPAD") under former Section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code. This pass-through deduction amount will also be reflected in members' 2025 Form 1099-PATR. We advise members to consult with their tax advisor to help to determine how this tax benefit can best be utilized in your specific tax situation.

2026 Milk Check Direct Deposit Schedule

- January 16 and 26
- February 17 and 26
- March 17 and 26
- April 17 and 27
- May 18 and 26
- June 17 and 26
- July 17 and 27
- August 17 and 26
- September 17 and 25
- October 16 and 26
- November 17 and 25
- December 17 and 28

United Dairy Industry of Michigan board applications available

MMPA members residing in Michigan and interested in representing MMPA on the United Dairy Industry of Michigan (UDIM) board of directors are encouraged to submit an application by January 1, 2026. Any MMPA member in Michigan who is a sole proprietor, a partner in a partnership, a member of the limited liability company or a shareholder of the corporation, is eligible to apply for the open positions. The number of applicants selected to represent MMPA is determined by the MMPA Board of Directors and based on overall number of board members allotted to MMPA by UDIM. Representatives will be selected on a biannual basis. Interested members should contact Elizabeth Kent at elizabeth.kent@mimilk.com for an application.

MARKET REPORT

Statistical Summary | FOR MILK MARKETED IN OCTOBER 2025

MMPA Reporting

Average All Milk Price

\$18.86

Average Butterfat

4.25%

Average Protein

3.32%

Average SCC

166,000 cells / mL

Total Milk Production

+2.8% over October 2025

AMS Survey Prices

(monthly average, per pound)

Cheese

1.7384 / LB

Butter

1.7344 / LB

Milk Powders

Nonfat Dry Milk

1.1601 / LB

Dry Whey

0.5930 / LB

Market Statistics - Mideast Federal Order #33

	# This Month	# Year Ago	% Change
Total Class 1 Sales	605,276,831	617,930,259	-2.05%
Total Class 2 Sales	455,645,684	383,531,429	18.80%
Total Class 3 Sales	622,657,195	481,550,546	29.30%
Total Class 4 Sales	201,923,052	197,253,154	2.37%
Total Production	1,885,502,762	1,680,265,388	12.21%
Class 1 Utilization	32.1%	36.8%	

Mideast Federal Order #33

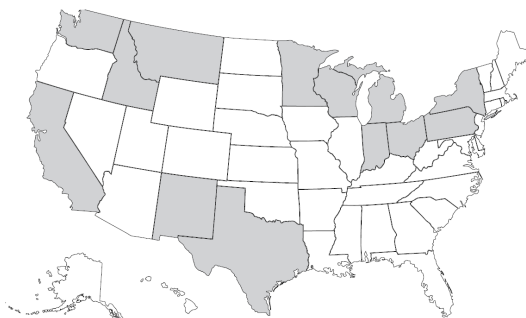
Total Producers.....	3,246
Avg. Daily Production per farm.....	18,738
Avg. Protein Test	3.35%
Avg. Butterfat Test	4.31%
Avg. Oth Solids Test	5.77%

Component Pricing Information - Mideast Federal Order #33

Protein Price /lb.	\$2.8761
Butterfat Price /lb.	\$1.8252
Other Solids Price /lb.	\$0.3360
Class III Price @ 3.5%	\$16.91
Prod. Price Diff /cwt. - Mich Mkt	\$0.06
Uniform Price @ 3.5%	\$16.97
SCC Adjustment /cwt /1000.....	\$0.00087

National Trends*

(production in millions of pounds)



*For 24 States

	2025	2024	% Change
California	3,417	3,196	+6.9
Wisconsin	2,746	2,697	+1.8
Idaho	1,552	1,450	+7.0
New York	1,396	1,342	+4.0
Texas	1,546	1,502	+2.9
Michigan	1,067	1,023	+4.3
Minnesota	895	869	+3.0
Pennsylvania	798	802	-0.5
New Mexico	475	497	-4.4
Washington	480	518	-7.3
Ohio	472	472	+0.0
Indiana	387	376	+2.9
Total U.S.*	18,727	18,025	+3.9
U.S Y-T-D*	185,583	181,481	+2.3

MMPA Cooperative Social Responsibility Report now available!

MMPA released its 2024 Cooperative Social Responsibility Report, which contains an update of MMPA’s Sustainability Program in calendar year 2024. The report includes data and metrics for sustainability efforts on member farms, in MMPA plants and in MMPA’s corporate office. The report outlines MMPA’s efforts to achieve a 30 percent reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and net zero GHG emissions by 2050. It also demonstrates MMPA’s positive impact and contributions to U.S. dairy’s ability to track, aggregate and report on progress.



ACCESS THE REPORT ONLINE: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/MMPA2024CSR](https://bit.ly/mmpa2024csr)

MARKET NEWS | *USDA Dairy Market News - December 12, 2025*

CHEESE HIGHLIGHTS: Cheese output in the East is trending higher as year-end production ramps up and additional milk moves into cheese vats. Retail activity is seasonally supportive as grocers build inventories, while bulk demand remains steady to lighter. Inventory levels are balanced and aligned with current movement. Cheese production in the Central region remains strong, though some contracts note output has eased from recent weeks. Winter weather is impacting milk production and transportation, prompting some cheesemakers to secure spot volumes to maintain steady schedules. A few plants report downtime and are selling spot milk. Retail cheese demand is firm heading into the holidays, while food service activity holds steady. Export interest remains strong, and spot loads of cheese are available to meet current demand. Western cheese manufacturers continue to receive strong milk volumes, keeping production schedules active. Domestic demand is flat overall, though export interest remains steady to strong. Producers are focused on meeting December needs, with some varieties seeing tighter availability.

BUTTER HIGHLIGHTS: Domestic retail butter demand is stronger this week. Contacts report flat domestic food service butter demand. Demand from international buyers varies from steady to strong. Cream loads are readily available. Cream demand from butter manufacturers is mixed. Butter production schedules are strong. Some butter manufacturers note international loads continue to be the priority for their bulk butter production lines. Domestic bulk butter and 80 percent butterfat unsalted butter loads are somewhat tight. 80 percent butterfat salted butter loads are readily available. Bulk butter overages range from 5 cents below to 5 cents above market across all regions.

FLUID MILK: For much of the United States, milk output was lighter this week. Some regions experienced extreme weather, which greatly affected cow comfort. Milk component levels remain strong. Class I demand is strong. Contacts mention bottling facilities are finalizing orders for educational institutions prior to the start of their winter breaks. During that time bottling is expected to decline. For now, spot purchases for Class I are in demand and some Class III manufacturers are selling loads to Class I facilities. Class II demand is steady in some regions and light in others. Class II production is expected to remain light since most holiday demand is already fulfilled. Class III activity is stronger this week. Some cheesemakers are purchasing spot loads of milk ahead of forecasted winter weather that may cause transportation disruptions.

DRY PRODUCTS: Low/medium heat nonfat dry milk (NDM) prices were steady to higher in the Central and East regions, while steady to slightly lower in the West. In the southwest, NDM supplies are noted as tight. Dry buttermilk prices were steady to higher throughout the country. Tight supplies are meeting steady to heartier demand ahead of the winter holiday season. Dry whole milk prices were higher this week, despite quieter demand from confectioneries as holiday orders have generally been fulfilled. Dry whey prices continued their bullish trend. Demand is steady, but dry whey supplies are notably tight. Whey protein concentrate 34% prices were steady to higher. Lactose prices were steady to lower on steady domestic demand tones. Rennet casein prices were stable this week, while acid casein prices ticked lower.



The MMPA Farm Supply Store, based in Mt. Pleasant, offers a variety of products including sanitation chemicals, udder and milk prep supplies, minerals, milk replacers, hoses, filters, inflations, testing equipment and MMPA apparel. To order products, call 877-367-6455 or visit mimilk.com/farm-supply-store.



Featured Product: Longline CIP detergent from Proactive Chemicals (\$132.77 OR \$126.13*)

**Valid on online orders only through January 26, 2026.*

