

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

November 12, 1937.

MILK PRODUCTION, NOVEMBER 1, 1937

Milk production declined more rapidly than usual during October. On November 1 milk production per cow in the herds kept by crop correspondents was nearly 4 percent lower than the very high production reported on the same date last year. As the number of milk cows on farms is believed to be nearly the same as a year ago, total milk production on November 1 also appears to have been about 4 percent less. In relation to November 1 production during the 10-year period, (1925-34) milk production per cow this year was only slightly less than average, while the supply of milk per capita, taking into account changes in cow numbers and increases in population, was about 2 percent below average.

The quantity of grain fed per milk cow on October 1 was moderately heavy in comparison with that on the same date in the last half dozen years, but milk flow apparently has not yet responded to the supplementary feed. The decrease in milk production during October was most pronounced in areas where less than the usual seasonal decrease took place a month earlier, and it may have been in part a deferred seasonal movement. Looking ahead to a less than average November decline as compared with the very sharp decline a year ago, milk production on December 1 this year may be as heavy, or heavier, than on the same date last year, and average above last year during the remainder of the winter feeding period.

Regionally, milk production per cow on the first of the month was mostly not far from the 1925-34 average for November 1 except in the East North Central States, where it was considerably below average and in the Western States where it was sharply above. For the country as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 11.74 pounds on November 1 this year compared with 12.20 pounds on the same date last year and a 1925-34 average of 11.82 pounds for November 1. The proportion of milk cows reported milked continued at a record level for that season of the year, averaging 70.9 percent compared with 70.8 percent last November 1, 69.3 percent on November 1, 1935, and from 65.2 to 68.6 percent on November 1 during the preceding 10 years.

DAIRY PASTURES

Dairy pastures were only fair on November 1 but with abnormally warm weather in northern States in late October reports from most States showed a considerable proportion of the milk cows on pasture.

In general pastures were poor to very poor in most of the area between the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains and fair to good in most other areas. In the country as a whole the reported condition of dairy pastures on November 1 averaged 67 percent compared with 61 percent last year, 69 percent two years ago and 54 percent after the drought of 1934. The condition declined about 1 percent during October. There was some improvement as a result of rain and warm weather in Wisconsin, Nebraska, Montana and northern California but these gains were offset by cool weather in the East, dry weather in most of the area west of the Mississippi River and early frosts in much of the Cotton Belt.

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

November 10, 1937.

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

STATE	: November 1 : :(Avg.) 1925-34 : Pounds	: November 1 : 1935 : Pounds	: November 1 : 1936 : Pounds	: November 1 : 1937 : Pounds
New Eng.	14.68	14.52	14.90	15.29
N. Y.	15.0	15.0	16.1	14.8
N. J.	17.4	17.2	17.8	18.2
Pa.	15.2	15.5	15.8	15.0
N. Atl.	15.04	15.21	15.90	15.25
Ohio	13.9	13.6	14.4	13.5
Ind.	13.1	11.9	13.8	12.2
Ill.	12.4	11.0	13.6	12.3
Mich.	14.7	14.7	15.5	14.7
Wis.	13.2	12.7	15.5	12.5
E. N. Cent.	13.39	12.72	14.77	12.90
Minn.	11.8	11.4	12.3	12.1
Iowa	11.7	11.0	13.1	11.8
Mo.	9.3	8.2	9.0	8.7
N. Dak.	9.3	9.6	9.1	9.9
S. Dak.	9.2	9.0	8.7	9.1
Nebr.	10.8	10.3	11.0	10.3
Kans.	11.3	10.4	10.8	11.1
W. N. Cent.	10.72	10.05	10.90	10.65
Md.	14.4	14.3	13.9	13.3
Va.	11.1	11.1	10.7	11.5
W. Va.	11.4	10.6	11.5	10.8
N. C.	10.9	10.4	10.8	10.8
S. C.	9.4	9.5	9.8	9.6
S. Atl.	10.63	10.53	10.63	10.59
Ky.	11.0	9.4	11.0	10.4
Tenn.	9.5	8.7	9.2	9.4
Miss.	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.6
Ark.	8.4	7.0	7.3	8.2
Okla.	9.3	8.1	8.7	9.5
Tex.	8.4	8.5	9.1	8.7
S. Cent.	8.76	8.09	8.70	8.70
Mont.	11.4	10.8	10.3	12.4
Idaho	15.4	16.2	15.7	15.2
Wyo.	11.0	12.5	11.4	11.0
Colo.	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.5
Wash.	16.0	16.3	16.9	16.8
Oreg.	14.4	14.0	14.5	14.8
Calif.	15.5	17.3	16.1	18.3
West.	13.54	13.85	13.75	14.74
U. S.	11.82	11.31	12.20	11.74

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.