

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 13, 1939.

MILK PRODUCTION, NOVEMBER 1, 1939

Following about the usual seasonal decline during October, milk production in the United States on November 1 was about the same as on that date a year ago. The rate of milk flow per cow appears to have been aided by liberal feeding of grains and concentrates and in spite of poor pastures, production in herds kept by crop correspondents was only about 1 percent less than the record November 1 production per cow reported a year ago. This slight reduction in rate of production per cow appears to have been just about offset by an increase in the number of milk cows on farms. While the total quantity of milk approaches record proportions, when compared with the consuming population it is only about 1 percent more than the average per capita for this season of the year.

Dry weather this fall has materially reduced the late season pasturage available in the Great Lake and Northeastern dairy States, and failure of the wheat pastures to develop has reduced the quantity of succulent feed available to milk cows in much of the Plains area. However, with liberal quantities of grains and concentrates on farms and with the prices of dairy products not far from average in relation to prices of feed grains, dairy cows are expected to be well fed in the next few months. Preliminary reports from dairy correspondents in a few of the more important milk producing States indicate an above average rate of feeding for November 1. Hay supplies seem generally adequate, although in some localities the reduction of fall pasturage has tended to increase the quantity of hay fed..

Milk production per cow on November 1 was above the 1928-37 average for that date in all but 10 of the 48 States, and for the country as a whole averaged nearly 4 percent greater. In comparison with November 1 last year, production per cow was down about 4 percent in the West North Central States, down 2 percent in the North Atlantic States and elsewhere about the same or higher.

In the country as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 12.30 pounds on November 1, compared with 12.42 pounds on the same date last year and 11.82 pounds in the 10-year period, 1928-37. An average of 69.9 percent of the milk cows in these herds were reported producing milk on November 1 this year, which was lower than in any of the 3 preceding years, but above that in other years as far back as 1925.

DAIRY PASTURES, NOVEMBER 1, 1939

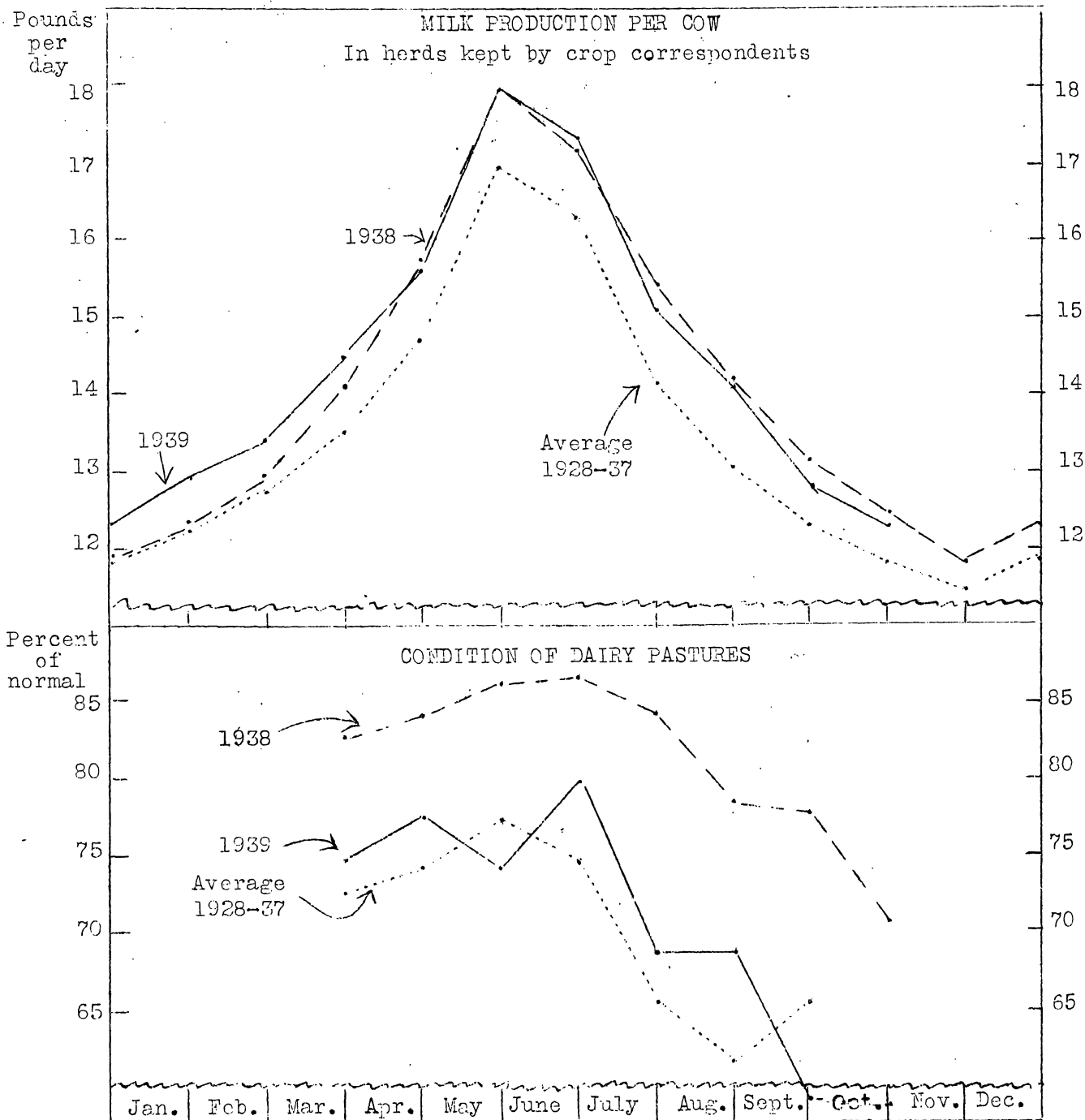
Following a dry, warm October, the condition of dairy pastures in the United States on November 1 averaged the lowest for that date in the 7 years for which records are available.

In the Northern dairy States from Minnesota eastward, where the pasture season is nearing its close, the shortage of grass this year resulted in an earlier than usual shift of livestock to barn feeding. In the eastern half of this territory the drought appears to have been alleviated by fall rains, and in the Northeastern States material improvement in pastures had taken place by November 1, but because of the lateness of the season livestock are not expected to benefit greatly.

This year the Southeastern States experienced one of the driest Octobers of record and pastures declined sharply in the States from Virginia and Kentucky south to the Gulf. In Illinois and Missouri also, pastures declined as the result of dry

weather. In the Plains States grazing conditions continued generally poor with very little wheat pasturage available in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma because of the prolonged fall drought in that area. On the other hand, in Arkansas, October rains revived pastures, and in the Western States some improvement of pastures was rather general with material increase in southern California and western Oregon.

For the country as a whole the condition of dairy pastures on November 1 averaged 58 percent of normal compared with 71 percent a year ago and a previous November 1 low of 60 percent in 1934.

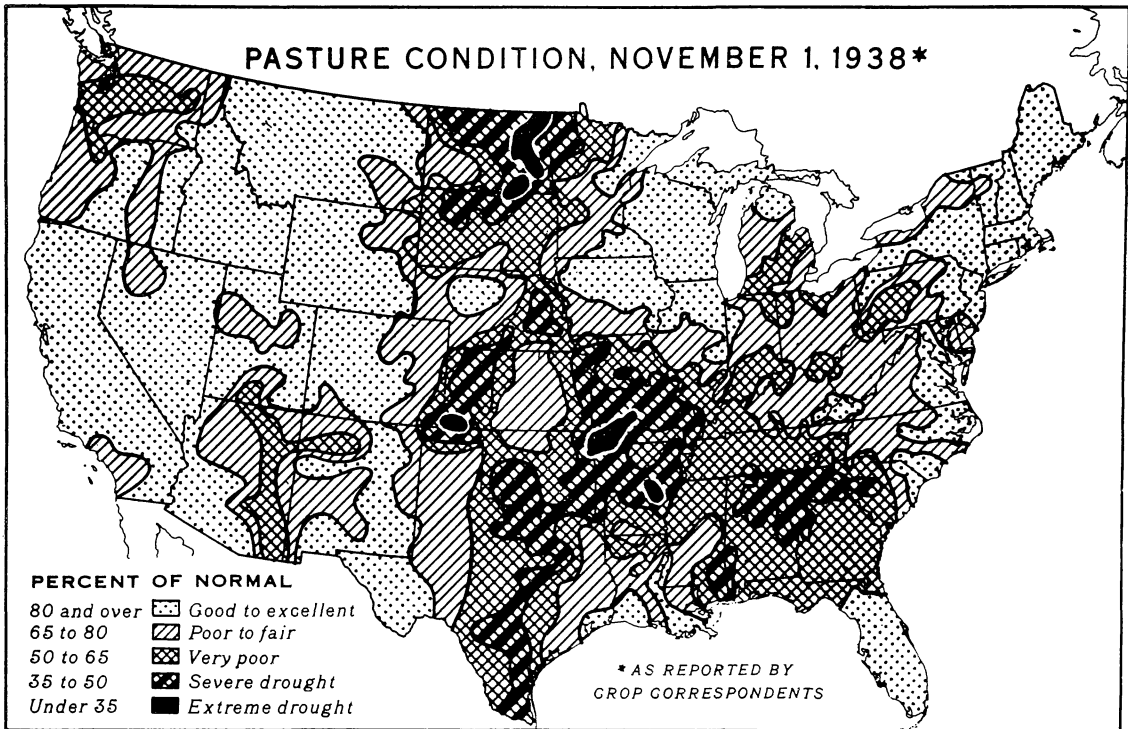


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 CROP REPORTING BOARD  
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MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY REPORTERS <sup>1/</sup>

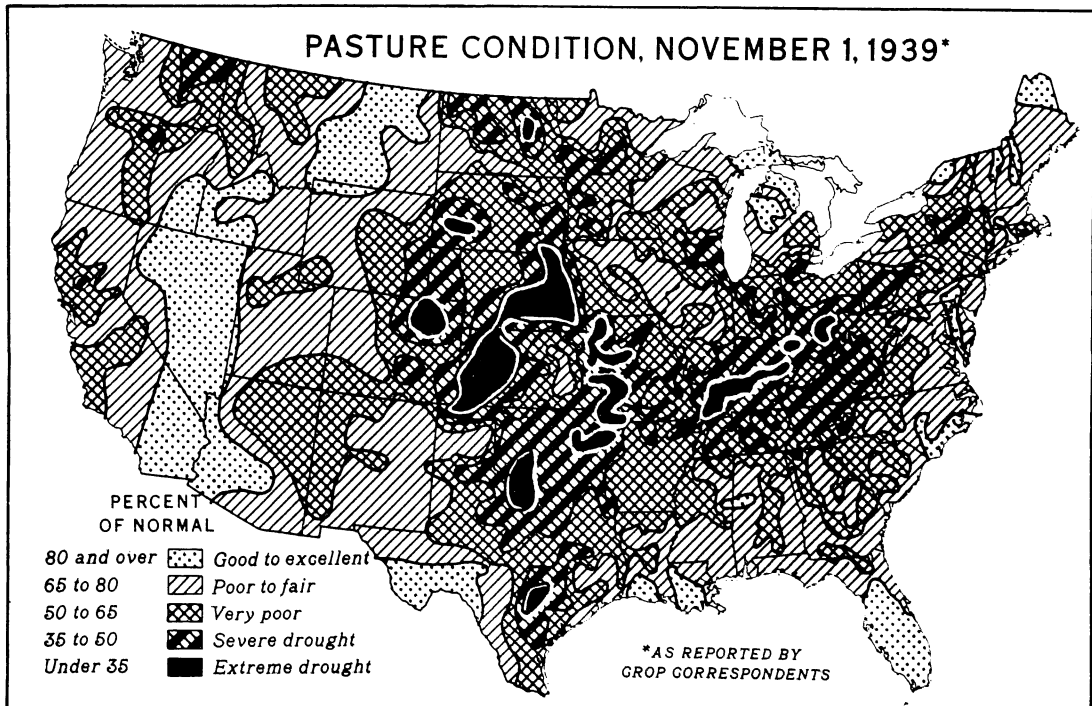
State	: November 1, : (Avg.) 1928-37 :	: November 1, : 1937 :	: November 1, : 1938 :	: November 1, : 1939 :
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Maine	12.9	13.2	13.3	12.5
New Hampshire	14.7	14.1	14.6	13.8
Vermont	12.9	13.1	13.2	12.7
Massachusetts	17.2	17.8	17.4	18.0
Connecticut	16.6	16.6	18.0	18.5
New York	15.2	14.8	16.1	15.5
New Jersey	17.8	18.2	18.0	18.2
Pennsylvania	15.3	15.0	15.5	16.1
North Atlantic	15.28	15.25	15.98	15.68
Ohio	14.0	13.5	14.5	14.1
Indiana	12.9	12.2	13.0	13.4
Illinois	12.5	12.3	13.3	13.3
Michigan	14.8	14.7	15.6	16.1
Wisconsin	13.3	12.5	13.6	13.4
East North Central	13.46	12.90	13.93	13.90
Minnesota	11.8	12.1	12.9	12.4
Iowa	12.0	11.3	12.8	12.2
Missouri	9.2	8.7	9.1	9.0
North Dakota	9.4	9.9	9.5	9.8
South Dakota	9.3	9.1	10.8	10.0
Nebraska	10.9	10.3	11.8	11.5
Kansas	11.3	11.1	12.2	11.5
West North Central	10.77	10.65	11.54	11.09
Maryland	14.3	15.3	14.7	16.0
Virginia	10.9	11.5	11.4	11.2
West Virginia	11.3	10.3	10.3	11.0
North Carolina	10.7	10.3	11.1	11.4
South Carolina	9.6	9.6	10.2	10.2
South Atlantic	10.48	10.59	11.08	11.36
Kentucky	10.6	10.4	11.3	10.9
Tennessee	9.2	9.4	9.1	9.3
Mississippi	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.5
Arkansas	7.9	8.2	7.3	8.0
Oklahoma	8.9	9.5	9.3	9.3
Texas	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.4
South Central	8.59	8.70	8.68	8.62
Montana	11.6	12.4	13.4	14.5
Idaho	15.9	16.2	17.1	17.5
Wyoming	11.4	11.0	12.4	12.0
Colorado	11.3	11.5	13.7	13.7
Washington	16.2	16.8	16.1	15.8
Oregon	14.2	14.8	14.5	15.1
California	16.3	18.3	17.7	19.3
West	13.77	14.74	15.15	15.55
UNITED STATES	11.82	11.74	12.42	12.30

<sup>1/</sup> Averages represent the reported daily milk production of herds kept by reporters divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry) in these herds. Figures for New England States are based on combined returns from Crop and Special Dairy reporters and are weighted by counties. Figures for other States, regions, and U. S. are based on returns from Crop reporters only. The regional averages are based in part on records of less important dairy States not shown separately, as follows: North Atlantic, Rhode Island; South Atlantic, Delaware, Georgia, and Florida; South Central, Alabama, Louisiana; Western, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada.



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