Cheddar Cheese Prices

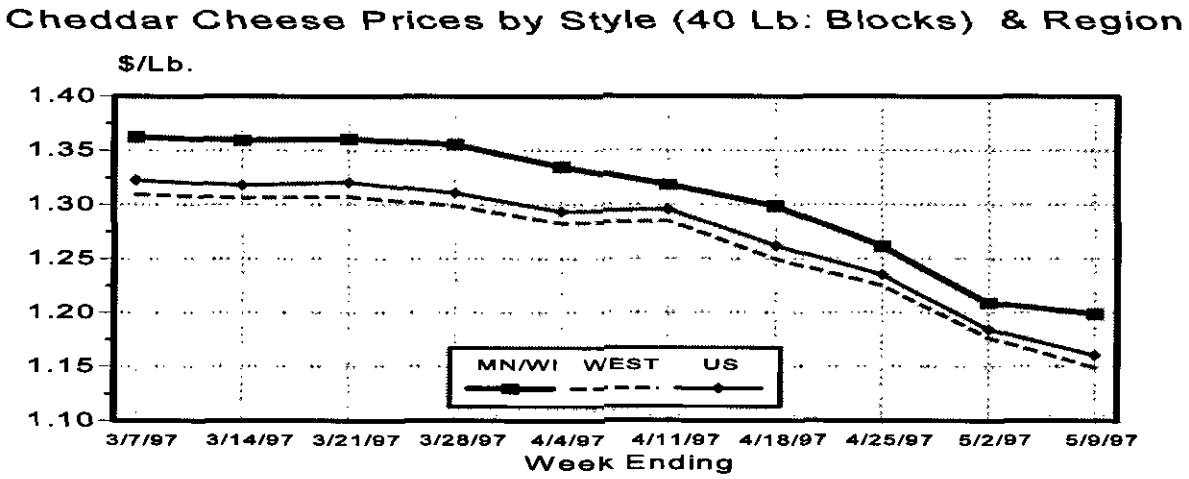
National Agricultural Statistics Service

USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released May 16,1997,by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Cheddar Cheese Prices" call Kevin Hintzman at (202) 720-4448, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Cheddar Cheese Prices Continue Decline

The prices received by manufacturers' of 40 lb. blocks declined another 2.37 cents during the week ending May 9 to $1.1605. Barrel prices declined 2.60 cents to $1.1430. Prices for 40 lb. blocks have decreased 16.2 cents since early March (week ending 3/7).



Data Reliability: The survey collects price information on bulk sales of natural, unaged, Cheddar cheese at the first (wholesale) point of sale. Data are recorded for sales transactions completed during the survey week. A transaction is considered complete when cheese is shipped out or title transfers. The 65 plants reporting account for an estimated 85 percent of bulk, natural Cheddar cheese sales.

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The next **"Cheddar Cheese Prices"** report will be released at 8:30 A.M. ET on May 23, 1997.

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To subscribe to **NASS** reports or to single copies, call toll free, **1-800-999-6779.** You may write: **ERS/NASS,** 341 Victory Drive, Herdon, Va.

Cheddar Cheese Prices by Style and Region

Style and Region	Week Ending May 9, 1997	May 2, 1997 1/	Apr 25, 1997	Apr 18, 1997	Apr 11, 1997
40 Lb. Blocks:			Dol./Lb.		
Avg. Price 2/					
MN/WI	1.1987	1.2089	1.2614	1.2986	1.3185
West 3/	1.1489	1.1765	1.2253	1.2495	1.2848
US 4/	1.1605	1.1842	1.2353	1.2620	1.2957
Sales Volume 5/			Pounds		
MN/WI	1,172,221	973,957	1,142,779	1,103,480	1,291,405
West 3/	4,407,347	4,056,982	3,835,080	3,776,802	3,230,813
US 4/	5,739,079	5,262,041	5,189,427	5,051,924	4,702,871
640 Lb. Blocks:			Dol./Lb.		
Avg. Price 2/					
US	1.1649	1.2125	1.2334	1.2750	1.3135
Sales Volume 5/			Pounds		
US	1,869,346	671,192	971,574	1,009,740	624,571
500 Lb. Barrels:			Dol./Lb.		
Avg. Price 2/					
MN/WI	1.2139	1.2363	1.2633	1.2945	1.3276
Oth	1.2335	1.2658	1.2878	1.3106	1.3249
US	1.2240	1.2498	1.2749	1.3014	1.3264
Adj. Price to 39 % Moisture					
MN/WI	1.1313	1.1563	1.1779	1.2030	1.2409
Oth	1.1540	1.1841	1.2010	1.2274	1.2427
US	1.1430	1.1690	1.1887	1.2134	1.2417
Sales Volume 5/			Pounds		
MN/WI	3,535,334	3,979,617	3,910,990	4,123,472	3,866,881
Oth	3,773,196	3,347,281	3,477,566	3,076,755	3,494,748
US	7,308,530	7,326,898	7,388,556	7,200,227	7,361,629
Moisture Content			Percent		
MN/WI	34.54	34.78	34.57	34.36	34.74
Oth	34.80	34.80	34.59	34.86	34.96
US	34.68	34.79	34.58	34.58	34.84

1/ Revised.
2/ Prices weighted by volumes reported.
3/ CA, ID, OR, and WA.
4/ "Other Regions" included in U.S. total.
5/ Cheese sales where price could be established and reported to NASS.

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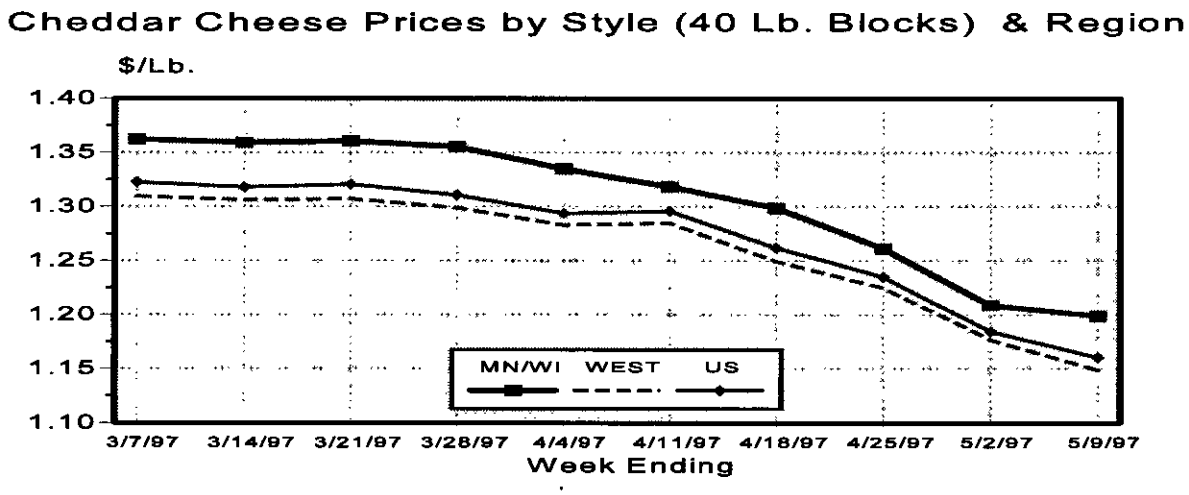

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