

## Three Sugar Firms In Northeast Cut Wholesale Prices

*By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter*

NEW YORK—Three Northeastern sugar refiners cut wholesale prices for grocery sugar for the fourth time in about three months.

Amstar Corp., National Sugar Refining Co. and SuCrest Corp. all announced price cuts that were effective at the opening of business Friday in their Eastern marketing areas. Amstar, the nation's largest sugar refiner, and National Sugar reduced the price of their 12-five pound bundles to \$28.52 from \$29.72 and dropped the price on their six-10 pound bundles to \$28.46 from \$29.66.

SuCrest, which produces grocery sugar primarily for private-label use, posted a new price for a 12-five pound bundle of \$28.40, down from \$29.60, and its price for a six-10 pound bundle was cut to \$28.34 from \$29.54.

The companies said they were making these reductions because of "competitive conditions." Industry sources said the cuts are the result of a large disparity in price between Midwestern sugar and Eastern sugar.

The latest price cut follows a grocery price reduction announced last month. That reduction amounted to \$7.81 per 100 pounds, while the latest price cut amounts to about \$2 per 100 pounds.