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

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MILK PRODUCTION, NOVEMBER 1, 1935.

Milk production in the United States, which declined very sharply during September, showed a further sharp decline during October. In each of these months production appears to have decreased more rapidly than at the same season in any of the last ten years. With production per cow about the same as a year ago, and with about 3 percent fewer cows on the farms, total milk production on November 1 was apparently about 3 percent lower than on that date last year. On October 1 total production was only about 1 percent below last year, and on September 1 it was about 4 percent above last year.

The causes of this rapid decrease in production are not fully known but one of the factors of importance in the North Atlantic and North Central States appears to be the rather general decrease in the proportion of the cows freshening in the fall months. The reports received indicate that an unusually large proportion of the milk cows were being milked on the first of this month, but many of them were producing but little milk, apparently because they were far along in their lactation periods. Another factor that is contributing to a low level of milk production is the tendency to feed cows less than the usual quantity of grain in the butterfat producing areas where returns from milk cows have recently been exceptionally low in comparison with returns from other classes of livestock. While dairy correspondents in nearly all States were feeding more grain per milk cow on November 1 than on that date last year, the rate of feeding in nearly all of the Corn Belt States and in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Oklahoma, was reported much lower than in any of the previous four years, 1930 to 1935. Elsewhere the rate of feed was more nearly average for November 1. Although light grain feeding has been the practice all summer in some of the butterfat producing States, the effects are becoming more noticeable now that pastures are beginning to fail. The exceptionally heavy October decrease in production shown by reports from the Corn Belt States suggests a low level of winter milk production there unless prices of dairy products rise enough to encourage heavier feeding. In the Northeast and in some of the market milk areas elsewhere, milk production per cow declined sharply during September and October but was still above average on November 1.

In the country as a whole, crop correspondents were securing about November 1 a daily average of about 11.31 pounds of milk per cow in their herds compared with 11.35 pounds last year, 11.31 pounds in 1933, and a November 1 average of 12.06 pounds during the previous five years. Correspondents' reports indicated that on the same date, they milked 69.3 percent of their cows compared with 68.6 percent last year, 67.8 percent in 1933, and a November 1 average of 68.1 percent during the previous five years. When compared with November reports for the last ten years, the averages for the current month showed the highest percentage of the cows being milked, one of the lowest averages of production per cow on hand, and the lowest reported production of milk per cow milked.

DAIRY PASTURES

Dairy pastures were markedly better on November 1 than they were a year ago, the improvement being material in all States west of the Mississippi River. In some eastern areas pastures have suffered lately from early frosts or dry weather but in all States much livestock was still on pasture at the end of October. For the country as a whole the condition of dairy pastures on November 1, as reported by crop correspondents, averaged 69.5 percent compared with 59.7 on the same date last year.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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CROP REPORTING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. November 11, 1935

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

	November 1 (Avg.) 1925-1932	November 1 1933	November 1 1934	November 1 1935
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Me.	12.9	11.7	12.0	12.7
N.H.	14.7	13.7	13.5	14.1
Vt.	12.6	13.3	13.7	13.5
Mass.	17.3	17.1	17.0	16.8
R.I.	18.0	16.6	15.9	17.8
Conn.	16.3	16.7	16.0	17.1
N.Y.	14.8	15.5	15.5	15.0
N.J.	17.3	17.7	18.0	17.2
Pa.	15.3	14.9	15.2	15.5
N. ATL.	15.00	15.12	15.28	15.21
Ohio	14.0	13.6	13.6	13.6
Ind.	13.3	12.0	12.4	11.9
Ill.	12.3	12.6	13.0	11.0
Mich.	14.8	14.0	14.4	14.7
Wis.	13.3	12.2	13.1	12.7
E. N. CENT.	13.50	12.71	13.21	12.72
Minn.	12.0	11.5	10.5	11.4
Iowa	11.7	12.0	11.8	11.0
Mo.	9.3	8.3	9.9	8.2
N.Dak.	9.7	8.1	8.0	9.6
S.Dak.	9.6	8.5	7.2	9.0
Nebr.	10.7	11.1	11.4	10.3
Kans.	11.2	11.5	11.6	10.4
W. N. CENT.	10.81	10.46	10.32	10.05
Del.	12.9	12.4	13.4	13.0
Md.	14.4	13.1	16.0	14.3
Va.	11.4	9.6	9.7	11.1
W.Va.	11.6	10.6	10.5	10.6
N.C.	11.1	10.1	10.0	10.4
S.C.	9.4	9.2	8.9	9.5
Ga.	8.8	7.9	7.3	8.1
Fla.	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.3
S. ATL.	10.79	9.84	10.14	10.53
Ky.	11.2	10.4	10.0	9.4
Tenn.	9.8	8.0	8.2	8.7
Ala.	8.0	7.3	6.9	7.5
Miss.	7.2	6.5	5.9	6.5
Ark.	8.8	7.3	6.9	7.0
La.	6.5	5.4	5.2	5.4
Okla.	9.5	8.3	8.2	8.1
Texas	8.7	8.2	8.3	9.3
S. CENT.	8.97	8.03	7.81	8.09
Mont.	11.4	11.3	11.8	10.8
Idaho	15.8	14.4	13.7	16.2
Wyo.	11.1	11.4	10.1	12.5
Colo.	11.6	10.7	9.7	11.5
N.Mex.	8.6	8.9	8.1	8.3
Ariz.	14.0	12.2	16.2	15.1
Utah	14.5	14.7	13.8	14.1
Nev.	13.4	13.9	10.4	14.6
Wash.	16.1	14.6	15.8	16.3
Oreg.	14.5	13.9	13.7	14.0
Calif.	15.1	16.5	17.6	17.3
WEST	13.66	13.18	12.98	13.85
U.S.	11.95	11.31	11.35	11.31

1/ These are not estimates but averages obtained by dividing reported daily production of herds kept by reporters by number of milk cows in these herds.