

DAIRY PRODUCTION

December 10, 1954

November milk production, estimated at 8.4 billion pounds, was only a little above last year's previous record for the month, but was nearly 10 percent above the 1943-52 November average. Mild, open weather in most areas encouraged late use of pasture feed where available, and farmers supplied their milk cows liberally with concentrates as the barn feeding season got under way. Production in November was sufficient to provide each person in the United States with 1.71 pounds of milk per day -- a little less than last November, and about 2 percent less than average. For the first 11 months of 1954, milk production amounted to 115 billion pounds and the total for this year will approach 124 billion pounds, if production in the remaining month continues close to last year's level.

Milk production per cow in herds kept by crop reporters rose slightly from November 1 to December 1 this year, and on the latter date averaged 15.89 pounds. The increase was not quite so great as a year ago, but contrasts with an average decline of 2 percent during the month. Regionally, milk production per cow on December 1 ranged from 14 to 21 percent above average and from 1 to 5 percent above a year earlier. The proportion of milk cows in production gained contra-seasonally from November 1 to December 1, closely following last year's pattern but at a slightly higher level. On December 1, 68.0 percent of the milk cows were being milked, the highest proportion for the date in more than a dozen years.

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, UNITED STATES
1943-52 AVERAGE, 1953 AND 1954

Month	Monthly total			Percent	Daily average per capita		
	Average	1953	1954		Average	1953	1954
	1943-52				1943-52		
	Million pounds				Pounds		
Jan.	8,258	8,800	9,172	104	1.84	1.79	1.83
Feb.	8,430	8,555	8,980	105	1.98	1.93	1.99
Mar.	9,599	10,191	10,713	105	2.13	2.07	2.14
Apr.	10,353	10,910	11,345	104	2.38	2.28	2.34
May	12,286	12,637	13,178	104	2.73	2.56	2.62
June	12,327	12,449	12,663	102	2.83	2.60	2.60
July	11,577	11,603	11,625	100	2.56	2.34	2.31
Aug.	10,529	10,624	10,494	99	2.33	2.14	2.08
Sept.	9,156	9,306	9,391	101	2.09	1.93	1.92
Oct.	8,558	8,878	9,002	101	1.89	1.78	1.78
Nov.	7,665	8,359	8,400	100	1.74	1.73	1.71
Dec.	7,931	8,907			1.74	1.78	
Year	116,379	121,219			2.19	2.08	

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.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Crop Reporting Board

New high records for November were set in 13 States of the 33 for which monthly milk production estimates are available. Production was generally higher than a year ago along the central Atlantic Seaboard, in the Great Lakes area east of Minnesota, in the central South, in the extreme northern Great Plains, and on the Pacific Coast. On the other hand, output was less than in November a year ago in Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, Illinois, Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, and Idaho. Wisconsin, with November farm milk production totaling more than one billion pounds, was first among the States, followed by California and Minnesota, each with a little more than one-half billion pounds.

Concentrate feeding liberal

Early winter grain and concentrate feeding rates continued heavy in most sections of the country. Crop reporters were feeding an average of 5.58 pounds of grain and concentrates per cow in herd on December 1, just short of last year's record high of 5.66 pounds for the date, but 9 percent above average for the date. Nationally, the average grain ration being fed on December 1 was up only about one-fourth from October 1 as compared to a usual seasonal increase of one-third. Mild, open weather over most of the country generally permitted full utilization of available fall forage feed. About 85 percent of the crop reporters were feeding some grain or other concentrates to cows in their milking herds on December 1, somewhat below the percentage for that date in the last 2 years, but still above average.

By regions, grain and concentrate feeding rates set a new record high for December 1 in the South Atlantic and equaled the 1952-53 high for the date in the South Central region. In the North Atlantic area, December 1 grain feeding was 1 percent short of the high for the date, and in the other regions the amounts fed by crop reporters were down 5 to 7 percent below the December 1 record rate. Only 5 States, Maine, Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, and Oklahoma recorded new highs this year in the amount of grain and concentrates being fed on December 1. Grain feedi

ESTIMATED MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, SELECTED STATES 1/

State	:November: : average: : 1943-52:	November: 1953	October: 1954	November: 1954	State	:November: : average: : 1943-52:	November: 1953	October: 1954	Novem ber: 1954
Million pounds				:	Million pounds				
N. J.	80	87	99	95	:Ga.	84	95	99	88
Pa.	386	438	484	456	:Ky.	153	163	209	175
Ohio	359	404	467	426	:Tenn.	152	173	208	181
Ind.	255	258	304	269	:Ala.	96	103	109	99
Ill.	361	369	387	362	:Miss.	93	103	124	108
Mich.	362	396	447	401	:Ark.	91	97	109	103
Wis.	862	964	1,060	1,010	:Okla.	136	129	134	131
Minn.	500	550	476	516	:Tex.	250	228	268	245
Iowa	408	391	431	390	:Mont.	39	36	42	31
Mo.	267	288	349	303	:Idaho	84	101	110	98
N. Dak.	99	101	112	103	:Wyo.	18	15	18	15
S. Dak.	84	85	89	82	:Utah	46	50	53	55
Nebr.	142	140	155	138	:Wash.	122	123	144	128
Kans.	183	181	185	186	:Oreg.	84	84	93	85
Va.	135	151	173	150	:Calif.	423	507	545	529
W. Va.	59	58	70	60	:Other				
N. C.	114	133	152	141	: States	1,096	1,313	1,246	1,111
S. C.	42	45	51	45	: U. S.	7,665	8,359	9,002	8,111

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

MILK PRODUCED AND "GRAIN" FED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY REPORTERS 1/

State and Division	Milk produced per milk cow			"Grain" fed per milk cow		
	Dec. 1 av. 1943-52	Dec. 1, 1953	Dec. 1, 1954	Dec. 1 av. 1943-52	Dec. 1, 1953	Dec. 1, 1954
	- Pounds -			- Pounds -		
Me.	13.9	17.1	16.9	5.8	6.4	6.6
N. H.	15.8	18.7	18.5	5.4	5.9	5.7
Vt.	14.2	17.0	17.5	5.5	5.6	5.8
Mass.	17.0	20.4	19.7	6.3	6.3	6.0
Conn.	16.9	19.6	21.2	6.4	6.9	6.6
N. Y.	17.5	19.5	19.7	6.4	6.6	6.8
N. J.	19.4	21.5	21.5	7.9	7.7	7.8
Pa.	16.7	18.8	19.1	7.2	7.5	7.7
N. Atl.	17.06	19.36	19.47	6.5	6.8	6.9
Ohio	15.2	18.0	19.1	6.2	6.9	6.3
Ind.	14.0	16.2	17.6	5.8	6.5	6.5
Ill.	14.7	17.2	17.7	6.2	6.7	6.4
Mich.	17.0	19.6	19.5	6.1	6.9	6.2
Wis.	15.0	17.4	17.8	5.5	6.0	5.9
E. N. Cent.	15.27	17.74	18.28	5.9	6.5	6.2
Minn.	15.1	17.6	17.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Iowa	14.4	16.0	16.6	6.0	6.6	5.8
Mo.	10.5	12.1	13.6	4.6	5.6	5.4
N. Dak.	10.7	12.8	13.5	4.2	4.5	4.8
S. Dak.	10.5	12.1	12.3	3.7	3.8	3.8
Nebr.	12.8	15.3	16.0	4.7	5.1	4.8
Kans.	13.2	16.3	16.6	4.9	5.7	5.4
W. N. Cent.	12.94	15.31	15.68	5.1	5.5	5.3
Md.	15.6	17.7	18.0	6.9	7.7	8.1
Va.	12.9	15.1	15.7	5.0	5.5	5.6
W. Va.	11.0	11.1	13.0	5.8	4.2	3.4
N. C.	11.9	14.3	14.6	5.2	5.7	5.3
S. C.	10.6	11.5	10.4	3.9	3.8	4.4
Ga.	8.7	9.7	8.7	3.8	4.3	4.9
S. Atl.	11.93	13.37	13.83	4.7	5.1	5.2
Ky.	10.7	11.2	12.1	5.1	5.4	5.2
Tenn.	9.6	10.3	11.1	4.5	5.2	5.2
Ala.	8.5	8.1	7.9	4.2	4.3	4.9
Miss.	6.8	7.0	7.0	3.1	4.0	3.9
Ark.	7.3	8.1	8.4	3.2	4.5	4.4
Okla.	9.2	11.3	11.9	3.6	3.8	5.0
Tex.	7.6	9.0	9.4	3.9	5.5	5.2
S. Cent.	8.68	9.67	10.11	3.8	4.7	4.7
Mont.	13.4	15.1	15.0	3.8	4.1	3.6
Idaho	16.9	18.8	18.7	3.8	4.4	3.9
Wyo.	14.0	14.8	17.0	3.4	2.6	3.5
Colo.	14.7	16.8	16.7	4.8	5.3	5.2
Utah	17.3	19.5	18.3	3.9	5.0	4.3
Wash.	16.6	18.0	18.8	5.5	5.3	5.3
Oreg.	14.1	15.7	15.9	4.4	5.3	4.5
Calif.	17.9	19.5	21.2	4.4	4.5	4.7
West U. S.	15.86	17.74	18.57	4.5	4.8	4.7
U. S.	13.42	15.41	15.89	5.13	5.66	5.58

1/ Figures for New England States and New Jersey represent combined crop and special dairy reporters; other States, regions, and U.S., crop reporters only. Regional figures include less important dairy States not shown separately.
 2/ Includes grain, millfeeds and other concentrates.

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rates were sharply above average in the South, with the amount per cow in the South Central region up 24 percent, and in the South Atlantic region 11 percent, as compared with 4 to 6 percent increases in the other regions.

Grain and concentrate rations fed to milk cows in milk-selling areas in November were valued at \$3.24 per hundredweight, the lowest for the month in 4 years. In cream-selling areas the value was \$2.84 per hundredweight, the lowest for the month in the last 5 years. However, prices farmers were receiving for dairy products were at relatively lower levels. The November 1954 milk-feed price ratio was the second lowest for the month since 1936. The butterfat-feed price ratio was the lowest in 18 years.

DAIRY PRODUCT-FEED PRICE RATIOS, BY REGIONS

Region	Milk-Feed 1/				Butterfat-Feed 2/			
	Nov. 1933-52 av.	Nov. 1953	Oct. 1954	Nov. 1954	Nov. 1933-52 av.	Nov. 1953	Oct. 1954	Nov. 1954
N. Atl.	1.40	1.46	1.35	1.39	-	-	-	-
E.N.C.	1.39	1.40	1.25	1.30	23.9	22.4	18.0	18.0
W.N.C.	1.61	1.46	1.35	1.37	27.6	25.3	21.6	21.6
S. Atl.	1.58	1.65	1.52	1.54	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.55	1.59	1.43	1.49	18.6	16.7	14.0	14.0
West	1.39	1.42	1.31	1.33	21.5	18.9	17.0	17.0
U. S.	1.42	1.45	1.32	1.36	24.8	23.2	19.8	20.0

1/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of whole milk sold by farmers to plants and dealers.

2/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of butterfat in cream sold by farmers.