

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

November 12, 1938

MILK PRODUCTION NOVEMBER 1, 1938

Milk production continued at a high level in October, but during the month declined at about the usual rate for that season of the year. Total milk production in the United States on November 1 was about 6 percent higher than a year ago and the highest on record for that date. On a per capita basis, however, it was only about the same as on November 1, 1936, and somewhat less than on the same date in 1931 and 1933.

With the number of milk cows now on farms believed to be about the same as a year ago or only slightly higher, the 6 percent larger milk production reflects a heavier milk flow per cow. Since early summer the milk cows in herds kept by crop correspondents have been producing at an unusually high level. Mild temperatures and abundant grain supplies aided in maintaining milk production through October in nearly all sections except in the South Central Area where declining pasture conditions were accompanied by more than the usual seasonal decline in milk production. In all other major groups of States, milk production per cow on November 1 averaged well above that on the corresponding date last year and above the 1927-36 average for November 1.

For the country as a whole milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 12.42 pounds, compared with 11.74 pounds a year ago and a 1927-36 average of 11.86 pounds. The previous high production per cow on November 1 was 12.32 pounds in 1931. In the herds kept by crop correspondents 70.4 percent of the cows were reported milked on November 1, compared with 70.9 percent a year ago.

DAIRY PASTURES, NOVEMBER 1, 1938.

The condition of dairy pastures on November 1 this year was the best reported for that date in any of five years of record, but was down rather sharply from a month ago. Lack of moisture accompanied by warm temperatures caused rather sharp declines during October in much of the territory extending from the Gulf northward into western Kansas, southern Illinois, southern Michigan, and southwestern Pennsylvania. However, the mild weather encouraged later than usual pasturage of dairy stock in more northern sections where the pasture season is nearly over.

Pastures continued good to excellent in the Northeast and in an important dairy area including Wisconsin and portions of adjoining States. Pastures were rather poor in most of the Plains States extending from North Dakota to Texas, but farther west were mostly good to excellent. Considerable improvement occurred during October in western Washington and Oregon where pastures had been short for several months.

For the country as a whole, the condition of dairy pastures on November 1 averaged 71 percent of normal compared with 67 percent on November 1 a year ago and a range of 60 to 70 percent in the three preceding years.

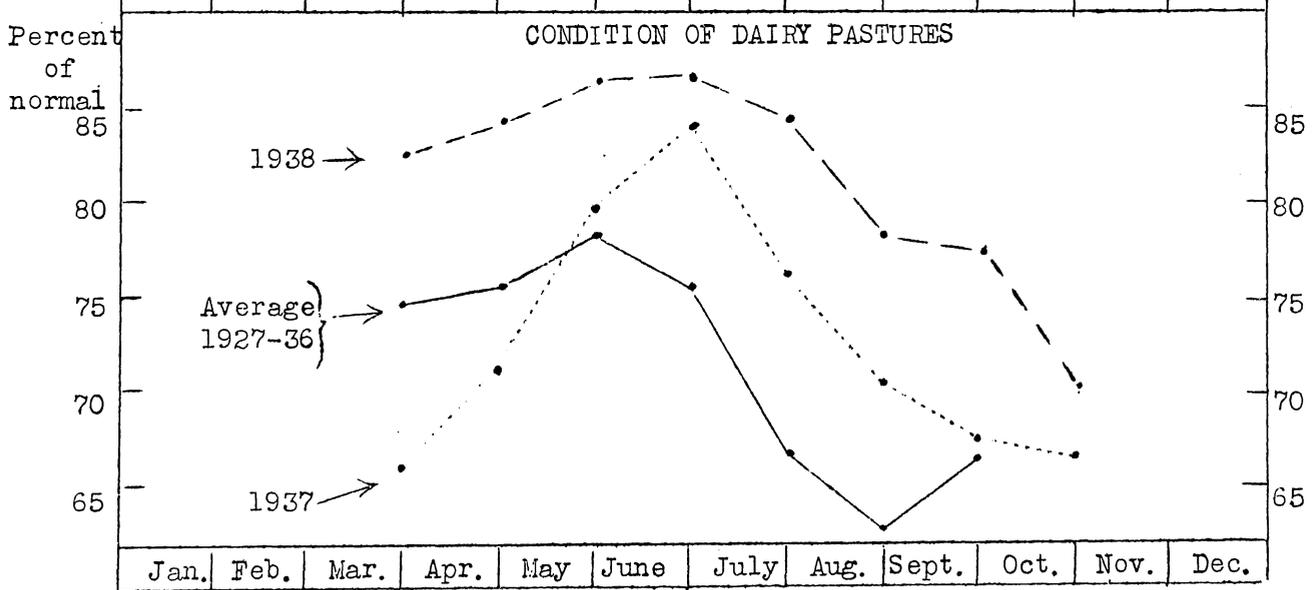
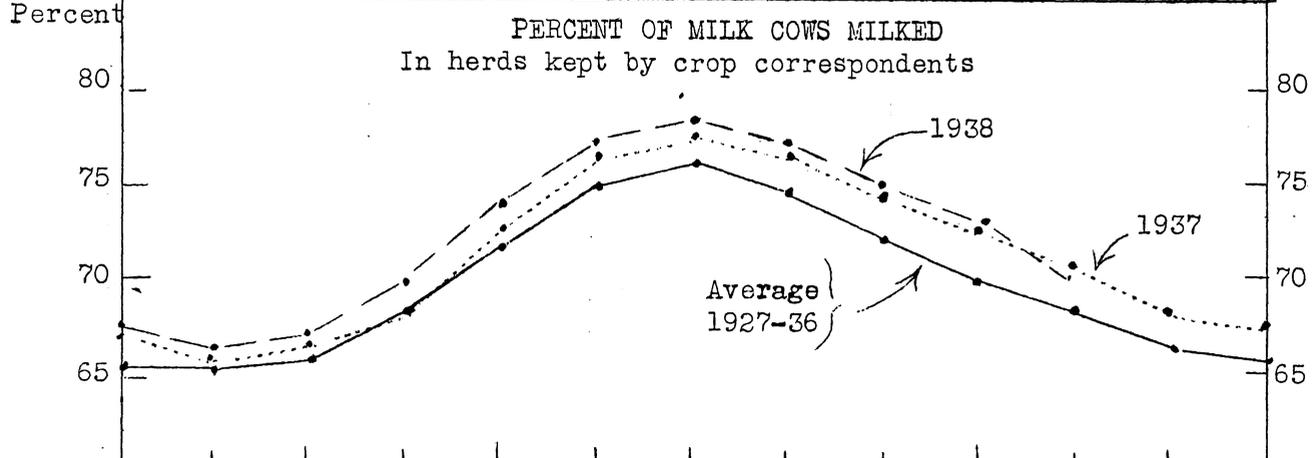
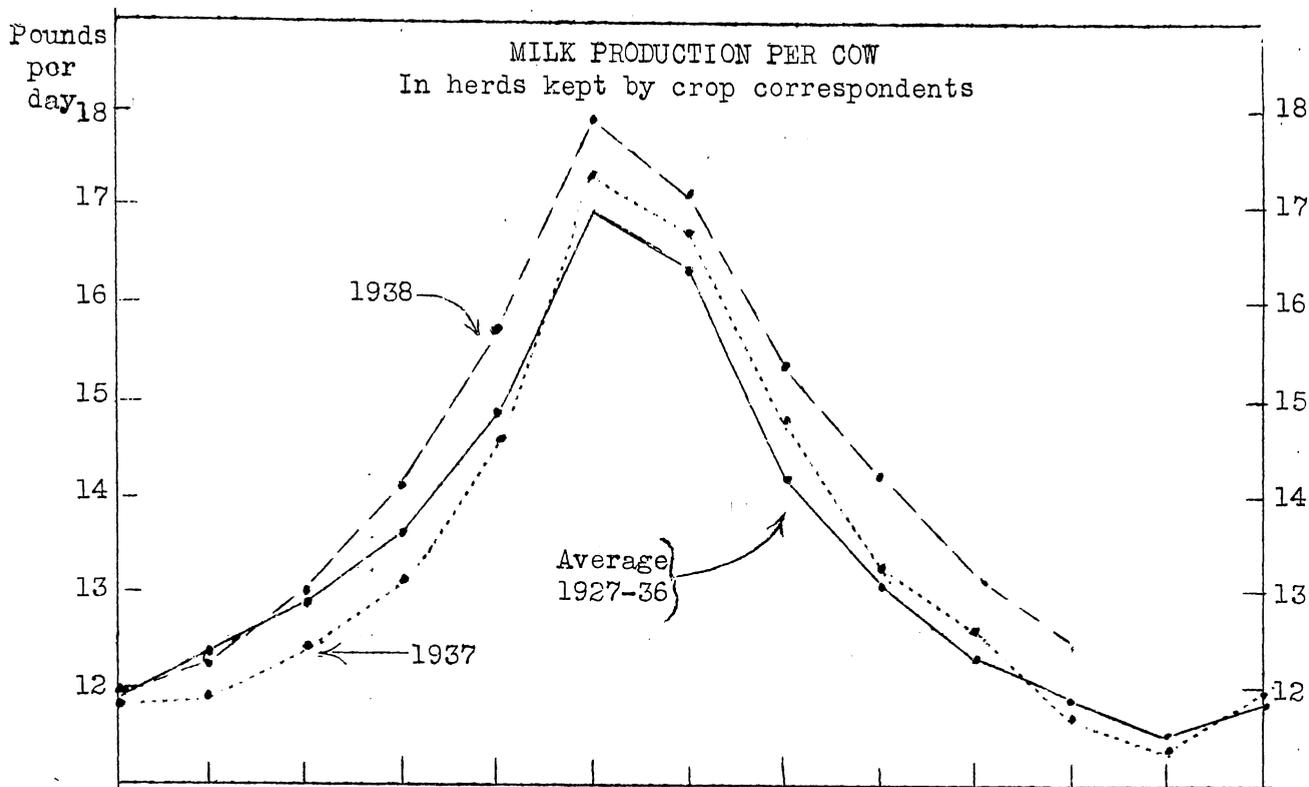
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
 CROP REPORTING BOARD  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 10, 1938

MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS 1/

State	: November 1 : :(Avg.) 1927-36 :	November 1 : 1936 :	November 1 : 1937 :	November 1 : 1938
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
N. Eng.	14.73	14.90	15.29	15.51
N. Y.	15.2	16.1	14.8	16.1
N. J.	17.6	17.8	19.2	18.0
Pa.	15.4	15.3	15.0	15.5
N. ATL.	15.26	15.90	15.25	15.98
Ohio	14.0	14.4	13.5	14.5
Ind.	13.0	13.8	12.2	13.0
Ill.	12.4	13.6	12.3	13.3
Mich.	14.9	15.5	14.7	15.6
Wis.	13.4	15.5	12.5	13.6
E. N. CENT.	13.53	14.77	12.90	13.93
Minn.	11.8	12.3	12.1	12.0
Iowa	12.0	13.1	11.8	12.8
Mo.	9.2	9.0	8.7	9.1
N. Dak.	9.4	9.1	9.9	9.5
S. Dak.	9.3	8.7	9.1	10.8
Nebr.	10.9	11.0	10.3	11.8
Kans.	11.3	10.8	11.1	12.2
W. N. CENT.	10.79	10.90	10.65	11.54
Md.	14.4	13.9	13.3	14.7
Va.	11.6	10.7	11.5	11.4
W. Va.	11.4	11.5	10.8	10.8
N. C.	10.8	10.8	10.8	11.1
S. C.	9.6	9.8	9.6	10.2
S. ATL.	10.60	10.63	10.59	11.03
Ky.	10.7	11.0	10.4	11.3
Tenn.	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.1
Miss.	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.5
Ark.	8.2	7.3	8.2	7.8
Okla.	9.0	8.7	9.5	9.3
Tex.	8.6	9.1	8.7	8.6
S. CENT.	8.68	8.70	8.70	8.53
Mont.	11.6	10.3	12.4	15.4
Idaho	15.9	15.7	16.2	17.1
Wyo.	11.5	11.4	11.0	12.4
Colo.	11.5	11.4	11.5	13.7
Wash.	16.2	16.9	16.8	16.1
Oreg.	14.3	14.5	14.8	14.5
Calif.	15.9	16.1	18.3	17.7
WEST	13.71	13.75	14.74	15.15
U. S.	11.36	12.20	11.74	12.42

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.



Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.