UNITED MARKET NEWS

APRIL 2026

TRADE AND TARIFFS

As the war between Iran and the US continues, the impact on market prices across most feed ingredients is being felt. With plants relying upon oil derivatives to run plants and as raw material sources, market prices for most feed ingredients are increasing based increasing key input costs.

Additionally, global freight costs are increasing as fuel costs are moving higher daily with some companies having to implementing weekly fuel surcharges.

In the near term, expect bullish price trends to continue and as the war continues, predictions are ingredient prices will take longer to stabilize. Current expectations are upward market trends will continue through Q2.

AMINO ACIDS

Lysine - In early March, a preliminary determination was made by the US Department of Commerce that lysine from China was sold at less than fair market values in the US. Tariff rates by importer and manufacturer will vary which will cause variation in pricing until the final determination in July is made. Spot market prices have been increasing progressively. In the meantime, market prices have increased in reaction to the ruling.

Threonine – Producers have moved prices higher recently due to higher costs of production and low profit margins. Experts predict this trend will continue through Q2.

Methionine – With a major manufacturer on a scheduled maintenance shutdown in March, available supplies have tightened. This along with higher energy costs are pushing prices higher. Expectation is this trend will continue.

Tryptophan and Valine – Currently, markets are stable as supply continues to outpace demand. In the short term, prediction is this trend will continue.

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

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MINERALS

With Artificial Intelligence (AI) demanding key minerals for use in products and services, markets overall are bullish.

Copper prices are stabilizing from their recent bullish trend as supplies are catching up with demand. Although still variable, expect a more stable trend for the time being.

Zinc continues to carry a firm tone driven by higher freight and input costs. Expectation is prices remain firm through Q2 and hopefully flatten this summer.

Monocalcium phosphate producers have announced general market price increases of $25-$30/ton based upon increased raw material and logistics costs. Expectation is prices will stabilize through Q2.

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

DAIRY POWDERS

Dairy powders continue to have a bullish trend, especially for high protein products driven by growing use in human products. Producers are continuing to run at near capacity levels. We could see some relief this summer but in the meantime these trends will continue to keep supplies tight with firm pricing.

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

VITAMINS

What a difference a month makes! Due to increasing energy used as key intermediates along with running manufacturing plants, most vitamin prices have increased. This change has left many buyers quickly looking to cover supply needs for the coming months. Experts predict this trend will continue through Q2.

INGREDIENT	Price Trend: 1 Month	Price Trend: 3 Month	Supply Availability
VITAMIN E	↑	↑	SPOT – TIGHT
VITAMIN A	↑	↑	SPOT – TIGHT
CAL PAN	↑	↑	SPOT – TIGHT
NIACIN	↑	↑	SPOT – TIGHT
D3 500	↑	↑	SPOT – TIGHT