

September 12, 1938

MILK PRODUCTION SEPTEMBER 1, 1938

Aided by good pastures and heavy grain feeding, milk production in the United States continued through August this year at a record high level for that month. On September 1, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged the highest for that date in the 14 years on record. Production per cow appears to have been rather uniformly high in all parts of the country, the reports ranging from 7 percent to 11 percent above the 1927-36 averages in the several major geographic divisions.

In the country as a whole, the milk production per cow reported on September 1 was above that of a year earlier by about 7 percent, and total milk production would appear to be up about the same percentage for the number of milk cows on farms is about the same as at this season last year. On a per capita basis, the indicated milk production was nearly 1 percent higher than on September 1, 1935, the previous high for that time of the year, and ranged from 2 percent to 10 percent higher than milk production per capita on the same date of the other 12 years on record.

The percentage decline in milk production per cow from August 1 to September 1 this year was about the same as the 1927-36 average decline but it was materially less than in 1927, 1928, and 1929, the only other recent years when milk production per cow was about equally high on August 1. Good pastures have contributed toward maintenance of milk production in most of the important dairy areas, although pastures declined rather sharply during August in Pennsylvania, several of the Southeastern States, Minnesota, and much of the Great Plains area. More grain per milk cow was reported fed in herds kept by dairy correspondents on August 1 this year than on the same date in any of the last half dozen years except 1936 when pastures were very poor. Reports available only for the North Atlantic States show a rather rapid increase in the rate of feeding during August and a higher September 1 average of grain fed per cow in herds kept by dairy correspondents than in any of the past 7 years except 1935 and 1936.

In the country as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents on September 1 averaged 14.23 pounds compared with 13.29 pounds on the same date last year and a range from 12.46 pounds to 13.95 pounds on that date in the 12 preceding years. The proportion of milk cows reported milked continued unusually high in all major groups of States, and for the country as a whole averaged 75.0 percent on September 1 this year compared with 74.5 percent on the same date last year and a range from 69.5 percent to 73.7 percent in the preceding dozen years for which records are available.

DAIRY PASTURES, SEPTEMBER 1, 1938

The condition of dairy pastures on September 1 this year averaged the best for that date in the last ten years, although in some areas rather appreciable declines during August resulted from lack of rainfall and hot weather. Good to excellent pastures were available east of the Mississippi River except for areas centering in Georgia and South Carolina and in Pennsylvania. West of the Great Plains pastures were in good condition except on the northern Pacific Coast where extremely dry weather has prevailed.

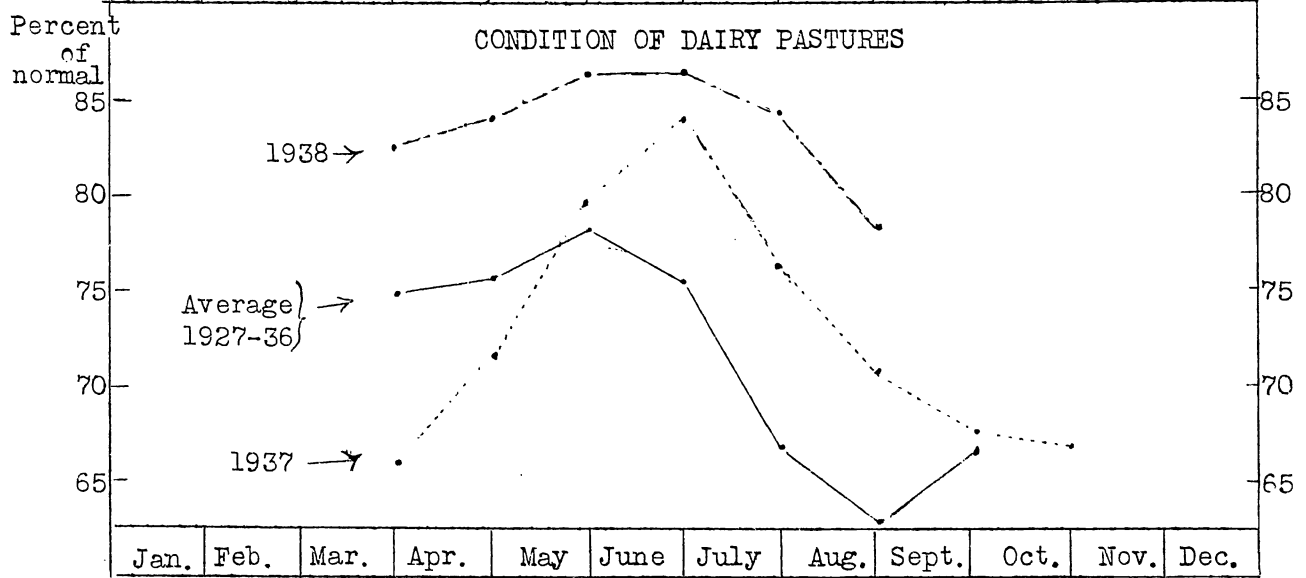
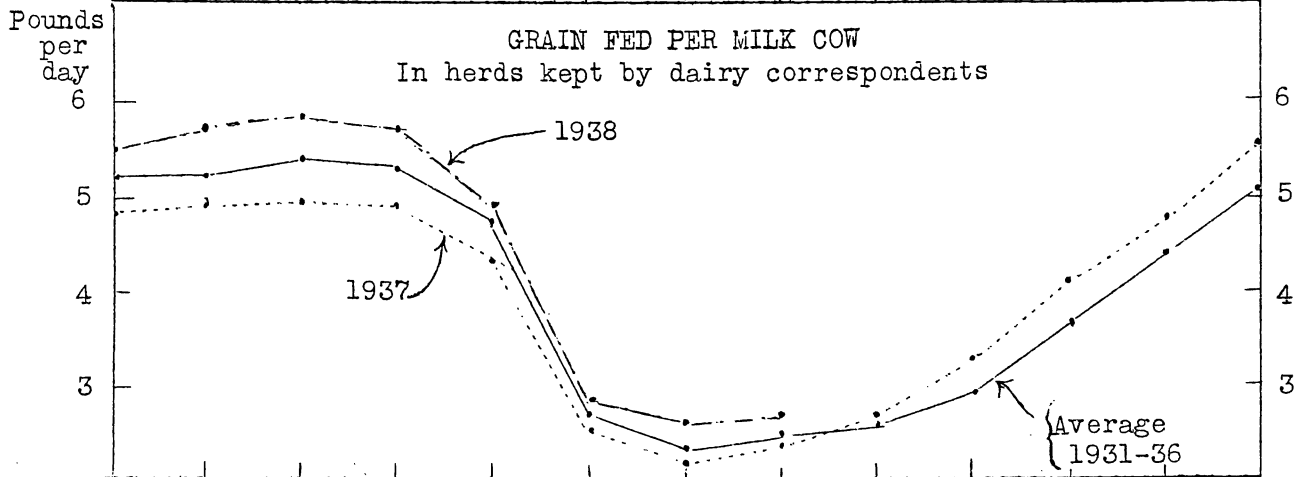
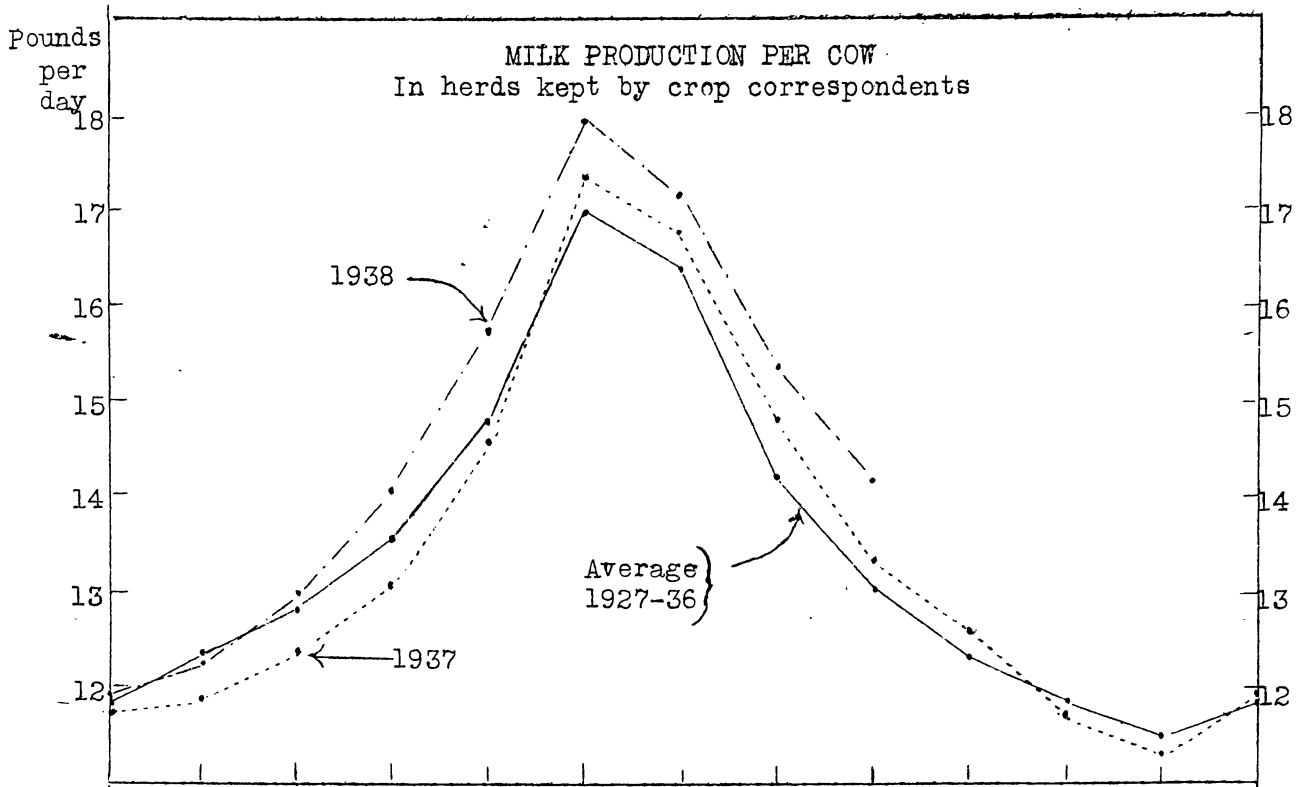
Rather extensive declines in pasture condition during August occurred in Minnesota, southwestern Missouri, and much of the Great Plains area. Above normal temperatures, light rainfall, and grasshopper damage have been influential factors in causing lower condition. In much of this area, however, rainfall in the early part of September is expected to improve pastures considerably.

For the country as a whole the condition of dairy pastures averaged 78 percent of normal on September 1 compared with 70 percent on the same date a year ago. Average September 1 condition during the preceding ten years, 1927-36, was 62.9 percent and for the ten years prior to recent droughts, 1920-29, was 78.1 percent.

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

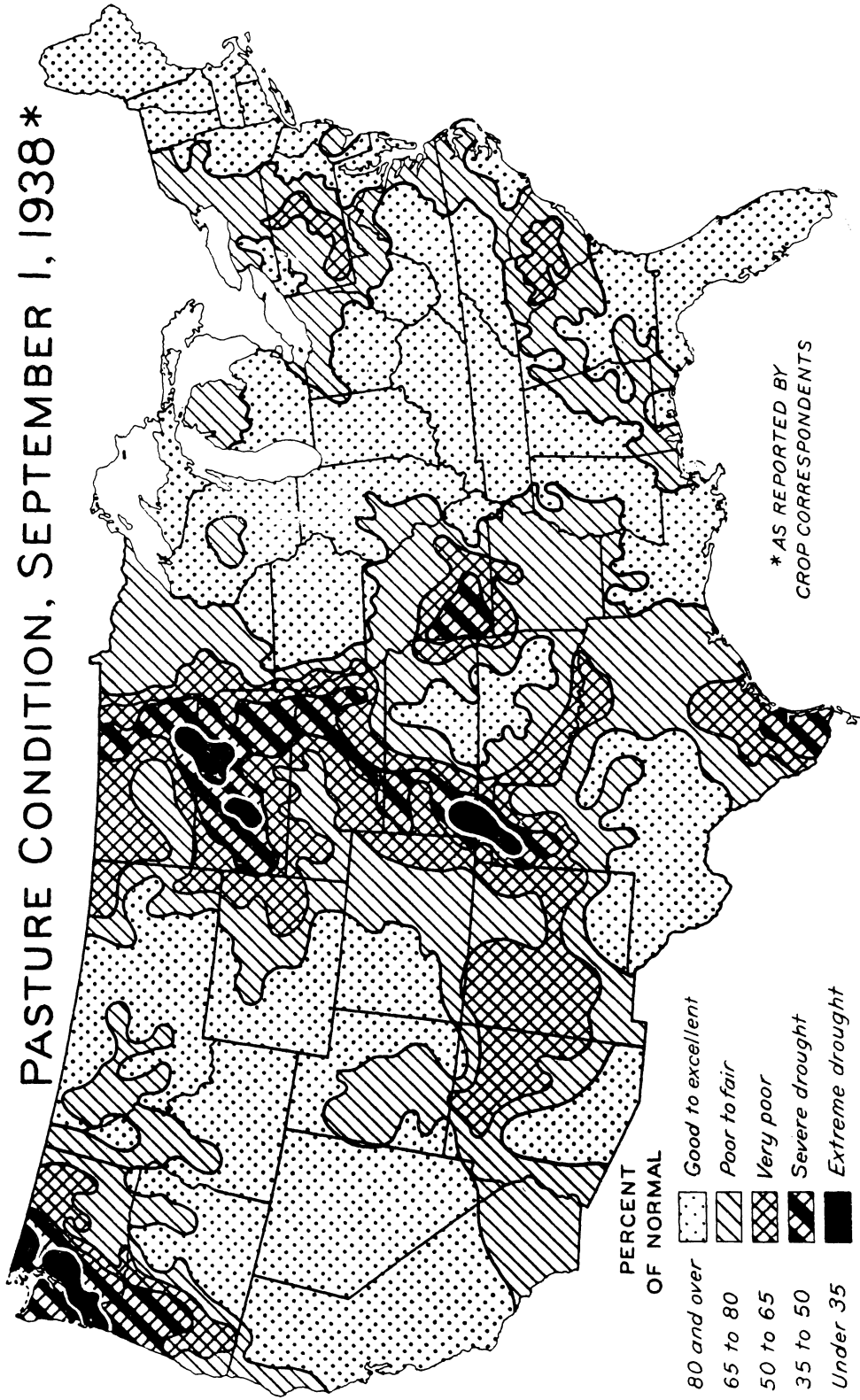
MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS ^{1/}				
State	: September 1 :(Avg.) 1927-36	: September 1 : 1936	: September 1 : 1937	: September 1 : 1938
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
N. Eng.	14.77	15.47	15.31	16.02
N. Y.	15.9	16.5	16.2	16.9
N. J.	19.0	18.8	19.2	19.9
Pa.	16.3	17.1	17.0	17.8
N. ATL.	15.83	16.58	16.49	17.17
Ohio	15.6	15.4	15.9	16.8
Ind.	14.9	14.2	14.8	16.0
Ill.	13.9	13.2	13.8	15.5
Mich.	16.0	16.4	16.8	18.1
Wis.	15.1	14.6	14.9	16.4
E. N. CENT.	15.07	14.59	15.05	16.49
Minn.	12.8	13.0	13.3	14.1
Iowa	13.1	12.0	12.8	14.2
Mo.	10.4	8.2	11.0	10.8
N. Dak.	12.7	12.4	12.6	13.5
S. Dak.	11.0	10.5	11.1	11.1
Nebr.	12.7	11.6	12.3	13.4
Kans.	12.0	9.6	11.2	13.3
W. N. CENT.	12.20	11.09	12.11	13.04
Md.	15.1	15.3	15.3	16.0
Va.	13.0	13.0	13.5	13.8
W. Va.	13.7	13.8	13.7	14.6
N. C.	12.4	12.3	12.2	13.4
S. C.	10.6	11.4	11.1	10.4
S. ATL.	11.72	11.92	12.10	12.60
Ky.	13.0	11.9	13.2	14.5
Tenn.	11.5	11.2	11.6	12.4
Miss.	7.8	7.6	8.0	7.4
Ark.	8.6	7.2	8.8	10.1
Okla.	9.8	8.1	10.2	12.0
Tex.	9.2	9.1	9.8	9.7
S. CENT.	9.60	8.97	9.96	10.61
Mont.	13.6	12.5	14.9	15.8
Idaho	16.8	17.6	18.3	18.7
Wyo.	13.4	13.5	13.6	14.9
Colo.	13.5	13.6	12.6	14.1
Wash.	17.4	18.1	18.9	17.8
Oreg.	15.2	15.6	15.7	15.8
Calif.	17.2	17.1	17.1	19.4
WEST.	15.14	15.27	16.08	16.51
U. S.	13.08	12.57	13.29	14.23

^{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.
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PASTURE CONDITION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1938*



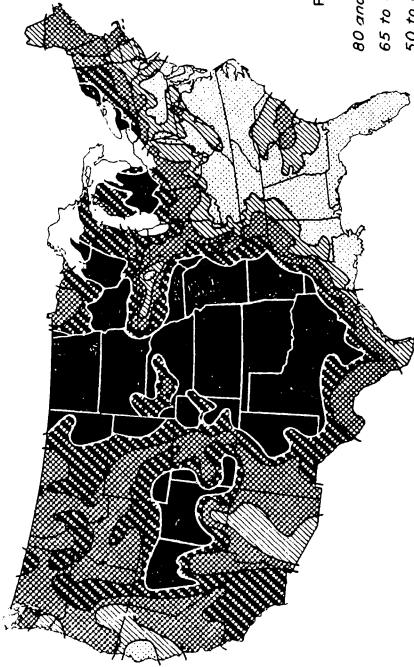
PERCENT OF NORMAL

- 80 and over Good to excellent
- 65 to 80 Poor to fair
- 50 to 65 Very poor
- 35 to 50 Severe drought
- Under 35 Extreme drought

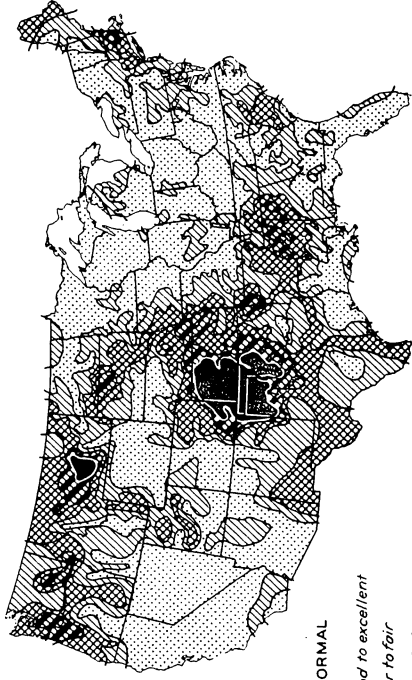
* AS REPORTED BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS

PASTURE CONDITION *






SEPTEMBER 1, 1934



SEPTEMBER 1, 1935

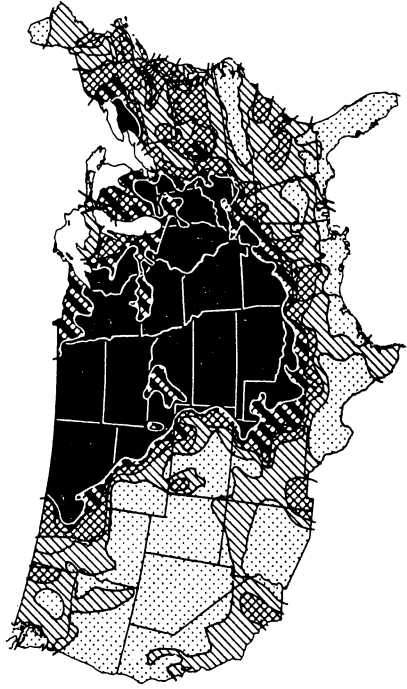


PERCENT OF NORMAL

- 80 and over  Good to excellent
- 65 to 80  Poor to fair
- 50 to 65  Very poor
- 35 to 50  Severe drought
- Under 35  Extreme drought

* AS REPORTED BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS

SEPTEMBER 1, 1936



SEPTEMBER 1, 1937

