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MONTHLY ESTIMATE OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION
DECEMBER 1937

Production of Creamery Butter and American Cheese
in December Reflects Heavier Milk Flow.

CHD 7278
US US 1938-

The production of creamery butter in December 1937 is estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at 110,311,000 pounds. This was an increase of 1.6 percent over December in the previous year, but about 1 percent below the average December production during the last 5 years. 1943

The increase from November to December was considerably larger than that of a year earlier and the 5-year (1932-36) average. While favorable weather during December may have been a factor in some areas, the strong upward trend in production was probably due chiefly to the relatively high price that was paid to farmers for butterfat in cream. Prices of most farm products declined sharply during the fall months, but the price paid for cream continued high until after the sharp break that occurred in the middle of December. As a result, the price of cream was for a while unusually high as compared with feed prices. While the price was not so exceptionally high as compared with the prices paid to farmers for meat animals and animal products, the relationship was temporarily much more favorable for dairy producers than it was during the early fall. (Continued on page 2)

ESTIMATED CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION

| STATES | ESTIMATED PRODUCTION | ESTIMATED PRODUCTION | DECEMBER PRODUCTION | DEC. 1937 ESTIMATE COMPARED WITH | |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | DEC. 1937 | NOV. 1937 | 1936 | NOV. 1937 | DEC. 1936 |
| | POUNDS | POUNDS | POUNDS | PERCENT | PERCENT |
| MINNESOTA | 21,150,700 | 17,641,500 | 18,797,000 | + 19.89 | + 12.52 |
| IOWA | 14,335,900 | 12,826,100 | 13,924,000 | + 11.77 | + 2.95 |
| WISCONSIN | 10,973,700 | 9,186,000 | 11,475,000 | + 19.46 | - 4.37 |
| NEBRASKA | 4,123,500 | 3,882,600 | 3,929,000 | + 6.20 | + 4.95 |
| KANSAS | 5,082,900 | 4,580,900 | 4,675,000 | + 10.95 | + 8.72 |
| MISSOURI | 5,640,100 | 5,458,600 | 5,000,000 | + 3.32 | + 12.80 |
| NORTH DAKOTA | 2,043,000 | 2,016,500 | 1,743,000 | + 1.31 | + 17.21 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | 1,998,500 | 2,009,000 | 1,678,000 | - 0.53 | + 19.10 |
| MONTANA | 669,300 | 697,300 | 634,000 | - 4.02 | + 5.56 |
| MICHIGAN | 5,130,400 | 5,015,200 | 5,036,000 | + 2.29 | - 8.98 |
| ILLINOIS | 4,517,700 | 4,150,900 | 4,935,000 | + 8.83 | - 8.46 |
| INDIANA | 4,535,500 | 4,202,000 | 4,930,000 | + 7.93 | - 8.01 |
| OHIO | 4,562,600 | 4,851,700 | 5,583,000 | - 5.96 | - 18.28 |
| KENTUCKY | 1,275,000 | 1,327,300 | 1,394,000 | - 3.95 | - 8.54 |
| VIRGINIA | 415,300 | 471,000 | 378,000 | - 11.83 | + 9.86 |
| TENNESSEE | 971,700 | 1,136,000 | 1,025,000 | - 14.47 | - 5.20 |
| MISSISSIPPI | 464,100 | 495,200 | 451,000 | - 6.29 | + 2.90 |
| TEXAS | 2,229,200 | 2,246,600 | 2,082,000 | - 0.78 | + 7.07 |
| OKLAHOMA | 2,528,900 | 2,463,100 | 2,278,000 | + 2.59 | + 10.92 |
| NEW YORK | 767,000 | 1,101,100 | 1,331,000 | - 30.35 | - 42.38 |
| VERMONT | 172,300 | 133,400 | 326,000 | + 29.16 | - 47.15 |
| PENNSYLVANIA | 621,500 | 601,500 | 686,000 | + 3.32 | - 9.41 |
| COLORADO | 1,492,800 | 1,398,600 | 1,455,000 | + 6.73 | + 2.59 |
| UTAH | 674,000 | 693,800 | 758,000 | - 2.86 | - 11.09 |
| CALIFORNIA | 5,217,000 | 5,010,900 | 5,156,000 | + 4.11 | + 1.18 |
| WASHINGTON | 2,481,400 | 2,424,900 | 2,364,000 | + 2.32 | + 4.96 |
| OREGON | 2,043,300 | 2,194,700 | 2,002,000 | - 6.90 | + 2.06 |
| IDAHO | 2,237,500 | 2,272,000 | 2,253,000 | - 1.52 | - 0.69 |
| OTHER STATES | 1,958,600 | 1,956,700 | 1,672,000 | + 0.09 | + 17.14 |
| TOTAL | 110,311,400 | 102,445,100 | 108,550,000 | + 7.67 | + 1.62 |

| MONTH | ESTIMATED PRODUCTION. | PRODUCTION | PERCENT CHANGE |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | IN 1937 | IN 1936 | 1937-1936 |
| JANUARY | 106,527,600 | 110,666,000 | - 3.74 |
| FEBRUARY | 101,982,900 | 108,744,000 | - 6.22 |
| MARCH | 119,600,700 | 121,543,000 | - 1.60 |
| APRIL | 132,107,400 | 133,290,000 | - 0.89 |
| MAY | 179,918,300 | 177,847,000 | + 1.16 |
| JUNE | 196,860,300 | 190,699,000 | + 3.23 |
| JULY | 172,007,100 | 156,463,000 | + 9.93 |
| AUGUST | 146,751,300 | 141,556,000 | + 3.67 |
| SEPTEMBER | 125,741,600 | 133,021,000 | - 5.48 |
| OCTOBER | 117,140,700 | 135,493,000 | - 13.55 |
| NOVEMBER | 102,445,100 | 111,535,000 | - 8.15 |
| DECEMBER | 110,311,400 | 108,550,000 | + 1.62 |
| TOTAL | 1,611,394,900 | 1,629,407,000 | - 1.11 |

MONTHLY ESTIMATE OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION

(DECEMBER 1937)

ESTIMATED CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION (Cont'd)

| MONTH 1937 | NEW ENGLAND Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | MIDDLE ATLANTIC Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | SOUTH ATLANTIC Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | EAST NORTH CENTRAL Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JANUARY | 317,700 | +41.20 | 2,517,200 | +65.93 | 812,100 | - 8.55 | 31,980,100 | + 5.55 |
| FEBRUARY | 230,900 | +14.30 | 1,778,100 | +22.29 | 665,900 | -17.59 | 30,897,200 | + 2.76 |
| MARCH | 319,800 | +24.92 | 3,218,600 | +139.12 | 698,100 | - 6.30 | 36,028,100 | +10.98 |
| APRIL | 338,700 | +11.41 | 2,917,900 | +30.11 | 801,700 | - 0.91 | 39,308,400 | + 9.64 |
| MAY | 404,700 | -14.26 | 2,582,900 | + 1.29 | 1,237,600 | + 7.71 | 52,425,900 | + 7.00 |
| JUNE | 398,400 | -18.37 | 3,066,300 | - 2.38 | 1,549,500 | +20.48 | 57,291,600 | + 4.40 |
| JULY | 302,700 | + 2.95 | 2,309,000 | + 5.84 | 1,582,500 | + 8.83 | 49,769,000 | +13.08 |
| AUGUST | 237,100 | - 7.75 | 2,565,900 | + 6.51 | 1,607,900 | - 1.54 | 43,038,500 | + 7.30 |
| SEPTEMBER | 290,200 | -14.15 | 2,671,500 | + 1.50 | 1,506,800 | - 6.24 | 36,635,900 | -11.91 |
| OCTOBER | 259,500 | - 5.30 | 2,273,200 | -10.75 | 1,349,700 | - 2.48 | 34,307,600 | -20.57 |
| NOVEMBER | 202,200 | + 5.31 | 1,703,400 | + 0.43 | 993,300 | - 0.48 | 27,405,800 | -18.35 |
| DECEMBER | 233,200 | -42.00 | 1,391,500 | -31.05 | 1,016,500 | +18.47 | 29,719,900 | - 8.72 |
| TOTAL | 3,535,100 | - 4.56 | 29,495,500 | +15.28 | 13,821,600 | + 1.48 | 468,808,000 | + 0.26 |

| MONTH 1937 | WEST NORTH CENTRAL Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | SOUTH CENTRAL Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | MOUNTAIN Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 | PACIFIC Pounds | PER CENT CHANGE 1936 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| JANUARY | 48,968,900 | -12.93 | 8,763,300 | + 0.46 | 5,674,300 | - 3.83 | 9,494,000 | +7.04 |
| FEBRUARY | 47,914,500 | -11.96 | 8,724,900 | - 5.25 | 5,288,700 | - 5.98 | 8,482,700 | -6.46 |
| MARCH | 55,719,800 | -10.94 | 7,738,500 | + 3.07 | 5,686,100 | - 3.73 | 10,191,700 | -5.28 |
| APRIL | 59,714,100 | -10.61 | 10,767,800 | +15.73 | 6,093,900 | - 1.59 | 12,164,900 | -1.97 |
| MAY | 86,832,300 | - 2.77 | 14,003,100 | + 6.69 | 7,795,200 | - 5.67 | 14,536,300 | +4.64 |
| JUNE | 98,500,700 | + 1.92 | 12,922,300 | + 5.81 | 9,062,800 | + 2.12 | 14,068,200 | +6.72 |
| JULY | 83,009,800 | + 8.90 | 12,672,500 | + 8.70 | 8,334,700 | + 2.54 | 13,526,900 | +12.31 |
| AUGUST | 68,219,900 | + 2.93 | 11,890,100 | - 7.02 | 7,344,300 | - 2.30 | 11,848,100 | +12.12 |
| SEPTEMBER | 57,292,400 | - 5.56 | 10,547,300 | + 4.72 | 6,492,400 | - 1.20 | 10,304,600 | +7.93 |
| OCTOBER | 52,150,800 | -13.90 | 10,397,200 | - 8.96 | 6,288,600 | - 2.05 | 10,114,100 | +4.38 |
| NOVEMBER | 48,415,200 | - 5.88 | 8,406,700 | - 8.23 | 5,688,000 | + 3.36 | 9,630,500 | +7.16 |
| DECEMBER | 54,374,600 | + 3.30 | 8,126,400 | + 4.33 | 5,707,600 | + 0.84 | 9,741,700 | +2.30 |
| TOTAL | 761,163,300 | - 3.77 | 120,961,100 | + 1.76 | 79,456,600 | - 1.37 | 134,153,700 | +4.33 |

Even since the break, the price of butterfat has continued to be rather favorable as compared with the feed prices. Compared with a year ago, the price of butter is now about the same and the price of feed in the main butter producing States is about a third lower.

Considered by States and regions, the trend of butter production during recent months has been quite similar to the indicated changes in milk production. As with milk, butter production during December appears to have been below production the previous December in practically all northern dairy States east of the Mississippi River, while in all but a few of the other important dairy States, butter production showed an increase.

Production in the West North Central States, which is the leading butter producing area, showed a gain of 9.3 percent over that of the corresponding month of 1936. This contrasts sharply with the November comparison which showed a decrease in production of 5.9 percent compared to a year earlier. Production in the East North Central States during December failed to equal that of a year earlier by 8.7 percent, but the decrease was much less than the 18.3 percent shown in November.

In the Northeast, production continued to fall below that of the corresponding month of 1936--the New England States showing a decline of 42.0 percent and the Middle Atlantic States 31.0 percent. Throughout this area generally milk production was less than that of a year earlier, and the quantities of surplus milk available for manufacturing purposes was greatly reduced.

Total production of creamery butter during the entire year 1937 is estimated at 1,611,395,000 pounds, a decrease of 17,012,000 pounds, or 1.1 percent, under the production of 1936. A heavier production is estimated for the Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, East North Central, and Pacific Coast States, but such gains were more than offset by substantial decreases in the West North Central and in some of the Mountain States where production during much of 1937 was reduced by shortage of feed following droughts in 1936 and 1937.

The production of American cheese in December 1937 is estimated at 27,645,000 pounds, 5.6 percent under production in December 1936, but a gain of 2,764,000 pounds or about 11 percent over the December 5-year (1932-36) average. The decrease as compared with December of last year was chiefly in Wisconsin and in other East North Central States. Less important decreases are indicated for the North Atlantic States. Most other groups of States report increases. Total production of American Cheese during the year 1937 is estimated at 473,531,000 pounds, a decrease of 14,045,000 pounds, or about 3 percent, under the production of 1936, but the second largest annual production of record. Production in Wisconsin, where 60 percent of the total was produced, shows a decrease of about 10 percent under 1936. There were nominal decreases in some North-eastern States, but most areas showed increases. The South Central group, with only 10 percent of the total production, showed an increase of more than 6 percent and the Pacific States, with 8 percent of the total, increased 10 percent. Elsewhere, changes were mostly small except in the South Atlantic States where production increased sharply but was still only 1/3 of 1 percent of the United States total.

MONTHLY ESTIMATE OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION

(December 1937)

Estimate of American Cheese Production

| Geographic Sections | Estimated | Estimated | December | Dec. 1937 Estimate | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | Production: | Production: | Production: | compared with | |
| | Dec. 1937 | Nov. 1937 | 1936 | Nov. 1937: | Dec. 1937 |
| | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Percent | Percent |
| New York State | 777,900 | 954,500 | 879,000 | -18.51 | -11.51 |
| New England, Pa. & N. J. | 60,400 | 88,200 | 225,000 | -31.52 | -73.16 |
| South Atlantic | 111,900 | 100,900 | 70,000 | +10.90 | +59.85 |
| South Central | 2,615,000 | 2,893,800 | 2,486,000 | - 9.64 | + 5.18 |
| Wisconsin* | 14,031,200 | 15,067,400 | 15,865,000 | - 6.88 | -11.56 |
| East North Central, not including Wisconsin | 4,124,900 | 4,636,700 | 4,576,000 | -11.04 | - 9.86 |
| West North Central | 2,122,700 | 2,056,100 | 1,956,000 | + 3.23 | + 8.52 |
| Mountain | 1,460,200 | 1,336,100 | 1,282,000 | + 9.28 | +13.90 |
| Pacific | 2,340,700 | 2,783,900 | 1,957,000 | -15.93 | +19.60 |
| U. S. TOTAL | 27,644,900 | 29,917,600 | 29,296,000 | - 7.60 | - 5.64 |

* Estimate based on receipts of American cheese at Wisconsin Warehouses.

| Month 1937 | Estimated Production | Production United States | Percentage change from | |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | U. S. 1937 | 1936 | Preceding Month | Previous Year |
| January | 27,346,100 | 28,881,000 | - 6.66 | - 5.32 |
| February | 26,626,600 | 26,211,000 | - 2.64 | + 1.58 |
| March | 31,358,600 | 30,804,000 | +17.77 | + 1.80 |
| April | 37,149,900 | 35,324,000 | +18.46 | + 5.16 |
| May | 52,777,700 | 53,008,000 | +42.06 | - 0.44 |
| June | 62,341,600 | 64,145,000 | +18.12 | - 2.82 |
| July | 51,429,600 | 51,029,000 | -17.51 | + 0.78 |
| August | 46,042,500 | 45,228,000 | -10.48 | + 1.80 |
| September | 42,532,700 | 44,933,000 | - 7.63 | - 5.35 |
| October | 38,363,500 | 45,629,000 | - 9.81 | -15.93 |
| November | 29,917,600 | 33,088,000 | -22.02 | - 9.59 |
| December | 27,644,900 | 29,296,000 | - 7.60 | - 5.64 |
| TOTAL | 473,531,300 | 487,576,000 | - | - 2.89 |

| Month 1937 | New York State | New England (including Pa. & N. J.) | South Atlantic | South Central | Wisconsin |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | |
| February | 725,100 | 187,000 | 66,100 | 2,099,100 | 14,550,300 |
| March | 1,247,500 | 204,500 | 60,200 | 2,443,300 | 17,128,400 |
| April | 2,136,900 | 236,000 | 78,900 | 4,084,800 | 18,776,700 |
| May | 2,693,300 | 240,700 | 114,600 | 5,742,200 | 26,199,000 |
| June | 3,742,000 | 250,600 | 135,900 | 5,536,500 | 33,427,600 |
| July | 2,584,200 | 218,900 | 137,700 | 5,466,400 | 26,389,300 |
| August | 2,763,900 | 174,200 | 164,500 | 5,453,000 | 23,222,200 |
| September | 2,657,900 | 274,100 | 152,900 | 4,672,300 | 22,013,500 |
| October | 1,732,800 | 159,000 | 124,500 | 3,854,200 | 20,018,800 |
| November | 954,500 | 88,200 | 100,900 | 2,893,800 | 15,067,400 |
| December | 777,900 | 60,400 | 111,900 | 2,615,000 | 14,031,200 |
| TOTAL | 22,721,800 | 2,341,100 | 1,317,400 | 46,867,100 | 245,748,400 |
| Percent change same period 1936 | +2.90 | - 3.31 | +42.88 | +6.49 | - 9.05 |

| Month 1937 | E.N. Central (excluding Wisconsin) | West North Central | Mountain | Pacific | U.S. Total |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | |
| February | 3,718,500 | 2,024,500 | 1,141,200 | 2,114,800 | 26,626,600 |
| March | 3,969,400 | 2,384,700 | 1,251,900 | 2,668,700 | 31,358,600 |
| April | 4,540,200 | 2,848,100 | 1,253,600 | 3,194,700 | 37,149,900 |
| May | 7,173,700 | 4,543,900 | 1,540,000 | 4,529,800 | 52,777,700 |
| June | 8,404,300 | 4,392,100 | 1,811,300 | 4,641,300 | 62,341,600 |
| July | 7,420,800 | 3,532,400 | 1,719,600 | 3,960,300 | 51,429,600 |
| August | 6,457,300 | 2,895,700 | 1,563,000 | 3,348,700 | 46,042,500 |
| September | 5,717,600 | 2,494,900 | 1,510,900 | 3,038,600 | 42,532,700 |
| October | 5,579,600 | 2,301,700 | 1,545,900 | 3,047,000 | 38,363,500 |
| November | 4,636,700 | 2,056,100 | 1,336,100 | 2,783,900 | 29,917,600 |
| December | 4,124,900 | 2,122,700 | 1,460,200 | 2,340,700 | 27,644,900 |
| TOTAL | 65,728,600 | 33,766,900 | 17,384,100 | 37,655,900 | 473,531,300 |
| Percent change same period 1936 | +2.03 | +4.50 | +2.15 | +10.08 | -2.89 |