European Dairy Market Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service
Dairy Market News

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West Europe:

In Germany, milk output continues to decline. Industry sources indicate output during the current period is down from previous weeks and below 2025 levels. Milk pay prices in Germany increased in September, up 4.7 percent from August, but down 21.4 percent from September 2025. The pay price for organic milk increased in September but remained down from a year ago. Since May of this year, organic milk prices in Germany have remained down compared to 2025, when prices reached record highs.

Imports of dairy products increased in the United Kingdom, during the first 3 quarters of 2026. Most dairy products were imported at higher levels this year. The only product category with fewer imports year over year is whey, down 14 percent. Cheese imports increased 4.3 percent and the largest growth in imports came from skim milk powder, up 30.3 percent.

Exports of dairy products from the United Kingdom also increased through the first 3 quarters of the year. Cheese exports were up 15.9 percent and whole milk powder exports grew 45.5 percent. Exports declined for liquid milk and cream and for whey products.

East Europe:

In Belarus, agriculture production increased 5.7 percent in the first 3 quarters of 2026, compared to 2025. Milk production was up 2.9 percent year over year, during this time frame. At the start of November, the country had 3.8 million cattle, which includes 1.3 million cows.

Estimates published by Eurostat show the value of agricultural output in the European Union increased 4.8 percent year over year in 2025 to 558.7 billion Euros. The value of goods and services used for production increased 1.8 percent last year. The value of animal and animal products were 238.2 billion Euros, up 9.2 percent from 2024. The largest percentage growth occurred in Romania, 13.6 percent. Czechia, Ireland, Estonia, Slovakia, and Austria all had percentage growths over 10 percent. In Greece, Cyprus, Portugal, Finland, and Malta, the value of agricultural output declined in 2025.

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