

August 1, 1951

MILK PRODUCTION

Farm production of milk during July was estimated at 11,829 million pounds, fractionally below the 11,870 million pounds produced a year ago but almost 2 percent above the 10-year average July output of 11,621 million pounds. Production per cow continued at a very high level, boosted by excellent pastures in the major dairy areas and record high grain feeding in the poorer pasture sections. Milk cows on United States farms in June 1951, estimated at 22,668,000 head, were down slightly from the 22,757,000 head on farms in June a year ago. On a per capita basis, production of milk in July 1951 averaged 2.47 pounds per day, the lowest for the month in records dating back through 1930. Total United States production of milk during the first 7 months of 1951 was 73.7 billion pounds, almost 1 billion pounds below the 74.5 billion pounds produced in the comparable period of 1950.

Milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds on August 1 averaged 18.09 pounds, slightly above the 18.04 pounds produced on August 1, 1950, the previous record high output for that date. Production per cow in all regions showed a normal seasonal decrease from July 1 which for the U. S. averaged about 2 pounds, or 10 percent. Production in crop reporters' herds on August 1 was 11 percent above the 10-year average for the date. This followed the pattern of earlier months in 1951, when output per cow has ranged between 10 and 15 percent above the comparable 10-year average.

Excellent green feed from pastures in the North Atlantic and East North Central States, coupled with continued heavy grain feeding, was reflected in record high production of milk per cow on August 1 in these areas. Exceptionally good pasture feed, with a lesser rate of grain feeding, resulted in production in the West North Central States equalling the record high output per cow for this area reached last year. Milk production per cow on August 1 in the Western States equalled the August 1, 1950 average, which was the record high for that date. Production per cow in crop reporters' herds in the South Atlantic area was the lowest for August 1 in the last five years but was above the August 1 output in any years prior to 1947. Output per cow in the South Central States, while the lowest for August 1 in the last four years, exceeded any year prior to 1948. Nine States, all in the North Central area, recorded new high August 1 production per cow, and several other States equalled or approached the record high levels.

Among the 29 individual States for which monthly milk production estimates are available, only three had a record high production in July. These were Ohio, Missouri and Virginia. Production in New Jersey and South Carolina equalled their July record output established in 1947 in both States. Production in Wisconsin and Pennsylvania approached record high levels, with July output being exceeded in only 1 previous year. In some other States, reduced cow numbers sharply offset the high level of output per cow, resulting in a relatively small total milk output. Oklahoma recorded the lowest production for the month in 20 years of record, and July production in North Dakota, Nebraska, and Montana was the second lowest for records covering about the same period. In several other States, July output of milk has been lower in only 2 or 3 previous years of recent record.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

CROP REPORT as of August 1, 1951

Washington, D. C.,  
August 13, 1951

CROP REPORTING BOARD

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, UNITED STATES, 1940-49 AVERAGE, 1950 AND 1951

Month:	Monthly total			Percent	Daily average per capita		
	Average:	1950	1951		Average:	1950	1951
	1940-49:			1950	1940-49:		
	Million pounds				Pounds		
Jan.	8,548	9,067	8,960	99	1.99	1.94	1.89
Feb.	8,246	8,721	8,527	98	2.10	2.06	1.99
Mar.	9,538	9,991	9,690	97	2.22	2.13	2.04
Apr.	10,146	10,506	10,328	98	2.43	2.31	2.24
May	11,885	11,840	11,856	100	2.76	2.52	2.49
June	12,392	12,538	12,535	100	2.97	2.75	2.71
July	11,621	11,870	11,829	100	2.69	2.52	2.47
Aug.	10,505	10,620			2.43	2.25	
Sept.	9,274	9,396			2.21	2.06	
Oct.	8,835	9,081			2.04	1.92	
Nov.	8,125	8,402			1.93	1.83	
Dec.	8,334	8,523			1.92	1.80	
Year	117,448	120,555			2.31	2.17	

Estimated Monthly Milk Production on Farms, Selected States 1/

State:	July				State:	July			
	average:	July	June	July		average:	July	June	July
	1940-49:	1950	1951	1951		1940-49:	1950	1951	1951
	Million pounds					Million pounds			
N. J.	90	93	105	96	S. C.	57	58	58	59
Pa.	474	527	560	523	Ky.	236	265	251	252
Ohio	514	553	593	571	Tenn.	230	248	238	245
Ind.	352	346	359	351	Ala.	133	137	131	137
Ill.	511	490	536	508	Miss.	144	141	146	146
Mich.	531	567	596	561	Okla.	261	223	211	208
Wis.	1,483	1,547	1,789	1,590	Texas	424	383	386	369
Minn.	820	760	890	748	Mont.	74	62	63	61
Iowa	669	617	610	572	Idaho	130	121	126	123
Mo.	404	460	478	476	Utah	62	65	70	65
N. Dak.	242	210	226	207	Wash.	212	201	200	192
S. Dak.	188	160	172	164	Oreg.	147	139	142	133
Nebr.	274	235	236	229	Calif.	509	554	556	554
Kans.	286	268	284	256	Other				
Va.	178	209	207	210	States	1,844	2,075	2,157	2,069
N. C.	142	156	159	154	U. S.	11,621	11,870	12,535	11,829

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.  
2/ Revised.

DAIRY PASTURES

On August 1, pastures were furnishing milk cows the best midsummer green feed since 1945 and, other than that, as good as in any of the last 34 years for which dairy pasture condition figures are available. For the country as a whole, the condition of dairy pastures on August 1 averaged 88 percent of normal compared with 87 percent a year ago and a 1940-49 average of 81 percent. Especially good pastures were available in the principal dairy States of the Central and upper Mississippi valley and Great Lakes areas. Also, pastures were generally good to excellent in

CROP REPORT

as of

CROP REPORTING BOARD

August 1, 1951

the more important Northeastern dairy States. Less favored areas included a section of the central Ohio valley, much of the Southeast, considerable areas of Texas, and some important dairy territory in western Washington and Oregon where dry July weather caused serious deterioration in pastures. Late July and early August rains were beneficial in many Eastern sections, especially the Southeast, where they relieved earlier drought, and pastures showed some improvement.

In the North Central part of the country, pastures furnished milk cows the best midsummer grazing in more than one-third of a century. In Missouri, pasture condition for August 1 was the highest since 1904, in Wisconsin it equalled the best since 1905, and in Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas, it was the highest since 1915. These areas for the most part were favored by ample July rainfall, ranging up to as much as 300 percent of normal in some sections. The only North Central State with pasture conditions below average was North Dakota, where dry weather in the northern and central parts caused sharp deterioration of pasture and range feed.

In the North Atlantic region, pastures averaged the best for August 1 since 1947. In all these States condition was well above the 1940-49 average, and in New England was far better than a year ago. Some spots of only fair pasture were evident in east central Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey, where rapid deterioration resulted from hot dry weather the latter part of July.

In the South, pasture feed conditions were not up to August 1 last year as the result of dry weather through most of July. In North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, pasture condition was substantially below average for August 1 and from 10 to 21 points below a year ago. In Kentucky, pastures were also much poorer than last year, with a section of severe drought in the Cincinnati milk shed area. Among Southern States west of the Mississippi, pasture condition in Arkansas and Oklahoma was above average for August 1, but in Louisiana and Texas was much poorer than either average or last year. In Texas, pasture condition dropped 17 points between July 1 and August 1 and on the latter date showed considerable sections of severe drought in central, southern, and southwestern portions of the State. In these areas, no substantial relief was obtained in the first week of August.

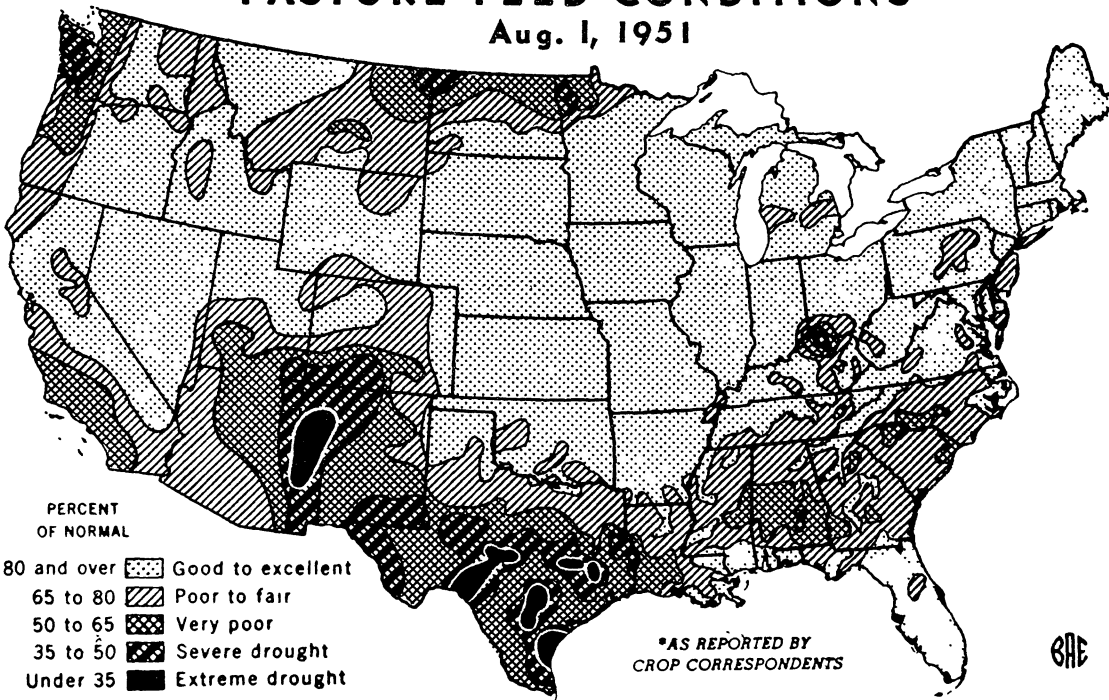
On the northern Pacific coast, substantial deterioration of pastures accompanied dry weather in July. Feed was especially short west of the Cascades in Washington and northern Oregon. Pastures also continued very poor in the Coastal areas of lower California, but for the State as a whole the condition was only a little below last year and average. In the lower Rocky Mountain and Intermountain States, dry weather continued in July and pasture condition on August 1 remained well below a year ago.

GRAINS AND OTHER CONCENTRATES FED TO MILK COWS

Grain feeding on crop correspondents' farms was down seasonally on August 1 but the current level of feeding was the second highest for that date in 8 years of record. Nationally, crop correspondents fed their milk cows an average of 3.83 pounds of grains and other concentrates, slightly more than on August 1 a year ago and well above average for the date in the 1944-50 period, but 4 percent under the August 1, 1949 record high rate of 3.98 pounds per cow. Grain feeding was at a new August 1 high in the South Atlantic, South Central, and Western Regions, where lack of moisture has considerably reduced pasture feed. Favorable growing conditions in most parts of the North Atlantic and North Central areas generally

# PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS\*

Aug. 1, 1951



PERCENT OF NORMAL

80 and over	Good to excellent
65 to 80	Poor to fair
50 to 65	Very poor
35 to 50	Severe drought
Under 35	Extreme drought

\*AS REPORTED BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS

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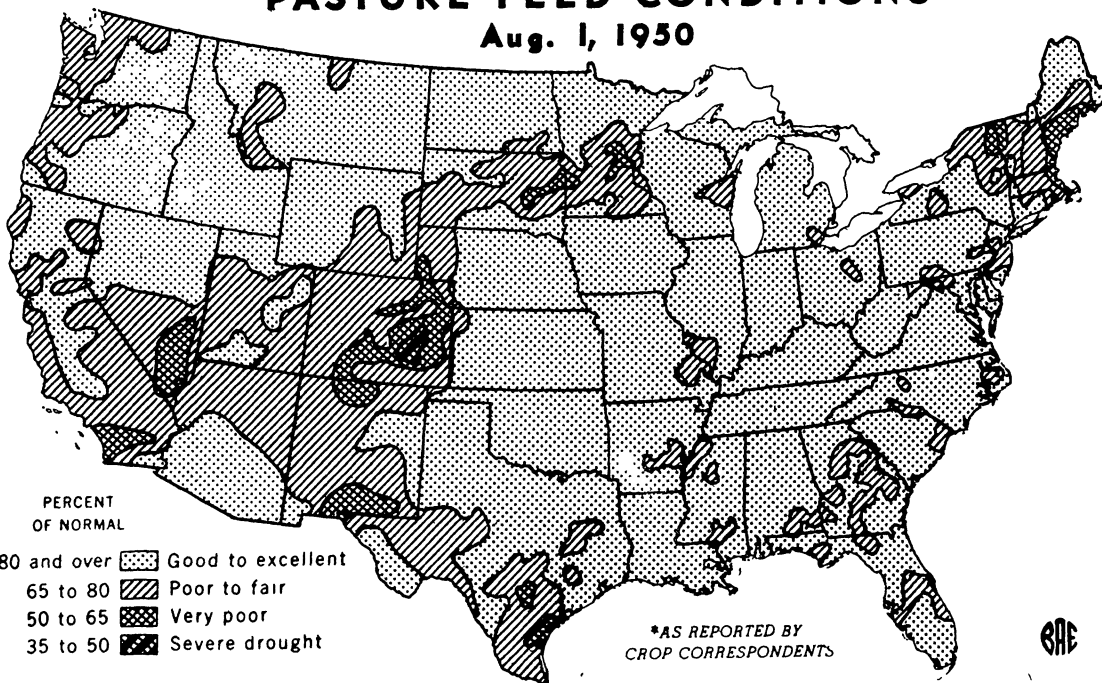
\* INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48272 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

# PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS\*

Aug. 1, 1950



PERCENT OF NORMAL

80 and over	Good to excellent
65 to 80	Poor to fair
50 to 65	Very poor
35 to 50	Severe drought

\*AS REPORTED BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS

BAC

\* INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47808 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
 CROP REPORTING BOARD

Washington, D. C.,  
 August 13, 1951

as of  
 August 1, 1951

maintained excellent green feed during July and grain feeding was less liberal than in the past 2 years. Seventy percent of the crop reporters' herds in the United States were being fed some grain or concentrates on August 1, which is above average and compares with 69 percent a year ago.

The sharpest increase in quantity of grain fed was in the Western group of States, reporting an average of 4.5 pounds of grain and other concentrates fed per cow on August 1. This is an increase of 0.7 pound from a year ago and is 0.3 pound above the previous August 1 record high. Five States, including Montana, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, and California, reported substantial increases in grain feeding over a year ago. In the South Atlantic and South Central States, the quantity of grain fed on August 1 was also a record high but the rate of feeding was only slightly above the average of the two previous years.

In the North Atlantic area, grain feeding rates continued highest in the Nation averaging 5.3 pounds per cow. This was only 0.1 pound above the average August 1 rate in the period 1944-50 but about 10 percent below the record high quantity fed on August 1, 1949. Even though pastures in this section have provided ample green feed, grain feeding has been very general, with 94 percent of the crop reporters' herds in this area receiving some grain. This is the highest percentage reported in the 8 years of record. In the East North Central States, grain feeding continued at a near record level, averaging 4.1 pounds per cow as compared to the August 1 high of 4.3 pounds set a year ago. Crop correspondents in the West North Central States fed an average of 3.1 pounds of grains and other concentrates, which is 0.5 pound under the August 1 record established in 1949.

Supplies of grains have generally been ample and new crop prospects point to an above average feed grain crop, promising a continued good supply of dairy feed grains. Feed costs have continued to increase and the value of a concentrate ration on July 1951 was almost 8 percent above a year earlier. Prices received by farmers for milk and cream have also increased and in the first half of 1951 have been the highest since 1948.

DAIRY PRODUCT - FEED PRICE RATIOS, BY REGIONS

Region	Milk-feed 1/				Butterfat-feed 2/			
	July, 1930-49 average	July 1950	June 1951	July 1951	July, 1930-49 average	July 1950	June 1951	July 1951
N.Atl.	1.14	1.09	1.13	1.21	---	---	---	---
E.N.C.	1.15	1.04	1.19	1.22	21.2	19.6	21.2	21.1
W.N.C.	1.40	1.16	1.26	1.26	24.5	22.7	24.4	24.1
S.Atl.	1.44	1.31	1.37	1.40	---	---	---	---
S.Cent.	1.29	1.24	1.29	1.32	16.9	15.6	16.4	16.5
West.	1.18	1.10	1.21	1.20	19.5	17.5	19.8	19.2
U.S.	1.17	1.10	1.20	1.23	22.1	20.6	22.2	22.1

1/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of whole milk sold by farmers to plants and dealers. 2/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of butterfat in cream sold by farmers.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS**  
**CROP REPORTING BOARD**

Washington, D. C.,  
 August 10, 1951  
 3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

**CROP REPORT**  
 as of  
August 1, 1951

MILK PRODUCED AND "GRAIN" FED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY REPORTERS 1/

State	Milk produced per milk cow		"Grain" fed per milk cow	
and	Aug. 1 av.	Aug. 1,	Aug. 1,	Aug. 1,
Division:	1940-49	1950	1951	1949
	Pounds		Pounds	
Me.	18.1	19.2	20.7	4.4
N.H.	17.5	17.9	19.4	4.4
Vt.	17.4	17.3	18.3	4.5
Mass.	19.2	19.3	21.2	5.7
Conn.	18.9	18.4	19.8	6.1
N.Y.	19.8	21.1	21.9	6.1
N.J.	21.3	21.4	22.1	7.6
Pa.	18.9	21.3	19.9	6.4
N. Atl.	19.31	20.55	20.83	5.9
Ohio	17.9	20.3	20.8	5.1
Ind.	17.5	18.9	19.0	4.5
Ill.	17.0	19.4	19.8	4.7
Mich.	20.0	22.1	22.2	4.0
Wisc.	19.5	21.4	22.3	3.7
E. N. Cent.	18.68	20.79	21.41	4.2
Minn.	17.2	19.0	19.6	3.5
Iowa	17.2	19.3	18.4	4.7
Mo.	14.0	16.5	17.1	3.5
N. Dak.	16.7	19.1	19.4	2.9
S. Dak.	14.5	15.5	16.9	2.4
Nebr.	16.2	19.0	18.3	3.1
Kans.	14.8	17.0	16.0	3.2
W. N. Cent.	15.92	18.07	18.07	3.6
Md.	17.0	19.0	17.9	5.5
Va.	15.0	16.7	16.2	3.5
W. Va.	15.1	15.8	16.0	2.6
N. C.	14.5	15.1	14.7	3.8
S. C.	12.0	13.4	12.6	3.2
Ga.	10.2	11.3	10.9	3.2
S. Atl.	13.88	15.00	14.66	3.5
Ky.	14.6	15.8	14.5	2.9
Tenn.	13.1	14.1	14.0	3.3
Ala.	9.8	10.7	10.0	3.4
Miss.	8.7	9.4	9.4	2.4
Ark.	10.2	10.5	10.9	2.0
Okla.	11.9	13.4	12.2	2.4
Tex.	9.6	9.9	10.1	3.1
S. Cent.	11.16	12.12	11.70	2.8
Mont.	18.7	19.7	21.1	2.2
Idaho	20.5	23.3	23.2	3.7
Wyo.	17.9	21.9	22.0	2.4
Colo.	17.4	18.5	19.3	4.0
Utah	19.7	22.1	22.1	2.8
Wash.	21.6	23.2	22.9	4.6
Oreg.	20.1	21.3	21.1	4.6
Calif.	20.9	21.6	22.5	5.0
West	19.74	21.58	21.59	4.2
U.S.	16.29	18.04	18.09	3.98

1/ Figures for New England States and New Jersey represent combined crop and special dairy reporters; other States, regions, and U.S., crop reporters only. Regional figures include less important dairy States not shown separately. 2/ Includes grain, millfeeds and other concentrates.

August 1, 1951

NUMBER OF MILK COWS ON FARMS, JUNE 1951

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States has changed but little over the past three years; it was shown by June 1951 estimates based on the mid-year livestock survey. The number of milk cows on farms this June totaled 22,668 thousand head, compared with 22,757 thousand a year ago, 22,705 thousand in June 1949, and 22,915 thousand head in June 1948. Milk cow numbers leveled off following a 12 percent decline from the June peak of 25,818 thousand head reached in 1944. The Nation's milk cow population is now the smallest in more than twenty years.

The estimates of June milk cow numbers are based mainly on information obtained from some 120,000 farmers who voluntarily report the numbers in their milking herds to State Offices of the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Postmasters and Rural Carriers of the Post Office Department cooperate in collecting the information. This year's reports were analyzed in terms of results obtained in similar surveys over the last two decades.

Prices of milk cows for recent months have been setting new high records, and prices obtainable for cull cows have been very attractive. The slaughter of cows and heifers (both milk and beef) under Federal inspection in the first five months of this year was a little below a year ago and much less than the average of the 1944-48 period, when numbers of milk cows on farms were being reduced. Prices received by farmers for milk and cream improved in late 1950 and during the first half of this year averaged the highest since 1948. In the first half of 1951 the milk feed price ratio was the most favorable in five years, but butterfat prices relative to those for feed, beef, and hogs have been below average.

Regionally, changes in June 1951 cow numbers as compared with a year earlier showed a continuation of the uptrend in the South, a slight gain in the Northeast, but an appreciable downtrend in the Corn Belt, Great Plains and much of the West. Among the more important dairy States, trends in the number of milk cows on farms were varied. In Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania, California, Texas, and Missouri, June numbers were about the same as a year ago. Changes of 1 percent or less included an increase in New York and a decline in Michigan. A number of important Midwestern milk States registered declines of two or three percent, including Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa.

In the South, most States showed a larger number of milk cows than in June last year. In Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, increases were in the 2 to 4 percent bracket. Only slight changes were recorded in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia. On the other hand, in West Virginia and Arkansas, milk cow numbers declined. In the West, only Idaho and Utah showed increases in the number of cows on farms. Most other States in the Mountain and northern Pacific Coast areas recorded declines of from 2 to 4 percent.

Reports from farmers also indicated a rather general tendency to increase the numbers of Spring heifer calves being saved for milk cows this year. These intentions, if realized, would add to milking herds a couple of years hence.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
CROP REPORT as of August 1, 1951  
CROP REPORTING BOARD Washington, D. C., August 13, 1951

NUMBER OF MILK COWS ON FARMS, JUNE, 1940-49 AV., 1950 and 1951 1/			
State	June 1940-49 av.	June 1950	June 1951
Division	Thous.	Thous.	% of 1950
Me.	122	115	113
N.H.	67	61	60
Vt.	277	263	264
Mass.	131	120	122
R.I.	21	20	20
Conn.	116	107	109
N.Y.	1,338	1,366	1,375
N.J.	154	158	159
Pa.	931	962	965
N.Atl.	3,156	3,172	3,187
Ohio	1,038	1,010	1,005
Ind.	766	705	690
Ill.	1,065	926	900
Mich.	975	967	957
Wis.	2,347	2,303	2,305
E.N.Cent.	6,190	5,911	5,857
Minn.	1,613	1,370	1,338
Iowa	1,322	1,085	1,052
Mo.	959	937	940
N.Dak.	478	375	370
S.Dak.	428	333	327
Nebr.	571	450	437
Kans.	700	589	585
W.N.Cent.	6,071	5,139	5,049
Del.	36	35	35
Md.	211	233	238
Va.	435	463	470
W.Va.	223	216	212
N.C.	359	373	383
S.C.	162	157	162
Ga.	352	365	370
Fla.	119	136	138
S.Atl.	1,896	1,978	2,008
Ky.	572	582	584
Tenn.	589	597	600
Ala.	390	388	401
Miss.	494	461	478
Ark.	448	404	396
La.	283	266	277
Okla.	725	586	586
Tex.	1,324	1,170	1,170
S.Cent.	4,826	4,454	4,492
Mont.	143	114	111
Idaho	223	194	197
Wyo.	61	50	49
Colo.	214	186	178
N.Mex.	67	55	53
Ariz.	45	46	45
Utah	108	105	106
Nev.	18	17	16
Wash.	334	302	293
Oreg.	244	220	213
Calif.	781	814	814
West	2,238	2,103	2,075
U.S.	24,377	22,757	22,668

1/ Based on analysis of reports for about 120,000 farms collected largely through cooperation with the Rural Mail Carriers. A more detailed report relative to the June estimates is available on request.