

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Washington, D. C.,

as of

CROP REPORTING BOARD

February 11, 1938February 1, 19383:00 P.M. (E.T.)

## MILK PRODUCTION FEBRUARY 1, 1938

Milk production in the United States showed about the usual seasonal increase during January, and on February 1 appears to have been about 5 percent heavier than at the same time last year. The number of milk cows on farms was about the same as a year ago but higher milk production per cow resulted in greater total milk production. The chief factors responsible for the heavier milk flow appear to have been the feeding of more grain and concentrates per cow and the slightly larger proportion of milk cows in production.

On February 1, crop correspondents were feeding their milk cows an average of 4.73 pounds of grain and concentrates per head per day. This was an increase of 22 percent over the very low February 1 average of 3.89 pounds reported last year, about 4 percent more than the amount fed 2 years ago, and the heaviest feeding reported at the same season since 1933. Rather liberal feeding was reported from nearly all parts of the country, the rate being higher than a year ago practically everywhere except in New Jersey and parts of New England. In general, the rate of feeding and milk production are both somewhat higher than two years ago, but conditions appear to be much the same and the trend from month to month has shown a similar pattern.

With abundant supplies of grain on hand, farmers are expected to continue to feed rather liberally and milk production is expected to show about the usual seasonal increase or possibly slightly more than the usual seasonal increase during the remainder of the current feeding period. However, both feeding and milk production will depend to some extent on price changes and weather conditions. Since February 1 there has been a week or more of unusually warm spring-like weather over a large interior section of the country. This, no doubt, tended to increase production but it was accompanied by a sharp decrease in the price of butter that will make heavy feeding less profitable.

On the whole, current reports on milk production appear to indicate a rather stable dairy situation in most parts of the country. Changes in the number of milk cows on farms during the past year have been rather small except where there were some local reduction due to drought shortage of feed or where the passing of drought conditions permitted some recovery. Milk production per capita of population is still 2 or 3 percent below average.

On February 1 milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 12.27 pounds compared with 11.90 pounds on the same date last year and a 1926-35 average of 12.43 pounds on that date. In the same herds 66.3 percent of the milk cows were reported milked on February 1 compared with 65.6 percent on the same date of 1937.

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"GRAIN" FED AND MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS								
State	"Grain" Fed per Milk Cow 1/				Milk Produced per Milk Cow 2/			
	Feb. 1 : 1935	Feb. 1 : 1936	Feb. 1 : 1937	Feb. 1 : 1938	Feb. 1 Av.: 1926-35	Feb. 1 : 1936	Feb. 1 : 1937	Feb. 1 : 1938
	Pounds				Pounds			
New Eng.	4.0	4.8	4.9	5.1	15.32	14.46	14.57	14.79
N. Y.	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	14.9	14.8	15.9	14.9
N. J.	7.2	7.3	8.4	7.9	18.2	17.7	18.7	19.2
Pa.	5.9	6.1	5.9	6.0	15.9	14.8	15.9	15.5
N. ATL.	5.1	5.4	5.4	5.4	15.47	15.01	15.76	15.40
Ohio	4.8	6.0	5.4	6.1	14.1	12.9	14.2	13.6
Ind.	4.4	5.2	5.2	5.8	12.8	11.8	12.1	12.3
Ill.	4.7	6.1	5.2	6.7	13.5	12.3	13.3	14.1
Mich.	4.0	5.4	4.6	5.0	15.9	16.0	16.7	15.3
Wis.	3.4	4.3	3.5	3.8	15.4	14.4	15.2	15.3
E. N. CENT.	4.1	5.4	4.5	5.3	14.60	13.63	14.57	14.36
Minn.	2.4	4.8	3.2	4.8	15.7	15.1	15.1	16.2
Iowa	4.1	7.2	4.6	7.3	13.0	12.6	12.6	14.0
Mo.	3.0	4.0	2.8	5.5	8.2	7.2	7.1	8.0
N. Dak.	1.8	3.4	1.8	2.8	11.2	10.7	9.1	10.5
S. Dak.	1.7	3.4	1.7	2.7	10.8	9.8	9.1	9.7
Nebr.	2.4	4.2	1.9	3.3	12.2	11.5	10.7	11.5
Kans.	2.4	3.4	2.8	4.0	12.6	11.7	11.8	12.9
W. N. CENT.	2.7	4.7	3.0	4.9	12.38	11.41	11.26	12.07
Md.	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.9	13.5	13.1	13.2	13.3
Va.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.7	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.6
W. Va.	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	8.8	7.4	8.3	8.1
N. C.	4.0	4.8	4.6	4.9	10.0	9.3	10.1	10.4
S. C.	3.3	3.9	4.0	3.6	9.1	8.2	10.2	9.4
S. ATL.	3.9	4.3	4.1	4.4	9.20	9.27	9.34	9.94
Ky.	5.1	5.7	5.4	6.2	9.3	8.4	9.3	9.2
Tenn.	4.0	4.8	4.5	4.8	8.7	7.8	8.3	8.2
Miss.	3.2	3.7	2.9	3.4	6.6	5.7	5.4	5.6
Ark.	2.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	7.1	6.3	6.4	7.1
Okla.	2.2	3.0	3.0	3.5	9.4	7.7	8.4	9.9
Tex.	2.6	3.1	3.0	3.7	8.2	7.6	7.0	8.4
S. CENT.	3.1	3.6	3.6	4.0	8.20	7.16	7.54	8.11
Mont.	2.1	2.4	2.7	4.7	10.8	11.2	11.0	12.2
Idaho	1.8	2.9	2.3	2.4	14.8	15.5	15.1	15.5
Wyo.	1.6	2.0	1.8	2.5	10.4	10.8	9.2	11.8
Colo.	1.8	3.2	2.9	3.5	12.6	12.9	11.5	12.5
Wash.	3.9	5.1	4.5	4.6	15.3	15.6	15.1	15.5
Oreg.	3.1	3.4	4.1	3.7	13.5	13.4	13.4	12.9
Calif.	2.0	1.8	3.1	3.7	15.7	14.7	14.9	16.3
WEST.	2.4	2.9	3.1	3.6	13.54	13.87	13.07	14.03
U. S.	3.50	4.54	3.89	4.73	12.43	11.60	11.90	12.27

1/ Averages per cow computed from answers to question, "How many pounds of grain (including mill feeds and concentrates) were fed yesterday to milk cows on your farm or ranch."

2/ Averages obtained by dividing the reported daily milk production of herds kept by reporters by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry) in these herds. The regional averages shown were based in part on records from less important dairy States not shown separately, as follows: South Atlantic, Delaware, Georgia, Florida; South Central, Alabama, Louisiana; Western, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada.