

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

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MILK PRODUCTION AUGUST 1, 1936

With the drought moving into important dairy production areas, milk production per cow fell off more than usual during July and on August 1 was averaging about 5 percent below production on that date last year, judging by reports from crop correspondents. With around 1 percent fewer milk cows on farms, total milk production on August 1 appears to have been about 6 percent below production on that date last year. Total milk production was probably slightly lower also than on August 1, 1934, for the decrease in the number of milk cows since that date apparently more than offsets the higher production per cow.

The August 1 reports of crop correspondents showed an average of 13.71 pounds of milk per cow per day compared with 14.41 pounds a year earlier, 13.00 pounds on August 1 in the drought year of 1934 and an average of 14.42 pounds on August 1 during the previous 9 years. Correspondents also report more than the usual proportion of their cows as being milked on August 1. With marked increases in the prices of most dairy products since early June and with butterfat prices at the highest level for this season of the year since 1929, most farmers, excepting those in areas most severely affected by the drought, have been feeding grain rather heavily and supplementing the poor pastures, where necessary, with hay or green feed. Incomplete reports for August 1 indicate that in many areas the quantity of grain being fed per milk cow was much heavier than on July 1 and also heavier than on August 1 last year or in other recent years. With pastures the poorest on record for August 1 in the more important dairy areas, this supplementary feeding has helped to maintain a higher production than might otherwise be expected. In the Corn Belt, where most States report the poorest pastures on record, production per cow declined much more than usual during July but was still well above production on August 1, 1934. Production per cow held up unusually well during July in the South, due in part to some improvement in pastures. In the Northeast and far West, production per cow was well above the August 1 average for the 9 years, 1925-33.

DAIRY PASTURES AUGUST 1, 1936

On August 1, pastures were extremely poor in practically the whole area extending from central Montana, eastern Wyoming, and eastern Colorado eastward to central Michigan and western Ohio and as far south as southwestern Oklahoma, northwestern Arkansas and central Kentucky. About half of the States in this area report the lowest August 1 condition of pastures on record. Extremely poor pastures were also reported in western New York. From Pennsylvania and New Jersey southward and southwestward to Georgia and Alabama, the drought had been quite generally broken by August 1 and there have been good rains in early August, but pastures have been slow in recovering and are still poor. In Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Georgia pastures were the poorest on record for August 1 and in several other States in this area the condition was lower than on August 1 in any other previous year, excepting the drought years of 1925 and 1930. In the area west of the Rockies, conditions have been generally favorable for pastures and ranges most of this season, and since the first of May, they have been favorable for pastures eastward through Texas and into Louisiana and Mississippi. Pastures in these areas were much better on August 1 than during the drought of 1934 and were close to average or better in most of the area west of the Rockies.

For the country as a whole, the condition of dairy pastures averaged 40.9 percent compared with 83.6 percent on August 1 last year, 43.8 percent in 1934 and the August 10-year (1923-32) average of 74.7 percent. Pastures were the poorest on record in the area where the production of dairy products is important, but in the beef cattle and sheep producing area as a whole they did not average as low as in 1934.

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

August 10, 1936

MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS <sup>1/</sup>				
STATE	: August 1 :(Avg.) 1925-33:	: August 1 1934	: August 1 1935	: August 1 1936
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
N. Eng.	15.51	15.44	16.36	16.43
N. Y.	17.6	17.0	18.6	17.3
N. J.	18.1	19.4	18.7	20.1
Pa.	16.9	16.3	17.9	17.5
N. ATL.	16.88	16.58	17.81	17.40
Ohio	16.3	15.4	15.7	16.1
Ind.	15.4	13.7	14.9	14.1
Ill.	14.5	14.1	14.4	13.7
Mich.	17.8	15.7	17.4	17.8
Wis.	17.5	16.6	18.4	16.7
E. N. CENT.	16.55	15.46	16.79	15.85
Minn.	15.4	14.3	15.7	14.8
Iowa	14.2	14.3	14.2	12.8
Mo.	11.2	8.4	12.1	9.3
N. Dak.	15.0	12.0	15.4	13.2
S. Dak.	13.6	10.7	11.4	11.5
Nebr.	14.3	12.2	13.7	13.0
Kans.	13.5	10.8	13.5	11.1
W. N. CENT.	14.00	12.03	13.80	12.43
Md.	15.3	13.9	14.9	15.5
Va.	13.3	12.7	13.5	13.0
W. Va.	14.3	12.5	13.7	13.2
N. C.	12.9	12.4	13.0	12.4
S. C.	10.6	10.0	10.4	11.3
S. ATL.	12.18	11.18	11.82	12.05
Ky.	13.7	11.8	13.2	11.8
Tenn.	12.0	10.5	12.0	12.5
Miss.	8.8	7.6	7.5	8.5
Ark.	10.2	6.9	9.1	9.2
Okla.	11.7	8.2	11.1	9.7
Tex.	9.7	8.9	10.6	10.3
S. CENT.	10.43	8.80	10.25	9.98
Mont.	15.0	13.2	15.2	12.6
Ida.	18.5	17.3	19.0	18.8
Wyo.	14.7	12.8	15.4	14.6
Colo.	14.7	12.3	14.6	13.9
Wash.	18.8	18.6	18.8	22.3
Oreg.	17.3	16.8	17.5	18.7
Calif.	17.7	19.1	19.0	18.2
WEST	16.18	15.26	16.63	17.04
U. S.	14.42	13.00	14.41	13.71

<sup>1/</sup> 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.