

Dairy Production

CROP REPORTING BOARD

BUR. OF AGR. ECONOMICS, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

HD
9275
46
A2

Washington, D. C.

September 14, 1953

This report includes milk production and related information released in CROP PRODUCTION, together with selected special summaries brought together for those interested primarily in dairy statistics.

SUMMARY

Total output of milk on U. S. farms during August is estimated at 10,494 million pounds — 2½ percent above a year ago but 1 percent below the 10-year average for August. Farm milk production in the first 8 months of 1953 totaled 85.2 billion pounds, 4 billion pounds above the January-August 1952 total. Short pasture feed and the heat wave sharply reduced the rate of milk flow in late August. Production per cow in crop reporters' herds on September 1 averaged 16.27 pounds, lowest for the date in the last 5 years. Seasonally, production per cow dropped 9 percent from August 1 to September 1, twice the decline that took place a year ago and 1 point more than average. Condition of dairy pastures over the country averaged 65 percent of normal — the poorest September 1 condition in the last 17 years. Prolonged heat and lack of moisture during August dried up pasture feed from the Central Great Plain States eastward, including important Great Lake and Northeastern dairy States. The drought in Missouri and Virginia intensified and broadened it into surrounding areas. However, substantial early September rains in Eastern and Great Lake areas materially improved fall pasture prospects. In the Pacific Coast States pastures were improved by late August moisture.

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, UNITED STATES, 1942-51 AVERAGE, 1952 AND 1953							
Month	Monthly total			1953 1952	Daily average per capita		
	Average 1942-51	1952	1953		Average 1942-51	1952	1953
	Million pounds			Percent	Pounds		
Jan.	8,298	8,151	8,706	107	1.88	1.69	1.77
Feb.	8,130	8,151	8,533	1/105	2.02	1.80	1.92
Mar.	9,610	9,421	10,100	107	2.17	1.94	2.05
Apr.	10,389	10,134	10,854	107	2.42	2.16	2.28
May	12,338	12,056	12,610	105	2.78	2.48	2.56
June	12,393	11,879	12,349	104	2.88	2.52	2.58
July	11,660	11,017	11,508	104	2.62	2.26	2.33
Aug.	10,593	10,238	10,494	103	2.38	2.10	2.12
Sept.	9,185	9,126			2.13	1.93	
Oct.	8,555	8,664			1.92	1.77	
Nov.	7,655	7,891			1.77	1.66	
Dec.	7,908	8,389			1.76	1.71	
Year	116,713	115,117			2.23	2.00	

1/Comparison of 28-day month in 1953 with 29-day month in 1952. On a daily average basis, February 1953 is 108 percent of 1952.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 CROP REPORT BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Washington, D. C.,
 September 14, 1953

as of
 CROP REPORTING BOARD
 September 1, 1953

Increased Cow Numbers Holds August Milk Production Above 1952:

Milk production on farms in the United States during August totaled 10,494 million pounds, about 2½ percent higher than a year ago, but 1 percent below the 10-year average for August. With Milk production per cow dropping rapidly under the influence of hot, dry weather, the gain in total milk production over August a year ago came mainly from an increase in milk cows. Farm milk production in August was sufficient to provide each person in the United States with 2.12 pounds of milk per day, about 11 percent less than average. Farm milk output in the first 8 months of 1953 totaled 85.2 billion pounds, 4 billion pounds more than in the same period a year ago, but nearly 1 billion pounds below the record established in 1945.

Production Per Cow Sharply Reduced By Short Pasture Feed And High Temperatures:

Milk production per cow in herds kept by crop reporters on September 1 averaged 16.27 pounds, lowest for the date in the last 5 years. Short pasture feed and the heat wave in the last half of August sharply reduced the rate of milk flow despite liberal supplemental feed in many areas. Between August 1 and September 1, production per cow dropped 9 percent, 1 point more than average and nearly twice the decline that took place a year ago. As compared with September 1 a year ago, production per cow in the northern regions was down moderately, but continued higher in the South and West. The proportion of crop correspondents' milk cows reported in production on September 1 averaged 70.2 percent, slightly below a year ago, and equaling the lowest for the date in the last quarter century. Regionally, the percentage milked was below average in all areas except the West, but was moderately above last year in the South.

Estimated Monthly Milk Production on Farms, Selected States 1/

: August : State: average: August : July : August : : 1942-51: 1952 : 1953 : 1953 :				: August : State: average: August : July : August : : 1942-51: 1952 : 1953 : 1953 :					
Million pounds				Million pounds					
N. J.	91	95	92	94	N. C.	144	151	165	162
Pa.	464	479	504	488	S. C.	55	53	56	55
Ohio	482	494	538	482	Ky.	244	238	262	258
Ind.	346	337	362	342	Tenn.	235	227	251	252
Ill.	484	451	478	441	Ala.	124	118	134	126
Mich.	485	496	520	507	Miss.	137	136	148	140
Wis.	1,253	1,314	1,534	1,332	Okla.	220	161	177	172
Minn.	646	594	768	592	Tex.	342	267	297	280
Iowa	590	530	607	539	Mont.	62	47	54	48
Mo.	401	411	409	392	Idaho	118	105	128	117
N. Dak.	196	178	210	174	Utah	56	58	64	59
S. Dak.	148	121	154	125	Wash.	170	147	167	155
Nebr.	232	198	229	197	Oreg.	122	110	129	115
Kans.	257	216	236	228	Calif.	501	529	587	569
Va.	180	182	192	188	Other				
W. Va.	81	76	81	74	States	1,727	1,719	1,975	1,791
					U. S.	10,593	10,238	11,508	10,494

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

Among the 30 States for which monthly estimates of milk production are available, August output established new record highs in 6 States, and near record highs in 2 more. On the other hand, lowest August production in about 2 decades of record was registered in Nebraska and West Virginia, with near record lows in a half dozen other States, largely in the Corn Belt and Great Plains areas where milk cow numbers are at a low level. Wisconsin, with 1,332 million pounds, and Minnesota, with 592 million, again led all States in total milk production. California was third, with 569 million pounds, 8 percent above a year ago and 7 percent higher than the previous August record. Especially sharp increases over a year ago were also recorded in Idaho, Tennessee and Kentucky.

DAIRY PASTURES

Pasture feed for milk cows withered and dried under the prolonged August heat and lack of moisture prevailing from the central Great Plains eastward. On September 1, the condition of the Nation's dairy pastures averaged 65 percent of normal, lowest for the date in 17 years; 10 percentage points below a year ago and 13 points below the 10-year average. However, for the country as a whole, dairy pastures were in much better shape than the record low September 1 conditions of 42 and 47 percent reached in the great droughts of 1936 and 1934, respectively. During August, the drought areas in Missouri and Virginia increased in intensity and broadened further in surrounding States. August rains brought about some improvements in the lower Rocky Mountain and southern Great Plains areas. Along the East Coast and in parts of the Midwest, early September rains accompanied by cool weather materially improved dairy pasture prospects, but in much of the lower Ohio Valley and some other central areas, rainfall received in the first week of September was still insufficient to insure much improvement without additional moisture.

Pastures in Central Mississippi Valley And Atlantic Areas Critically Short:

Hardest hit by high temperatures and dearth of moisture during August was Missouri, where condition of dairy pastures on

September 1 averaged only 18 percent of normal, equaling the 1934 condition. The only lower condition for September 1 in nearly 4 decades of record was the 7 percent in 1936. The drought also increased in severity as August advanced, drying up pastures across southern Illinois and Indiana, down into western Kentucky and Tennessee, and further into northern Arkansas, eastern Kansas, southeast Nebraska, and southern Iowa. Early September rains were helpful, but more moisture is needed to fully revive pastures over much of the drought area. On September 1, pastures for dairy stock was also critically short and offered little feed for milk cows in the Central Atlantic States. In Virginia and West Virginia, the September 1 pasture conditions of 37 and 48 percent, respectively, were the poorest for the date since 1930, and in North and South Carolina, the current condition of 56 was the lowest for September 1 since 1925. In the upper Great Lakes area, pastures dried up late in the month as the effects of early August rains wore off, and in New York, Pennsylvania, and southern New England, grazing generally deteriorated during August. Dairy pasture conditions on September 1 in these areas were generally below average except for Wisconsin and Minnesota. In the lower Atlantic and Gulf States, grazing for milk stock was more favorable with rainfall adequate to maintain growth particularly in the coastal sections.

Continued on page 6.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
CROP REPORTING BOARD

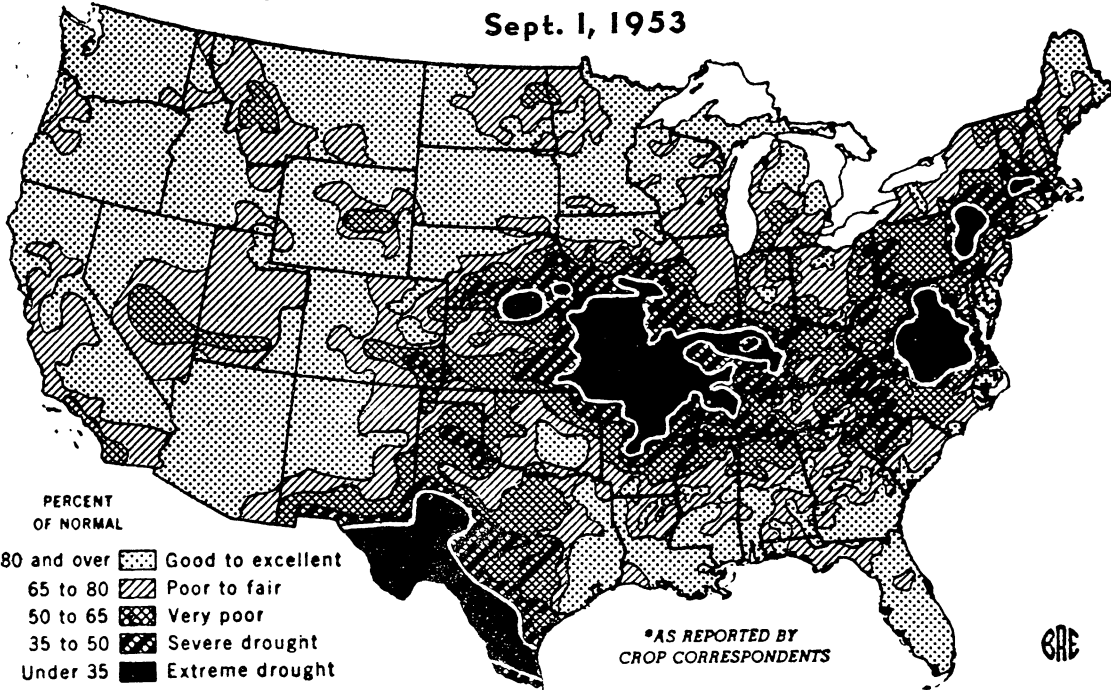
Washington, D. C.,
September 10, 1953
3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

State and Division	MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY REPORTERS 1/			
	Average 1942-51	1951	1952	1953
	Pounds			
Maine	17.5	18.8	16.7	21.8
N.H.	17.2	19.6	18.3	18.7
Vt.	15.8	17.4	17.2	18.0
Mass.	19.0	20.2	20.4	20.3
Conn.	18.8	19.7	19.2	21.7
N. Y.	19.1	20.5	20.6	18.2
N. J.	21.2	23.0	22.1	21.8
Pa.	18.8	20.0	20.2	19.2
N. Atl.	18.90	20.54	20.14	19.37
Ohio	17.6	19.3	19.6	17.3
Ind.	17.0	18.5	18.7	18.1
Ill.	16.8	19.2	19.2	17.8
Mich.	19.5	21.5	22.4	22.5
Wis.	17.4	19.5	19.3	18.9
E. N. Cent.	17.63	19.71	19.75	18.98
Minn.	14.6	16.5	16.3	14.9
Iowa	15.9	18.2	17.8	17.2
Mo.	14.1	15.9	15.7	13.1
N. Dak.	14.6	16.3	16.2	14.5
S. Dak.	13.0	14.7	13.4	13.5
Nebr.	15.2	16.1	16.4	15.7
Kans.	14.1	16.0	14.9	15.2
W. N. Cent.	14.58	16.33	15.89	15.01
Md.	17.4	18.3	18.4	19.0
Va.	15.2	16.7	16.4	16.1
W. Va.	14.8	14.5	15.0	13.6
N. C.	14.3	14.4	15.4	15.2
S. C.	12.0	11.9	12.2	12.0
Ga.	9.9	10.4	10.6	11.0
S. Atl.	13.97	14.58	14.47	14.64
Ky.	14.3	13.7	13.6	14.2
Tenn.	13.1	12.9	12.2	13.1
Ala.	9.6	9.7	9.3	9.0
Miss.	8.3	8.5	7.9	8.4
Ark.	9.9	10.7	9.6	9.0
Okla.	10.8	10.6	10.6	11.5
Tex.	8.8	9.5	8.6	9.0
S. Cent.	10.72	11.13	10.39	10.78
Mont.	16.8	18.5	17.5	17.4
Idaho	19.4	21.5	20.2	21.0
Wyo.	18.0	20.3	19.5	18.8
Colo.	15.8	16.5	17.4	18.0
Utah	18.7	21.8	22.2	21.1
Wash.	20.5	21.4	21.8	22.6
Oreg.	18.2	19.4	19.0	19.6
Calif.	20.1	21.4	21.7	22.7
West.	18.63	20.08	20.03	20.89
U.S.	15.47	16.96	16.62	16.27

1/ Averages represent daily milk production divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry). Figures for New England States and New Jersey are based on combined returns from crop and special dairy reporters; others represent crop reporters only. Averages for some less important dairy States are not shown separately.

PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS*

Sept. 1, 1953



- 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

BAC

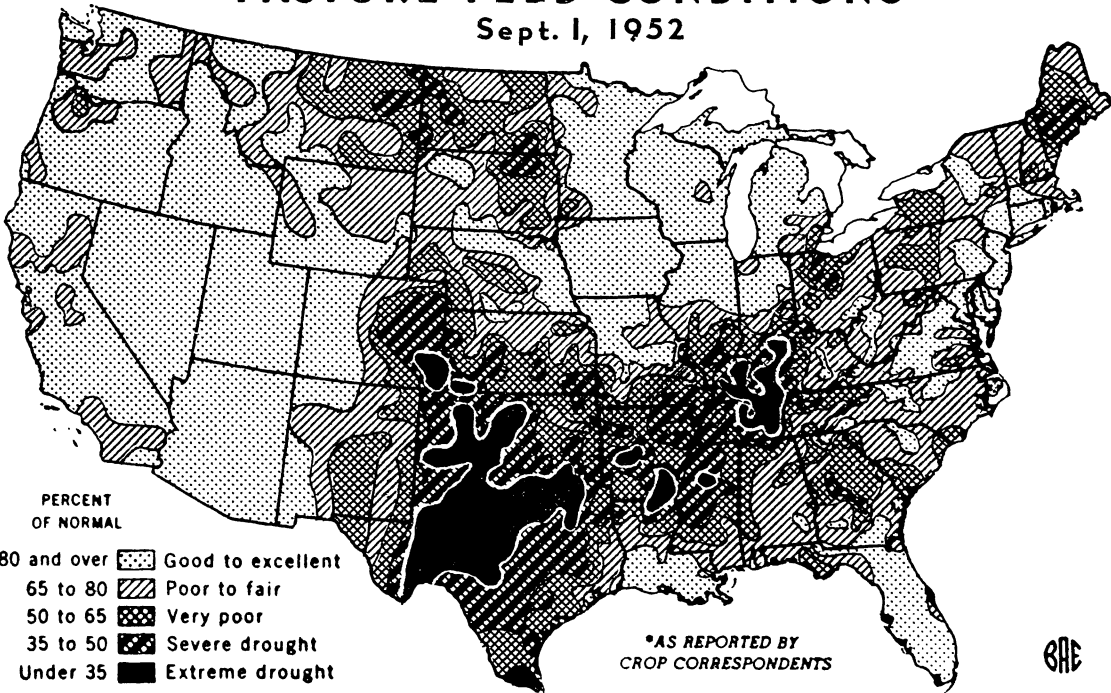
* INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 49337 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS*

Sept. 1, 1952



- 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

BAC

* INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48824 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Rains In Lower Great Plains, Southern Rocky Mountains In eastern Texas, dairy
And Pacific Coast States Improve Pasture Prospects: pastures were furnishing good
feed, and rains elsewhere in
the State did much to improve grass prospects, though development of feed will take
time. Oklahoma pastures were furnishing fair feed for September 1, but have not
fully recovered from the drought. Moderate rainfall during August brightened
pasture prospects in the Central Rocky Mountain and Southwestern States, though
conditions are still spotted. In the Northern Rocky Mountain region, pastures were
generally furnishing fair feed for September 1 though some sections need rain.
Pasture feed for milk stock was generally good to excellent in the Pacific Coast
States, with timely August rains promoting good grass growth.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage, \$300.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BAE - ML-MPT - 9/14/53
Permit No, 1001

LELAND SPENCER
COLL OF AGRICULTURE WARREN HALL
ML-MPT ITHACA N Y