

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 12, 1937.

MILK PRODUCTION JULY 1, 1937.

Milk production resumed about the normal seasonal trend during June this year following the unusually rapid increases during April and May. Excellent pastures during June in the principal dairy sections have aided in maintaining milk flow at a high level. Where milking herds include many cows of dual purpose type, farmers have been encouraged by the highest June prices for dairy products since 1930 and appear to be making up for the reduced size of their herds by weaning calves earlier and milking a larger proportion of their cows than usual. On July 1 milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents was the highest for that date since 1930 and was between 4 and 5 percent higher than at the same time last year. With between 1 and 2 percent fewer milk cows on farms than a year ago, total milk production on July 1 appears to have been about 3 percent higher than on the same date last year when the effects of the drought on milk production were beginning to be felt. Taking into account the steady increase in population, the per capita production of milk on July 1 was about the same as the 1925-34 average for that date.

The tendency of farmers to milk more than the usual number of their milk cows, noted a month ago, continued through June and on July 1 the highest proportion milked on record was reported for the United States as a whole. The proportion was very high in all sections and record high percentages milked were reported in the North Central and Western regions. Milk production per cow was above the 10-year average in all major geographical divisions except the South Central States. Increases were reported during June this year in the South Atlantic and Western Regions where the usual seasonal trend is downward, while in other areas slightly more than the normal seasonal decline took place.

For the United States as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 16.77 pounds compared with 16.00 pounds on the same date last year, 16.52 pounds on July 1, 1935 and a 1925-34 average of 16.44 pounds for that date. In the same herds 77.8 percent of the milk cows were reported milked on July 1 compared with 76.7 percent at the same time last year and the previous high record for that date of 77.0 percent in 1930.

DAIRY PASTURES JULY 1, 1937.

Pastures on July 1 continued to range from poor to distressingly short in a broad central belt extending from eastern Montana and western North Dakota to South Texas. Elsewhere they were good to excellent with the exception of local areas, notably in the Southeast where a possibly temporary decline in pasture condition was caused by the light rainfall of early June. In the country as a whole the condition of pastures on July 1 weighted in proportion to the importance of the various States in dairy production, averaged 83.9 percent of normal. This was much higher than last year's July 1 condition of 60.9 percent and also higher than the condition on the same date in six of the last seven years, all seasons of relatively poor pastures.

Pastures, which have improved materially since June 1 in the Northern States, were particularly good in the area extending eastward from the western borders of Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri, and also west of the Rockies, except in western Montana and north central California. The drought belt was narrowed during June by marked improvement in Wyoming, New Mexico and parts of Montana and the Dakotas, but little, if any, improvement has been shown in Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas and the condition of pastures in those States was about as low as it was on July 1, 1936.

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CROP REPORTING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS ^{1/}				
STATE	: July 1 :(Avg.)1925-34 Pounds	: July 1 1935 Pounds	: July 1 1936 Pounds	: July 1 1937 Pounds
N.Eng.	17.53	17.97	18.03	18.29
N.Y.	21.4	22.1	21.6	22.0
N.J.	20.4	20.5	20.6	19.8
Pa.	19.3	20.6	20.5	19.9
N.ATL.	19.76	20.42	20.19	20.35
Ohio	18.8	18.5	18.3	19.0
Ind.	17.0	16.9	16.2	16.5
Ill.	16.5	17.1	16.4	17.1
Mich.	21.4	21.1	21.6	21.1
Wis.	21.3	22.6	22.3	22.3
E.N.CENT.	19.53	20.10	19.57	19.99
Minn.	18.9	20.4	20.3	20.5
Iowa	17.0	17.7	17.6	17.3
Mo.	12.6	12.3	10.6	11.6
N.Dak.	17.4	18.9	16.7	18.2
S.Dak.	15.8	16.9	14.8	16.5
Nebr.	16.4	16.4	15.7	16.2
Kans.	15.2	15.5	13.9	13.9
W.N.CENT.	16.40	16.75	16.06	16.79
Md.	16.3	15.6	15.9	15.8
Va.	14.0	14.0	12.0	14.1
W.Va.	15.1	15.3	13.2	14.8
N.C.	12.9	11.3	12.6	13.8
S.C.	10.4	10.3	11.1	11.3
S.ATL.	12.58	11.75	11.95	12.99
Ky.	14.7	13.3	11.9	14.1
Tenn.	12.2	11.2	9.6	12.3
Miss.	8.6	8.0	8.0	8.6
Ark.	10.5	10.0	9.4	10.3
Okla.	12.7	12.0	11.2	11.9
Tex.	9.9	10.6	11.1	10.3
S.CENT.	10.95	10.66	9.85	10.77
Mont.	16.6	17.2	16.0	18.4
Idaho	20.6	19.3	20.6	22.8
Wyo.	16.3	15.3	16.2	17.1
Colo.	16.3	15.4	16.5	17.1
Wash.	20.8	21.5	21.9	23.0
Oreg.	19.5	19.7	20.6	20.3
Calif.	18.9	18.2	17.5	20.7
WEST.	17.75	17.72	18.30	19.56
U.S.	16.44	16.52	16.00	16.77

^{1/} 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.

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