



# DSR Market Insights

Week of  
December 9, 2024

CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Beef (Commodity)	Mixed	Short - Mixed	<i>The holiday Rib &amp; Tenderloin selling season is here. Prices are at seasonal high where they will remain for 2-weeks before beginning seasonal price declines. Financial losses derived from falling Rib and Tenderloin prices cause packer to increase prices on Chucks, Rounds, Briskets and Ground Beef.</i>
Pork (Commodity)	Butt - Stable Spareribs - Decreasing	Butts - Steady - Stable Spareribs - Steady - Decreasing	<i>Near-term prices for 1/4 trim butt are expected to remain firm due to increased retail demand through year-end. Sparerib prices may soften after Thanksgiving because of higher supply levels; however, tight cold storage inventories could provide a price floor.</i>
Pork (Value-Added)	Decreasing	Steady - Decreasing	<i>Bacon prices should begin to decline through the end of the year, losing as much as 30% of its value</i>
Poultry (Chicken)	Steady	Available – Steady	<i>Pricing and availability remain steady across the front half of the bird. The back half of the bird remains steady and supply is tight.</i>
Poultry (Turkey)	Increasing	Available – Steady	<i>Avian Influenza continue to plague the turkey industry. The markets have been steady but whole turkeys have started to take a slight increase.</i>
Seafood	Shrimp - Increasing Atlantic Salmon - Increasing	Shrimp - Steady - Increasing Salmon -Steady - Increasing	<p><i>Salmon: Farmed salmon prices are steady to firm, with demand outpacing supply in some regions. Wild salmon markets are quieter, reflecting the seasonal end of fresh chum sales and quality concerns in limited remaining stock.</i></p> <p><i>Shrimp: Prices for shrimp, including White and Black Tiger varieties, generally maintain a steady to firm undertone, supported by tight replacement supplies. Wild Gulf shrimp saw upward price adjustments due to constrained supplies and higher raw material costs.</i></p> <p><i>Lobster: North American lobster markets face supply disruptions due to adverse weather, with strong demand pushing prices upward. Frozen lobster tails maintain steady pricing, while live lobsters see increases as fishing efforts are hampered.</i></p> <p><i>Scallops: The domestic scallop market is firming, especially for premium sizes like U-10, supported by limited landings and steady demand.</i></p> <p><i>Pangasius and Tilapia: Both markets remain steady, though tilapia shows slight upward price pressure due to substitution demand impacting pangasius pricing.</i></p>
Canned Vegetables - Whole Beets	Increasing	Short - Strong	<i>6/10 Small Whole Beets will be out of stock until the 2025 pack due to lack of available raw product tonnage.</i>
Butter	Decreasing	Available - Steady	<p><i>Butter demand was mixed for the Thanksgiving holiday week. Although stakeholders in the Northeast note slightly tighter cream volumes, loads are readily available across most of the nation. Many butter producers are not looking to secure spot loads and turning away spot cream load offers. Like butter demand, butter production schedules are mixed for the holiday week also, with some butter producers noting various degrees of downtime for the final week of the month. A few butter manufacturers indicate shifting more of the production focus to bulk butter.</i></p> <p><i>Source: USDA AMS as of November 29</i></p>
Cheese	Steady	Available - Strong	<p><i>Cheese manufacturing schedules remain varied throughout the U.S. In the East region, milk volumes remain somewhat snug. Cheese plant managers relay using all the milk available to them for production. Contacts in the region share retail demand remains strong. Cheesemakers in the Central region are running seasonally steady production schedules. Cheese plant managers share surplus milk loads are not as available as they have been during previous Thanksgiving weeks. Both curd and barrel producers share demand is slightly quieter. In the West region, cheese production is steady. Cheese manufacturers share milk volumes are readily available for processing needs.</i></p> <p><i>Source: USDA AMS as of November 29</i></p>
Fluid Dairy	Class I - Decreasing Class II - Decreasing	Class I Available - Steady Class II Short - Strong	<p><i>Class I: December Milks, moderate decrease.</i></p> <p><i>Class II: December Cream and cultured, small decrease.</i></p>



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Oils/Shortening	Steady	Available - Mixed	<p>Though we continue to hear about volatility on the Stock Markets in regards to domestic Oilseed products, we have not seen any dramatic price changes in recent history. Based on overall market and political data, we may see some minimal price increases in the coming days, but nothing significant. Now that harvest is complete on North American oilseed products, there is solid supply for the coming months. Palm Oil continues it's climb on the world market. This will translate to ongoing strong prices on cube shortening products and margarine. At this time there is no indication of product shortages.</p>
Produce	<p>Decreasing - Iceberg, Romaine</p> <p>Steady - Apples, Avocados, Oranges, Lemons, ID Potatoes, Value-Added/Cut Lettuces</p> <p>Increasing - Broccoli, Carrots, Strawberries, Bell Peppers, Onions, Tomatoes</p>	<p>Improving/Steady - Oranges, Avocados, Romaine, Iceberg</p> <p>Good/Steady - Apples, Lemons, Russet Potatoes</p> <p>Short/Strong - Broccoli, Carrots, Tomatoes, Peppers, Onions, Strawberries</p>	<p>Apples, WA 125s &amp; 138s are becoming scarce, except for Galas, Autumn Glory, Braeburn, &amp; Ambrosia. Finding a few smaller Grannies.</p> <p>Avocados, MX large fruit priced well above small fruit.</p> <p>Bell Peppers, weather caused short FL supplies. Relief in late Dec.</p> <p>Broccoli, extremely limited next two weeks due to quality issues.</p> <p>Carrots, prarates, sixty 100F days in CA + Hurricane wiping out GA crop</p> <p>Iceberg, market easing. Weights still light ranging from 35-40lbs.</p> <p>Value-Added Lettuce escalators are still in place for now.</p> <p>Romaine, 24ct &amp; Heart supplies improving. Improving weights.</p> <p>Tomatoes, demand &gt; supply. Recovery expected in late-Dec.</p> <p>Strawberries, CA supplies short due to cold. Fl starting in mid-Dec.</p> <p>Oranges, CA Navels peaking on 88-138ct fruit. Mandarins now avail.</p> <p>Lemons, CA supply &amp; quality improving as a new areas are producing.</p> <p>Onions, ID/OR. Export demand pushing markets, Whites up the most.</p> <p>ID Potatoes, market steady with excellent quality!</p>
Sugar	Decreasing	Available - Strong	<p>Sugar Pricing has softened in recent months due to a strong crop outlook and weekend domestic demand. Harvest season is currently underway and reports regarding crop quality and expected yield have so far been neutral. Longer term pricing trends will not be understood until harvest is complete and yields from both beets and can be fully understood. Thus, it is unlikely that there will be any dramatic pricing shift until 2025.</p>
Shell Eggs	Steady	Available - Steady	<p>Demand for shell eggs tapers off in the immediate post-Thanksgiving period. Wholesale prices for negotiated trading of loose eggs are weak on mostly moderate demand for light offerings and light to moderate supplies. Trading is moderate. Wholesale prices for formula trading of carton stock weak to lower on moderate demand for light offerings and light to moderate supplies. Trading is moderate. Wholesale breaking stock prices are steady on light demand for light offerings and moderate supplies. Schedules are back to full-time. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates increased activity for conventional shell eggs targeting the start of the December cookie season and the average ad price moves lower. Source: USDA AMS as of December 4</p> <p>In other news, the Arizona Department of Agriculture has suspended the state's "cage-free requirement" until January 2027.</p> <p>Avian Influenza Update: Eggs America reported Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreaks on 11/26 at two California sites affecting 2.2MM birds in production. This report comes in addition to other reports in preceding weeks out of Arizona and California that are expected to result in depopulations totaling 3.4MM in-production birds (at the California sites, pullets are expected to be depopulated as well), and also the mid-October outbreaks in Washington State and Utah affecting 1.8MM hens, and July reported outbreaks affecting 1.3MM conventional and 2MM cage-free hens.</p>
Wheat (Flour Based Products)	Mixed	Available - Strong	<p>Pricing on bulk flour and flour based products continues to remain steady. The conflict escalation in the Black Sea area does cause some long term concern. Crop reports from both Russian and Ukraine do not look positive. World supply could become tighter as we move into next year. Any upcoming price changes will likely be minimal. We have supply to cover needs. Any product shortages will be minimal and sporadic and solely based on plant capacity and holiday demand.</p>