

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

June 10, 1936.

MILK PRODUCTION JUNE 1, 1936

Milk production in the country as a whole continues somewhat above last year's levels with a heavier production per cow more than offsetting the decreased number of milk cows on farms. On June 1, production per cow was averaging 3 to 4 percent above production on that date last year, but since farmers had about 2 percent fewer milk cows in their herds, total daily milk production was apparently only 1 to 2 percent above production on June 1 a year ago. On May 1 milk production was 2 to 3 percent higher than a year earlier and on April 1 about 5 percent higher.

Notwithstanding the poor pastures on June 1, when the condition in only a few States was up to average, production per cow as reported by crop correspondents was higher than on any June 1 since 1931 and was nearly up to the 1925-29 average on that date. Prices of dairy products have been high enough to encourage liberal feeding of grain and hay where needed and this has tended to offset the shortage of pasturage in some areas. Even in the South, where a number of States report the lowest June 1 condition of pastures on record, production per cow, although still low, was not as low as might otherwise be expected. In nearly all of the States outside of the South, production per cow was reported above last year on June 1, and in the Northeastern group and Wisconsin, production per cow was the highest in twelve years of record. For the country as a whole, crop correspondents were securing 16.99 pounds of milk per cow on June 1 compared with 16.41 pounds on that date last year, 15.11 pounds in the drought year of 1934 and the June 1 average of 17.20 pounds during the previous 9 years.

PASTURE CONDITIONS JUNE 1, 1936

The condition of pastures on June 1, although not far below the condition on the same date in 1935, 1932 and 1925 was the second lowest on record, averaging 74.5 percent of normal compared with 77.7 percent last year, the record low of 53.2 percent in 1934 and an average of 81.3 percent during the years 1923 to 1932. Very few States reported pastures up to their usual average. Record low conditions for June 1 were reported in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama and in portions of these States pastures were brown as a result of the exceptionally dry weather during May. Although recent showers have been helpful and have revived grass in some of the worst areas, more rain is needed to prevent deterioration of pastures in the eastern third of the country.

In the Southern Great Plains area the condition of pastures was still low on June 1 but the drought had been effectively broken, pastures had begun to improve and substantial further improvement is in prospect. In the Northern part of the Great Plains area pastures were very poor and urgently in need of rain on June 1. Recent rains have been helpful, but there are considerable areas where conditions are critical.

In the western range area as a whole the condition of ranges on June 1 averaged 83 or only slightly below the 85.6 average for that date during the last 10 years. Ranges were reported to have not fully recovered from recent dry years and there is a shortage of moisture in some areas but the ranges carry a fair to good supply of feed and the condition of range cattle and sheep is nearly up to the average for this season of the year.

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

STATE	June 1 (Avg.) 1925-33 Pounds	June 1 1934 Pounds	June 1 1935 Pounds	June 1 1936 Pounds
Me.	16.0	15.8	15.4	16.5
N.H.	16.8	16.0	17.0	17.1
Vt.	17.6	17.1	18.0	19.9
Mass.	19.4	18.6	19.1	18.5
R.I.	20.9	16.6	20.0	21.5
Conn.	18.8	17.6	19.9	20.3
N.Y.	22.7	21.8	22.9	23.9
N.J.	21.2	21.4	21.6	22.5
Pa.	20.5	19.3	21.2	21.6
N. ATL.	20.76	19.77	20.99	21.85
Ohio	20.0	18.7	19.3	19.5
Ind.	18.0	15.9	17.5	17.5
Ill.	17.7	16.8	17.0	17.5
Mich.	22.4	21.1	21.5	22.8
Wis.	22.4	19.2	22.1	23.3
E. N. CENT.	20.63	18.37	19.98	20.89
Minn.	20.2	16.4	20.3	20.9
Ia.	17.7	15.7	17.7	17.9
Mo.	12.8	11.6	13.5	11.8
N. Dak.	16.6	11.5	14.1	16.2
S. Dak.	16.4	10.7	14.1	15.7
Nebr.	17.1	15.1	15.6	17.9
Kans.	17.0	15.1	15.5	16.5
W. N. CENT.	17.05	13.95	16.08	16.97
Del.	16.0	15.3	18.2	15.4
Md.	17.8	16.8	16.9	17.1
Va.	14.2	12.7	14.0	12.7
W. Va.	15.1	12.9	13.5	13.3
N. C.	13.3	11.5	11.7	11.8
S. C.	10.9	10.7	9.8	10.7
Ga.	9.7	8.6	7.8	8.7
Fla.	7.4	6.7	6.8	8.6
S. ATL.	13.00	11.64	11.85	12.25
Ky.	15.0	12.7	13.1	12.7
Tenn.	12.8	10.7	11.5	11.2
Ala.	9.0	7.8	8.8	8.6
Miss.	9.4	7.5	8.4	8.1
Ark.	11.0	8.9	9.8	11.0
La.	7.6	5.8	5.5	7.2
Okla.	13.8	11.1	13.4	12.0
Tex.	10.5	10.4	11.1	10.4
S. CENT.	11.51	10.19	10.82	10.63
Mont.	16.0	14.3	16.3	16.8
Idaho	20.2	19.3	20.0	20.1
Wyo.	15.3	14.5	13.1	16.2
Colo.	16.1	15.3	12.8	15.9
N. Mex.	11.6	9.3	10.9	13.0
Ariz.	17.0	15.1	18.2	18.3
Utah	17.5	16.8	17.8	19.4
Nev.	15.7	13.1	17.4	14.3
Wash.	22.1	20.8	22.2	22.5
Oreg.	20.5	19.1	20.6	20.8
Calif.	19.5	21.3	20.4	21.1
WEST	18.07	17.33	17.69	18.72
U. S.	17.20	15.11	16.41	16.99

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.
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