

The French Observatory on the formation of food product prices and margins

Focus on dairy products & Ultra Heat Traited (UHT) milk









- Context and objectives of the Observatory
- Dairy products price monitoring outlines
- UHT milk prices: an analytical model
 - Processing chain analysis
 - Milk deliveries seasonality analysis
 - Considering the whole dairy products opportunities
 - Production price: an analytical price for raw material
- Semi-skimmed UHT milk price monitoring results
- Important: main results on other dairy products

Context and objectives of the Observatory







Long-term agrifood sector trends in France

- Decreasing share of household budget devoted to food
- Agri-food products are more processed
 - ⇒ Smaller share of farmgate price in food consumer prices
- Recent volatility of world food prices
- Reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy
- Chain stakeholders are subject to increased price volatility







Objectives of the Observatory

- To improve transparency on the mechanisms of price formation within supply and marketing chains
- To help understand how agrifood marketing chains work
- To serve as a learning tool for chain stakeholders, consumers and policy makers
- To contribute over the long term to the development of agro-industries which do not thwart consumer interests and the sustainability of the French agricultural sector







The current Observatory

- Set up by the Law on Modernization of Agriculture and Fisheries dated 27 July 2010
- Under the dual supervision of the Ministries of Agriculture and Consumerism
- Hosted by FranceAgriMer, the French Intervention Paying Agency
- Uses public statistics and data provided by agro-industries, distributors and retailers
- Multistakeholder steering committee to avoid being embroiled in political discussions
 - Dairy working group involving farmers, processors, retailers and consumers

Outlines of dairy product price monitoring







Dairy product price monitoring

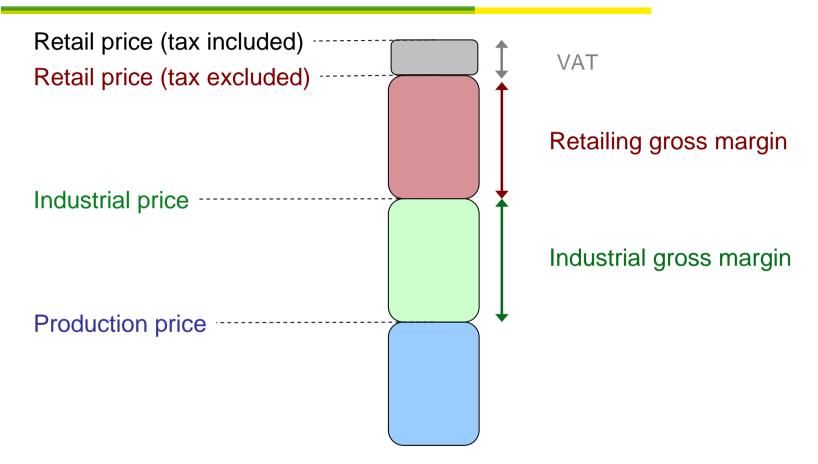
- Milk: a widely processed product
 - Milk cracking leads to very different products
 - Wide variety of products at consumer level
- Price monitoring for different products: representative, symbolic and « plain » products: as close as possible from milk
 - Semi-skimmed UHT milk
 - the French standard drinking milk with 75% market shares
 - Plain yogurts
 - Emmental cheese
 - Butter
- First publications in 2009, but the results were hard to read and understand. New, clearer and more synthetic method.







Price monitoring:



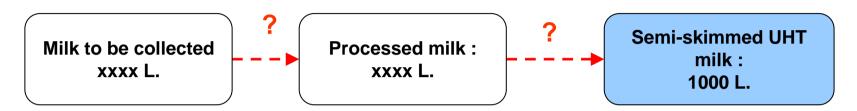
- Essential: Product <u>homogeneity</u> throughout price chain
- NB: we refer to gross margin! (quite different from profits!!)







Consumer milk: which milk are we talking about?



- From collected milk to consumer milk :
 - which products?
 - which prices ?
 - which volumes?
- Collected milk : average milk production price, average composition
- Final product: average weighed household purchasing price (Kantar Worldpanel)
 - Good representation of consumer behaviour patterns
 - Representation of discounts effects, products categories effects...
- To compare those prices, we must analyse the whole chain, from supplies to final process

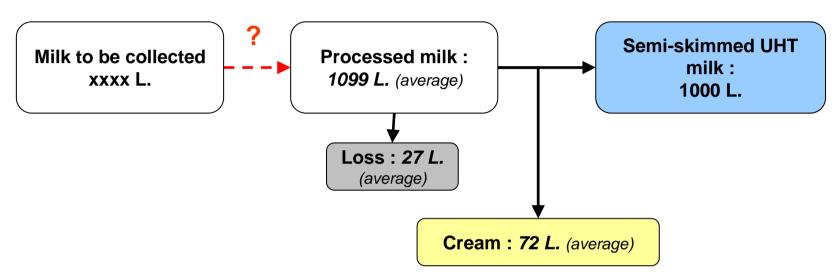
UHT milk processing chain analysis







UHT milk processing chain analysis



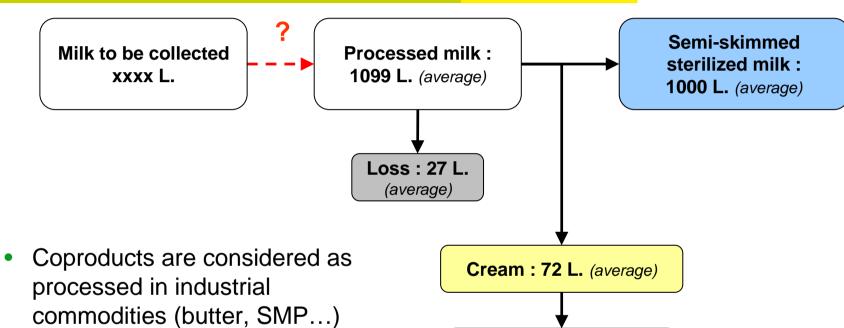
- Monthly material balance:
 - Average milk deliveries composition (Fat & Protein content)
 - Average semi-skimmed sterilized milk composition (with fat standardisation)
 - Major importance of a monthly balance (changes in milk price and composition)
- Loss: from dairy industry experts



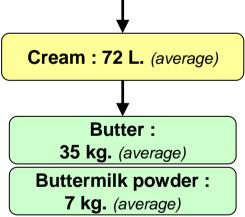




Coproducts uses



- Standard products
- Well-known prices...
- Simplified but realistic model



Milk deliveries seasonality analysis



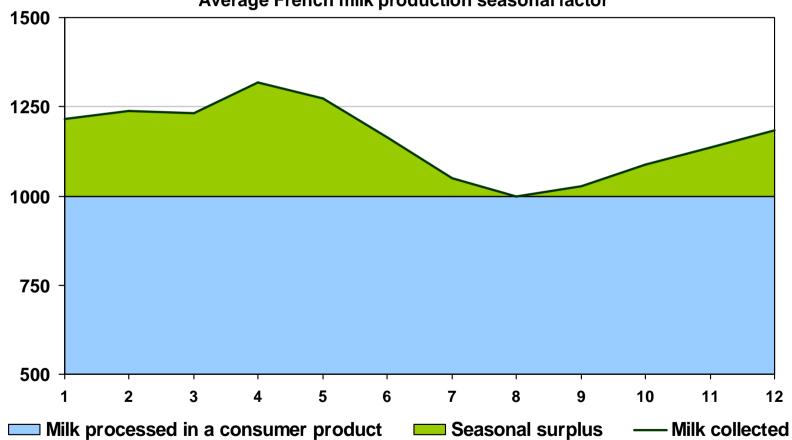




Seasonal surplus concept

Seasonal surplus in dairy products : example

Average French milk production seasonal factor



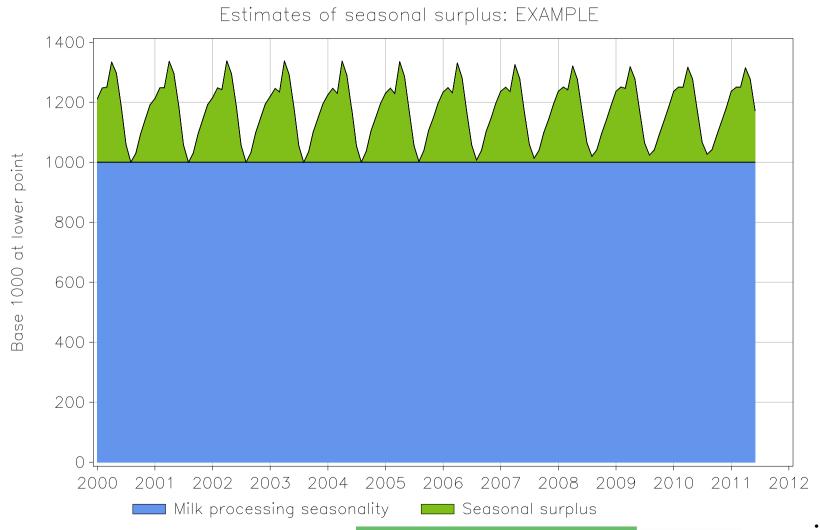






Seasonal surplus statistical analysis





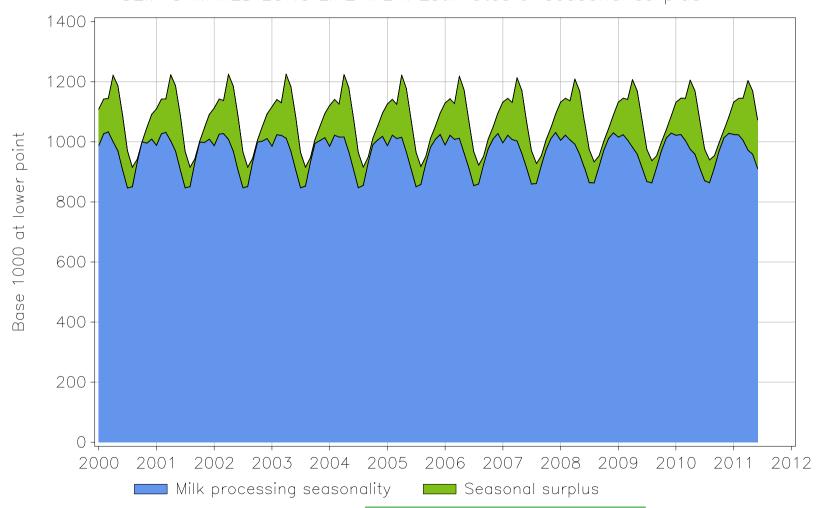






Semi-skimmed UHT milk seasonal surplus



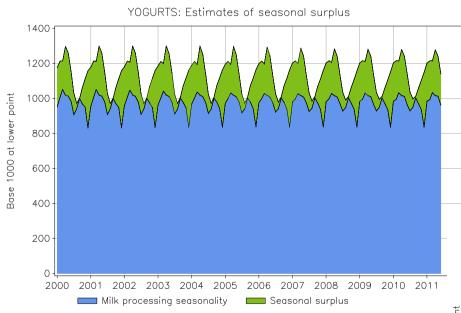


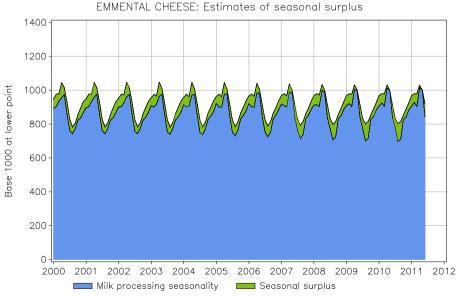






Other dairy product seasonal surplus





Considering the whole range of dairy products







Considering the whole dairy product opportunities

- The milk chain analysis must be as close as possible to the situation of the French dairy industry
- but French dairy industry also has a real focus on the production of industrial commodities (butter, SMP, ...)
- Milk deliveries and opportunities on consumer markets do not always evolve in parralel ways.
- - Those volumes are not real « surplus » but can be considered as surplus compared to consumer products markets



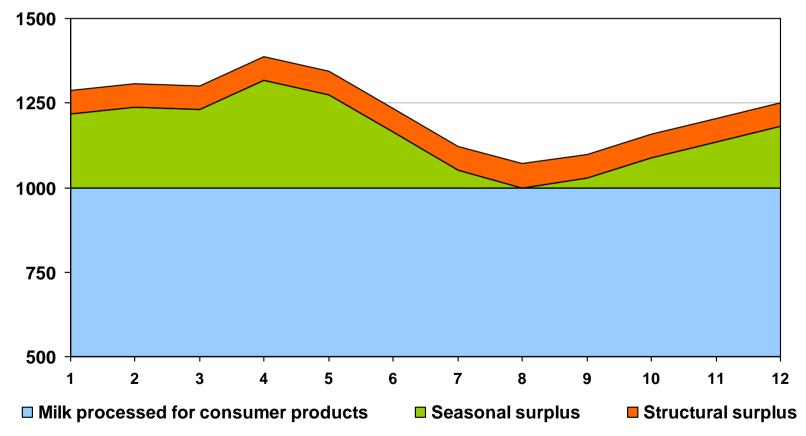




Milk deliveries and milk uses

Seasonal and structural surplus in dairy products

Average french milk production seasonal factor

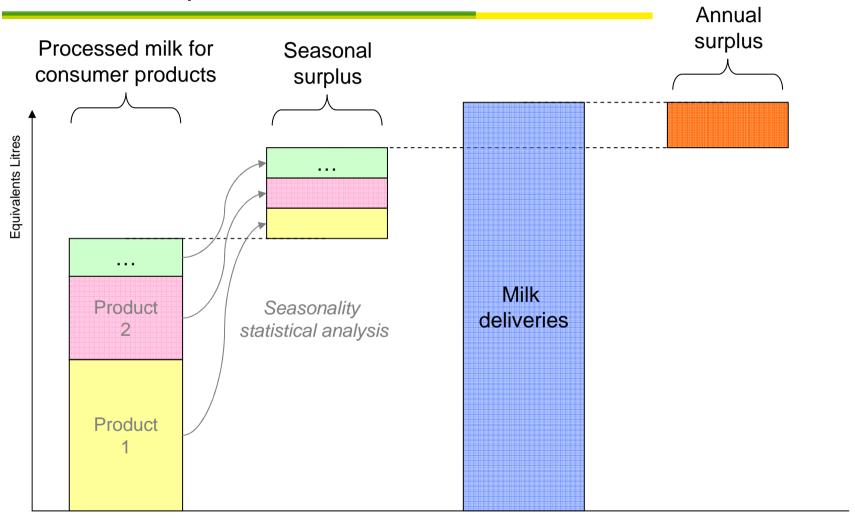








Annual surplus estimations

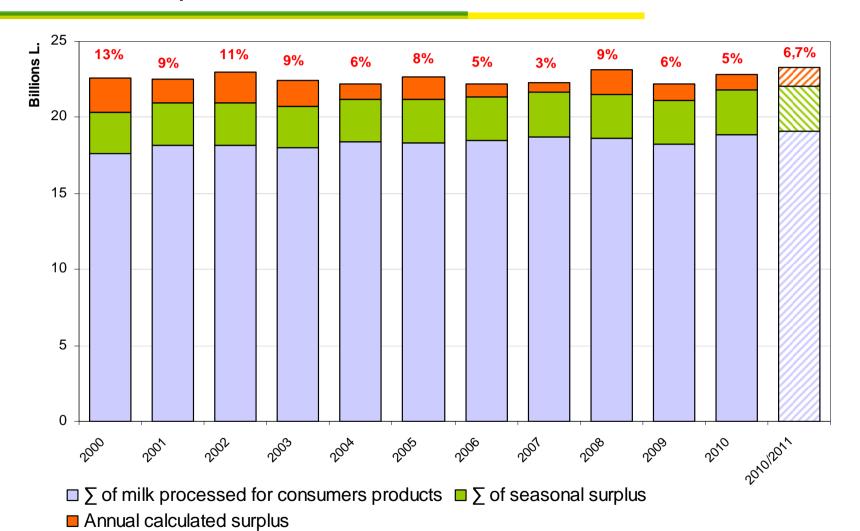








Annual surplus estimations

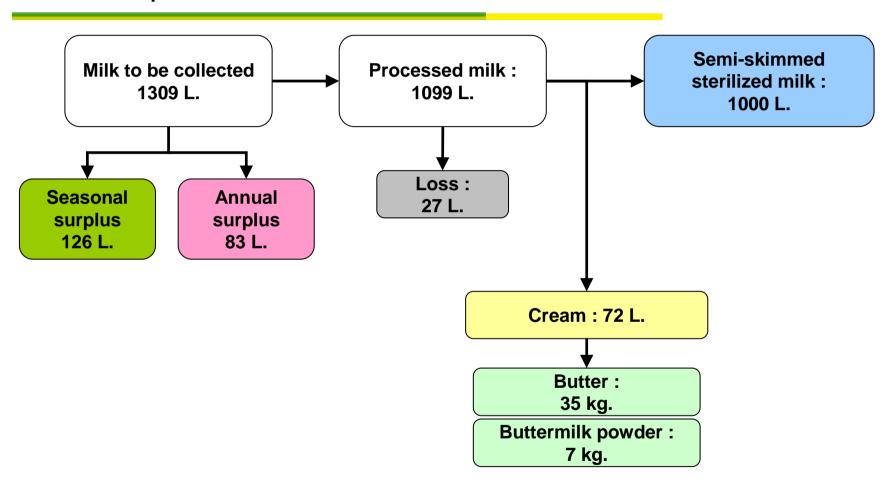








The surplus in semi-skimmed UHT milk chain

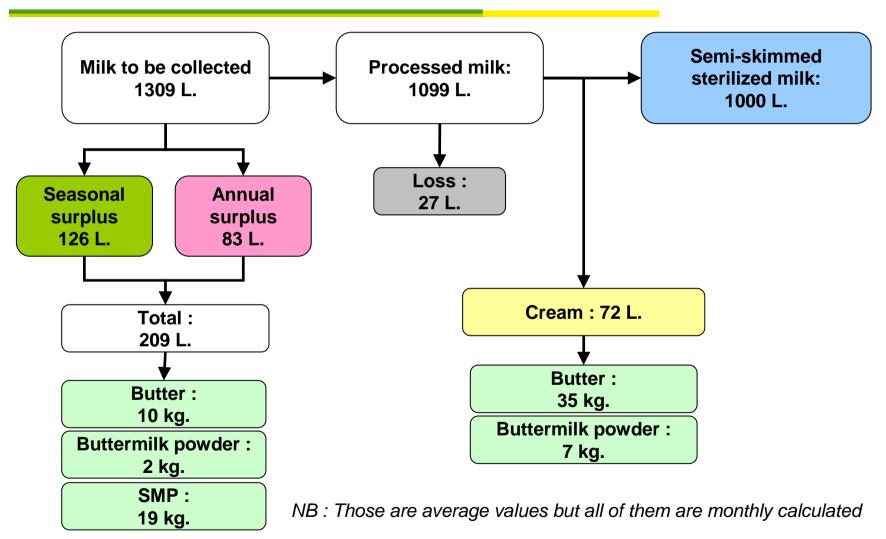








Semi-skimmed UHT milk supply and processing chain



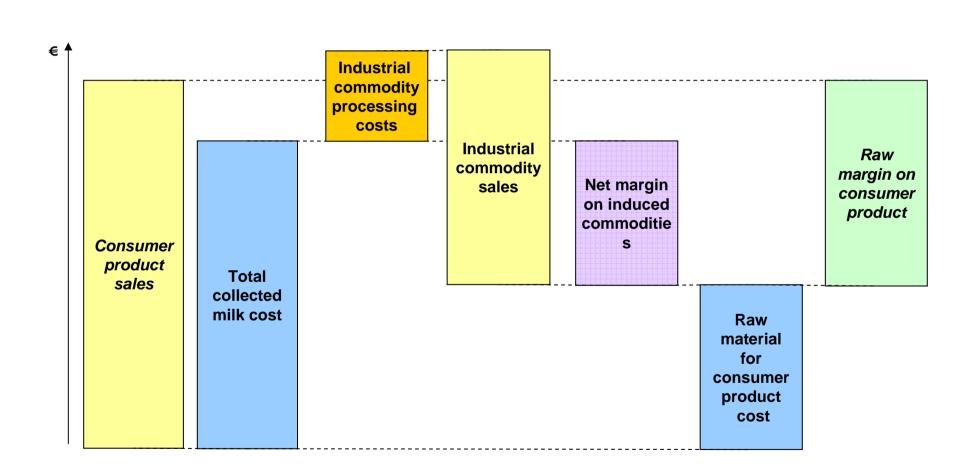
Production price: an analytical price for raw material







Commody valuation leads to an analytical price for raw material









Commodity valuation leads to an analytical price for raw material

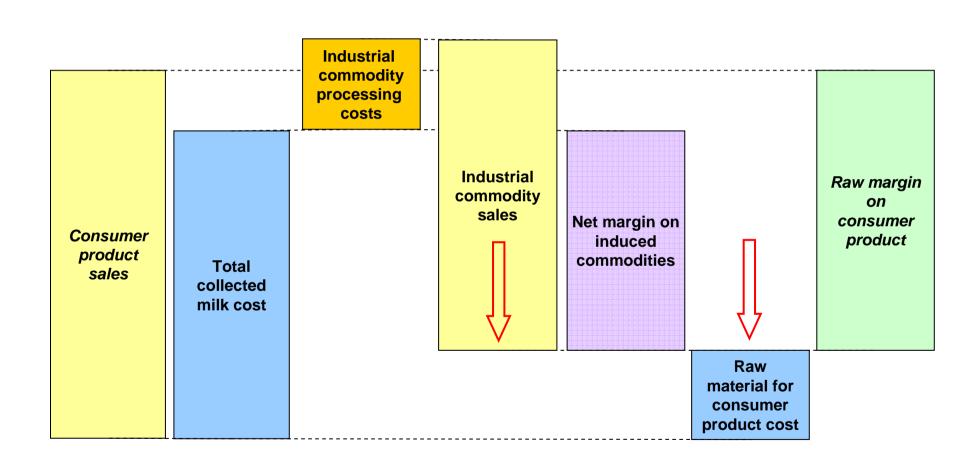
- Raw material price is NOT milk deliveries production price
- This analytical price depends on :
 - Milk deliveries production price
 - Induced commodities valorisation : coproducts and processed surplus
 - Milk deliveries average composition...
- This raw material price is different depending on the various studied products:
 - Seasonal surplus are different
 - Co-products from processing chain are different...







Situation of HIGH level prices for industrial commodities

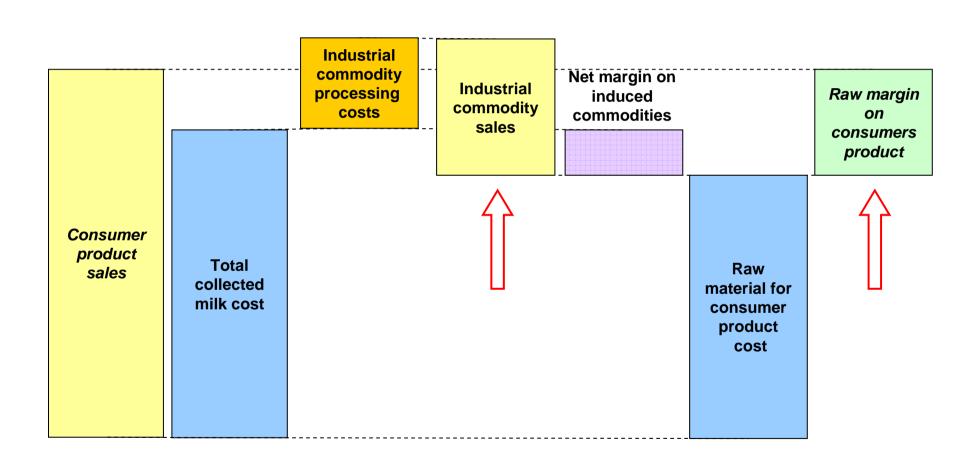








Situation of LOW level prices for industrial commodities



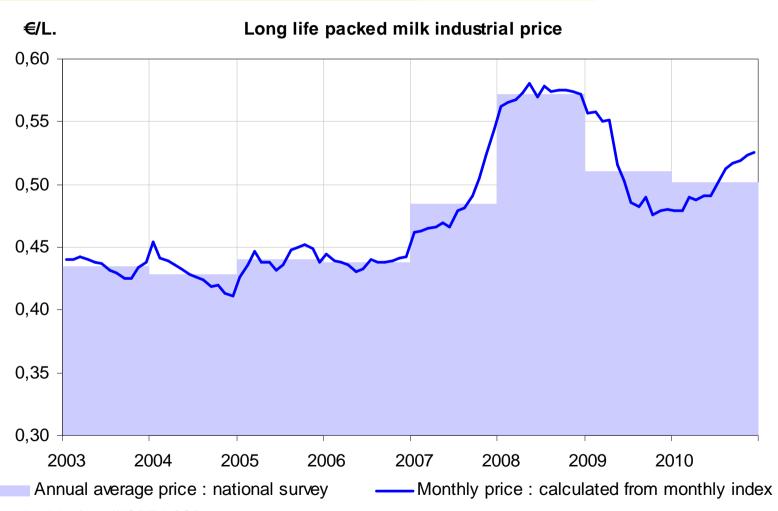
Industrial sales price







Semi-skimmed UHT milk industrial price

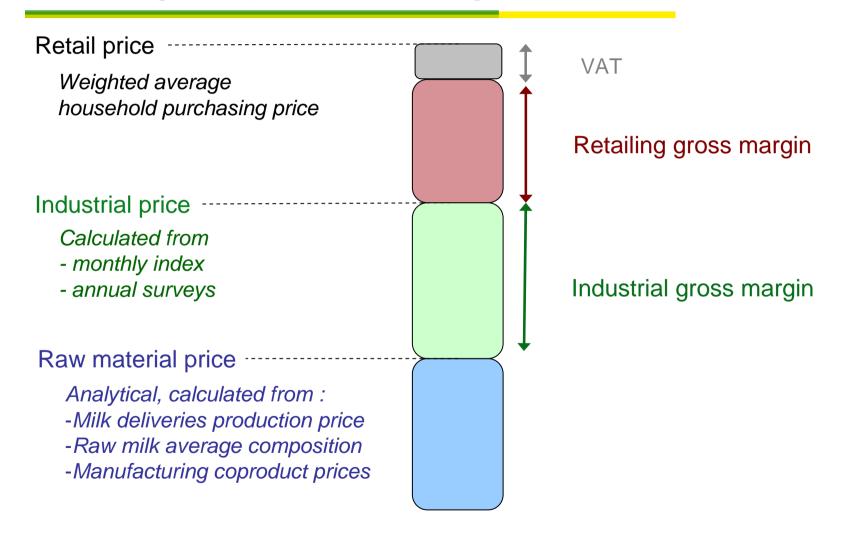








Drinking milk price monitoring:



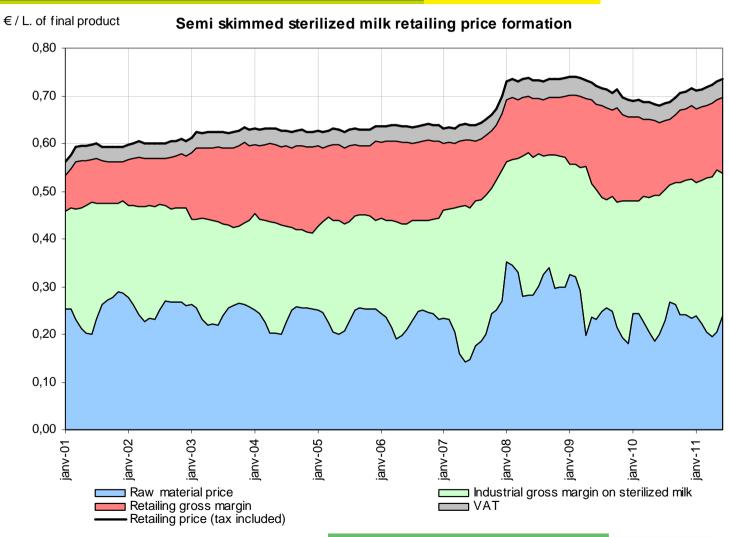
Results on semi-skimmed UHT milk







Results on semi-skimmed UHT milk

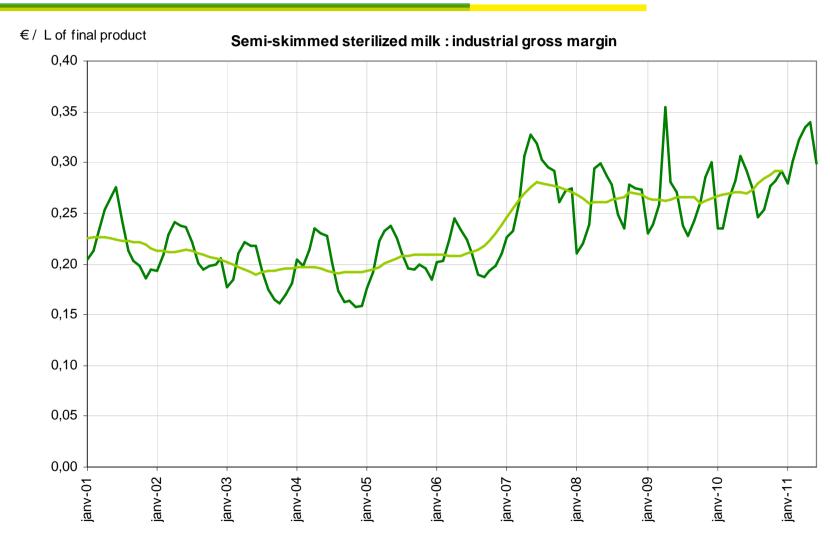








Industrial gross margin on semi-skimmed UHT milk









Retailing gross margin on semi-skimmed UHT milk



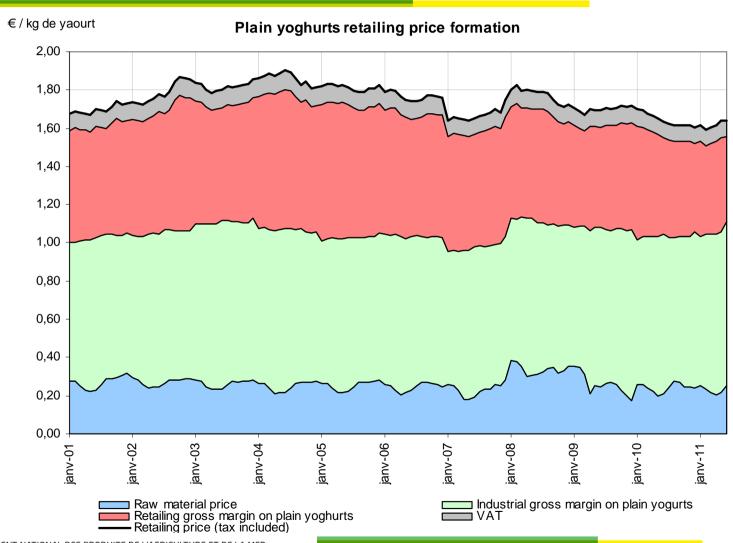
The analysis of an isolated product would not make sense







Plain yogurt price monitoring results

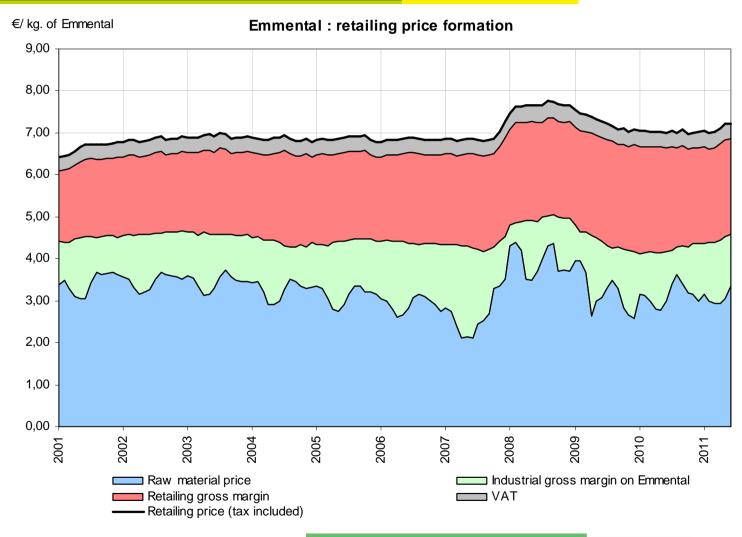








Emmental cheese price monitoring results

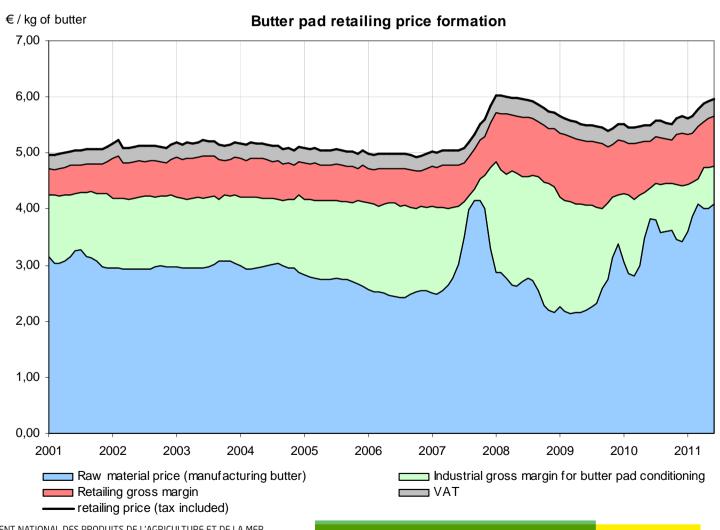








250g packaged butter: price monitoring results









To conlude...

- Milk: a cracked and highly processed product, a complex value chain
- ⇒ Analytical approach
 - Processing chain analysis: monthly material balance
 - Seasonal surplus analysis
 - Annual surplus analysis
- It is essential to study different products in parrallel
 - Various and additional products
 - Each product must be representative
 - ⇒ concept of a balance within products
- The Observatory beyond price formation monitoring
 - Industry annual economic results
 - Milk production costs...
- Projects:
 - Analysis of Camembert retail price formation
 - Focus on distributors' brands...







Thank you for your attention Comments welcome!

- More results at:
 - http://www.franceagrimer.fr (and soon a special website)
 - Dairy products, fruit and vegetables, pig meat, beef meat, poultry meat...
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