DSR Market Insights

Week of
February 17, 2025

CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Beef (Commodity)	Mixed	Short - Mixed	*The nation's Beef Packers have been under continuous margins pressure throughout Q1, 2025 driven by unexpected increases in the value of Live Cattle. In response, packers have reduced and capped weekly harvest levels. Live Cattle markets responded with another price rally, prompting further, more aggressive reduction in harvest announced on Tuesday, for two weeks. Expect an increase in product shortage, followed by increases to the of Beef.*
Pork (Commodity)	Stable	Available - Steady	*The bone in and boneless butt price is on the rise, likely to gain 20% in value over the next eight weeks. Spare ribs and backrib prices should remain stable.*
Pork (Value-Added)	Steady	Available - Steady	*After a month of price increases, bacon prices should stabilize for the near term.*
Poultry (Chicken)	Stable	Available – Steady	*Pricing and availability remain steady across the entire bird. Market is quiet as we head into the New Year.*
Poultry (Turkey)	Stable	Short – Steady	*Avian Influenza continues to plague the turkey industry. Pricing has remained steady, but all parts of the bird are well accounted for and hard to uncover. Tom breast meat pricing is on the rise.*
Seafood	Farmed Salmon - Increasing Lobster - Increasing Pasteurized crabmeat - Steady	Farmed Salmon - Available/steady Lobster - Short/Increasing Pasteurized Crab Meat - Available/Light	*Farmed Salmon - Air cargo constraints are causing supply delays, pushing prices higher* *Shrimp - Market remains stable despite supply improvements. Logistical issues, operational blackouts in Ecuador, and raw material shortages in India are influencing stability. Challenges in passing cost increases along the supply chain persist.* *Lobster - Small-to-mid-size warm water lobster tails are in demand; larger sizes struggle. Live lobster remains steady.* *Pasteurized Crab Meat - Blue crab market is steady with adequate supply and fair demand. Red crab prices are rising for premium grades like colossal and jumbo lump due to tight supplies and strong demand. Inventory positions vary by seller, creating price fluctuations.*
Butter	Decreasing	Available - Steady	*Butter demand varies from lighter to steady. Cream volumes are plentiful and affordable. Butter production schedules vary from steady to strong. More than ample volumes of affordable cream are being worked through churns to build stock for spring demand needs. Both salted and unsalted loads are available. Source: USDA AMS as of February 7*
Cheese	Increasing	Available - Steady	*Cheese production schedules are mixed throughout the U.S. In the East region, cheesemakers relay steady to stronger production schedules. Milk remains snug but available for Class III processing. Cheese inventories are generally available for interested buyers. In the Central region, contacts share cheese demand is strong for most varieties. Some barrel suppliers relay demand has quieted somewhat but remains elevated. Milk availability is mostly balanced. In the West region, cheesemakers relay variable production schedules due to snug spot milk availability. Some contacts note cheese inventories are tight while others say they are available for interested spot purchasers. Source: USDA AMS as of February 7*
Fluid Dairy	Class I - Decreasing Class II - Decreasing	Class I Available - Steady Class II Available - Strong	*Class I: Cost increase on Milks in February.* *Class II: Cream & Cultured costs steady in February.*
Oils/Shortening	Increasing	Available - Steady	*As we have seen all year so far, the market continues to bounce up down in the trading markets. The overall trend so far in 2025 has been a slight overall increase. Trade levels in Foodservice are slightly higher than when we stared the year, but overall there are no notable price changes. We may see some slight increases in prices as we move the second half of the month, but nothing notable. There is plenty of product available domestically and worldwide. The markets are mostly trading on world and domestic political speculation. Market prices on margarine do remain similar to those seen in recent weeks. We may see some slight increases on bulk margarine products or cube shortening based on slightly higher palm markets. But again, changes will likely be minimal.*
Produce	Decreasing - Steady - Apples, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Iceberg, Romaine, Carrots, Tomatoes, Oranges, Lemons, ID Potatoes, Onions, Strawberries Increasing - Avocados	Increasing/Steady - Tomatoes, Peppers Steady/Steady - Apples, Broccoli, Romaine, Iceberg, Lemons, Oranges, ID Potatoes, Onions Short/Strong - Avocados, Carrots, Strawberries	*Apples, WA small sized Foodservice fruit limited. Market steady.* *Avocados, MX heavy to small fruit. Large sizes limited & priced higher.* *Bell Peppers, supplies abundant on both coasts. Top quality.* *Broccoli, cold reduced supplies & demand so costs are steady.* *Carrots, supplies improving in CA & GA.* *Iceberg, expect peeling, minor pink rib & Lighter Wts. due to Field Ice.* *Romaine, expect peeling, minor pink rib & Lighter Wts. due to Field Ice.* *Tomatoes, strong FL & MX production. Quality is good.* *Strawberries, cold temps in all areas has limited supplies, market firm.* *Oranges, CA Navels peak sizes 113ct to 138ct. High quality & sugar.* *Lemons, CA supply & quality improving as a new areas are producing.* *Onions, ID/OR. Storage quality strong. Medium Yellows & Reds tight.* *ID Potatoes, Russets steady. Reds & Golds increasing. Peak quality.*

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Sugar	Steady	Available - Steady	*Pricing on domestic Sugar products will remain relatively steady as we move through the second month of the year. The market softening has leveled out in recent weeks and we do not expect to see any significant price changes in the near term. There is uncertainty about imported Mexican Sugar as this time. Normally the allowable imported quantiles are determined by the government in the spring. This typically helps to set the pricing levels for the remainder of the pack year. Based on an anticipated weaker yield and potential tariffs on imports, long term pricing on Mexican sugar is unknown at this time. There is plenty of domestic product available to cover any shortfall. Thus, we do not anticipate any significant impact in availability or pricing as we move through spring months.*
Shell Eggs	Increasing	Tight Supply, Elevated Demand	*Year-to-date through 2/7 USDA reports over 21MM egg-layer losses due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Total 2024 egg layer losses were nearly 40MM nationally. As of February 12, USDA AMS reports shell egg demand is nearly unchanged from last week, and demand appears to be driven in-part by concerns over consistency of availability as supplies remain tight. Wholesale prices continue to set new record highs on a daily basis across all markets. Wholesale prices for negotiated trading of loose eggs are firm to higher but the pace of increase has slowed. Retail demand is moderate to good, a slight decline from recent weeks while food service demand is light to moderate. Offerings are light to very light with little sign of improving in the near-term. Supplies range very light to moderate and trading is active. Wholesale prices for formula trading of carton stock continue to rise but the rate of increase is slowing. Wholesale breaking stock prices are higher despite light to very light demand as offerings remain light to very light on very light to nearly moderate supply. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates no identified feature activity by mid-week as many grocers continue to struggle to maintain a consistent offering to their customers.*
Wheat (Flour Based Products)	Mixed	Available - Steady	*Pricing on flour products should remain relatively steady as we move through the month. We may see some slight fluctuations in pricing based on region due to production capacity. Though there are some global concerns about long term availability out of the Black Sea region, there is available domestic product to cover current needs. It is expected that pricing levels on bulk flour products and products that utilize flour as their key ingredient to remain at similar levels as we close out the month.*