

AMINO ACIDS

Amino acid price market conditions have bottomed out according to some experts. A few key contributing factors include increasing international freight costs combined with higher buying activity. With increased demand expected for the fall and winter months, buyers are taking market positions to ensure an on-hand available supply. Outside of tryptophan, current spot market prices are stable.

Tryptophan supply has tightened over the last few weeks as a key producer is experiencing a production issue impacting available supply. Predictions are supply will remain tight for at least the next 60 days. In light of the situation United is forced to allocate to current customers at average purchase levels. Prices have responded by moving higher quickly with supply more important than price.

INGREDIENT	Price Trend: 1 Month	Price Trend: 3 Month	Supply Availability
LYSINE	→	→	GOOD
THREONINE	→	→	GOOD
METHIONINE	→	→	GOOD
TRYPTOPHAN	↑	↑	TIGHT
VALINE	→	→	GOOD

DAIRY POWDERS

In general dairy powders remain under bearish price pressure. With the lack of consistent export demand producers are working to sell domestically as much as possible. Seasonal milk production volumes keep milk proteins such as whey and whey protein concentrates from moving any lower. In light of the decreased milk production lactose prices have stabilized as well.

The overall price trend looks to be stable heading into the fall months.

INGREDIENT	Price Trend: 1 Month	Price Trend: 3 Month	Supply Availability
WHEY PERMEATE	→	→	GOOD
LACTOSE	→	→	GOOD
WHEY	→ ↑	→	GOOD

VITAMINS

Vitamins continue to show little change in the market. Supply continues to outpace demand with producers pushing for sales. With the supply chain working reliably producers are able to deliver in 60 days or less in most product supply situations.

Although some vitamin manufacturers are finishing summer regular maintenance schedules, supplies are ample to meet buyer needs.

Given the current conditions, expect price trends to remain stable.

INGREDIENT	Price Trend: 1 Month	Price Trend: 3 Month	Supply Availability
VITAMIN E	→	→	GOOD
VITAMIN A	→	→	GOOD
CAL PAN	→↓	→	GOOD
NIACIN	→↑	→	GOOD
D3 500	→	→	GOOD

MINERALS

In the mineral space, copper continues to be volatile with demand in Asia variable. Overall demand is down this year in Asia given the economic struggles they've experienced. As demand for copper is expected to increase for use in the consumer sector, market prices will be firm in the long term.

For zinc, supply remains good allowing prices to remain sluggish. Higher freight costs for imported products will keep prices in check. A combination of these factors should keep prices steady.

Monocalcium phosphate markets have seen little change with the expectation of stable pricing to continue.

INGREDIENT	Price Trend: 1 Month	Price Trend: 3 Month	Supply Availability
MONOCALCIUM PHOSPHATE	→	→↓	GOOD
COPPER SULFATE	→↑	→↑	GOOD
ZINC SULFATE /OXIDE	↓	→↓	GOOD