UNITED MARKET NEWS

AUGUST 2026

TRADE AND TARIFFS

Logistics and global trade policies continue to be the primary cross-category risks, with global trade disruption, container rate pressure affecting market costs and supply.

With renewed US and Iran hostilities, elevated container rates on a major U.S. trade lane, and record import-volume forecasts as retailers frontload ahead of expected tariffs. Oil-price stabilization may help, but freight relief is expected to lag by several months.

AMINO ACIDS

The category is broadly steady to weak outside methionine. Large import volumes, weaker Asian pricing, efficient producer operations, and supply ahead of demand are pressuring several amino acids lower. Lysine faces a major trade-remedy overlay after final affirmative AD/CVD determinations for Chinese L-lysine. The final ruling will take effect later this year. In the meantime, lysine prices could vary depending upon tariff impact to supplier purchase costs.

Buyers are generally taking a what and see approach to buying amino acids while covering on an as needed basis. As demand trends are lower during the summer months, markets are predicted to move lower with higher freight rates counterbalancing prices. For Q3, expect markets to hold a stable trend.

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

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MINERALS

Minerals are showing a bullish trend compared to other categories. Freight costs, higher major mineral values, and raw-material sourcing from the Middle East are pushing trace minerals and monocalcium phosphate higher.

For monocalcium phosphate specifically, major domestic producers have implemented upwards of a $200/ton increase. Until trade becomes more settled, especially in the Middle East and with Russia, mineral trends will continue to be firm.

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

DAIRY POWDERS

Dairy powders remain steady to firm. Whey demand is steady with export support; lactose is tight, sold forward into Q3, and remains at historic high price levels; permeate spot pricing is expected to push higher through the quarter.

Price trends are predicted to be bullish as demand outpaces available supply for most dairy powders, especially high whey proteins.

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

VITAMINS

Vitamins remain stable to weak overall; however, maintenance outages and new choline salts trade cases create targeted upside risk.

Many major producers are planning scheduled maintenance shutdowns over the summer months.
With demand weaker over the summer, spot supplies could tighten.

Expectations are price trends will continue to be steady to weak during Q3.

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