

Dairy Update.

22 September 2021



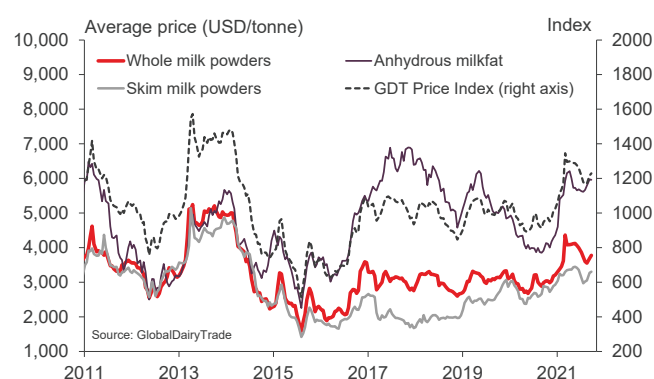
Rumbling along.

- Dairy prices posted moderate gains overnight.
- The result cements global dairy prices at very healthy levels.
- Fonterra announces its annual results later this week. For Fonterra's 2021/22 milk price forecast, we expect only minor changes, with a small chance of a modest forecast range upgrade.

GlobalDairyTrade auction results

	Change since last auction	Prices USD/tonne
Whole Milk Powder (WMP)	2.2%	\$3,777
Skim Milk Powder (SMP)	0.9%	\$3,302
Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF)	0.0%	\$5,962
Butter	-1.9%	\$4,857
GDT Price Index	1.0%	1,229

Global dairy prices



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Dairy auction prices posted further gains overnight. Overall prices lifted 1.0%, while key whole milk powder (WMP) prices lifted by 2.2%. The result cements global dairy prices at very healthy levels. WMP prices have lifted a combined 5.6% over the month, while prices now also lie 26% above year ago levels and 21% above the five-year average.

By product the auction result was mixed. Three products posted gains, two products posted price falls, while one was unchanged. Skim milk powder (SMP) prices continued their strong recent run, lifting by around 1% and are now up circa 11% over the last four auctions. Butter and cheddar prices were weaker on the day, falling by 1.9% and 1.2%, respectively.

The result was roughly in line with expectations. Prior to the auction, the futures market had indicated a circa 1.5% lift in WMP prices, while we pencilled in a 1% rise back on Friday.

From here, we expect the strength or otherwise of New Zealand spring production will begin to provide fresh impetus for prices decisively in either direction. However, spring production data won't be available until late October, so until then global dairy prices may rumble along.

At this still relatively early juncture of the season, global dairy prices are at a very healthy level. The price gains over the month do however point to some upside risk to our \$7.75/kg farmgate milk price forecast for 2021/22.

Later this week, Fonterra releases its annual results. It will finalise last season's milk price and update this season's forecast. As it stands, its forecast ranges are \$7.45 - \$7.65 and \$7.25 - \$8.75 per kg, for 2020/21 and 2021/22, respectively. At this early stage of the 2021/22 season, we expect only minor changes to this forecast as developments since the last update have roughly been in line with the forecast range. If anything, though, there may be a minor forecast upgrade.

Farmgate milk price forecasts

	2020/21		2021/22	
	Westpac	Fonterra	Westpac	Fonterra
Milk price	\$7.55	\$7.45-\$7.65	\$7.75	\$7.25-\$8.75



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