Fluid Milk and Cream - Central U.S.

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Upper Midwest farm milk output is steadying, after some general climactic improvements regarding cow comfort. There are some warmer days in the forecast here and there, but highs in the 70s and cooler nights have given farmers some optimism for near-term milk output growth. Additionally, despite some rain in recent weeks, fieldwork has been moving at a clip. The third cutting of hay is nearly complete, while the fourth cutting is underway. All this said, milk availability remains seasonally tight. Spot milk prices reported ranged from $2.25- to $3-over Class III, despite some cheese plant downtime being reported in the region. Last year, during week 34, spot milk prices ranged from Class III to $.50-over. Processors do not expect growth in spot milk availability until Labor Day weekend, if then. Class I activity is increasing. Bottlers are pulling milk at a seasonally busy pace, as schools are either already underway or will be within the next two weeks throughout the region. Cream availability is somewhat steady. Butter makers say spot cream availability is nearly nonexistent in the region, but Class II and Class III manufacturers are clearing spot cream at similar multiples to last week. Cream end users suggest a similar sentiment as do fluid milk processors regarding the potentiality of Labor Day availability.

Price Range - Class III Milk; $/CWT; Spot Basis: 2.25 - 3.00
Trade Activity: Moderate

Midwestern U.S. F.O.B. Cream				
Commodity			Low Price	High Price
Cream	All Classes	$/LB Butterfat	4.0519	4.5545
Cream	All Classes	Multiples Range	1.2900	1.4500
Cream	Class II	$/LB Butterfat	4.2718	4.5545
Cream	Class II	Multiples Range	1.3600	1.4500

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