

DAIRY PRODUCTION

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August 11, 1955 Ubae

SUMMARY

Production of milk during July totaled 11,704 million pounds, 1 percent above both last year and average for the month. July output was equal to 2.28 pounds per capita per day, nearly 10 percent below average for the month. Production per cow in crop reporters' herds on August 1, averaged 18.09 pounds per day, equaling the record high for the date.

Condition of dairy pastures on August 1 averaged 76 percent of normal, the highest for the date in 4 years, but still below average. Pastures in the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys, the southern States east of the Great Plains, and the Northwest were generally in good to excellent condition. However, in parts of the East and Northeast, pastures were short and dry with drought in the mid-Atlantic States. In the central Great Plains area, pastures also deteriorated sharply under hot, dry weather during late July.

Crop reporters were feeding grain and other concentrates to milk cows in their herds at the record high August 1 rate of 4.30 pounds per cow -- almost one-fifth above average for the date. The value per 100 pounds of grain and concentrate rations fed to milk cows in July was the lowest since April 1950, and dairy product-feed price ratios were substantially above a year earlier.

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, UNITED STATES, 1944-53 AVERAGE, 1954 AND 1955

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average	1954	1955	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1944-53	1954	1955	1954	1944-53	1954	1955
	Million pounds			Percent	Pounds		
Jan.	8,305	9,202	9,105	99	1.82	1.84	1.79
Feb.	8,168	9,001	8,884	99	1.96	1.99	1.93
Mar.	9,653	10,683	10,447	98	2.11	2.13	2.05
Apr.	10,408	11,280	11,264	100	2.35	2.32	2.28
May	12,318	12,999	13,088	101	2.69	2.59	2.57
June	12,306	12,600	12,665	101	2.78	2.59	2.56
July	11,552	11,558	11,704	101	2.52	2.29	2.28
Aug.	10,529	10,474			2.29	2.08	
Sept.	9,174	9,369			2.05	1.91	
Oct.	8,601	9,021			1.87	1.78	
Nov.	7,743	8,474			1.73	1.73	
Dec.	8,035	8,841			1.74	1.74	
Year	116,792	123,502			2.16	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

July milk production above last year

Milk production during July is estimated at 11,704 million pounds -- 1 percent above July 1954 and largest for the month since 1947, but only 1 percent above 1944-53 average. Seasonally, production declined 8 percent from June to July as compared with an average 6 percent. Production in the first 7 months of 1955 totaled 77.2 billion pounds, only slightly below last year's record January-July output of 77.3 billion pounds. July milk production was equivalent to 2.28 pounds per capita per day, nearly 10 percent below average for the month.

Output per cow high

Production per cow in crop reporters' herds on August 1, averaged 18.09 pounds--4 percent above a year earlier and 5 percent above average for the date. Regionally, output per cow on August 1 was a record high for the date in the West and South Atlantic areas and exceeded a year ago in all other. Increases from August 1, 1954 ranged from 2 percent in the North Atlantic and East North Central regions to 7 and 8 percent in the South Central and South Atlantic States, respectively. August 1 production per cow equaled the average in the North Atlantic region, but was 5 percent above in the West North Central and South Central States, and 7 percent above in the other regions. Crop reporters were milking 72.9 percent of the milk cows in their herds on August 1, 2 percent below average.

Among the 33 States for which current monthly milk production estimates are made, July output was above last year in 18 States and equaled last year's

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, SELECTED STATES 1/

State	July : average : 1944-53	July : 1954	June : 1955	July : 1955	State	July : average : 1944-53	July : 1954	June : 1955	July : 1955
Million pounds					Million pounds				
N. J.	92	91	103	94	Ga.	108	110	112	113
Pa.	492	519	586	532	Ky.	253	260	266	267
Ohio	522	538	584	547	Tenn.	239	256	242	249
Ind.	368	362	403	363	Ala.	130	127	127	130
Ill.	507	472	504	467	Miss.	148	157	157	156
Mich.	519	523	584	531	Ark.	139	139	144	145
Wis.	1,489	1,538	1,863	1,585	Okla.	217	172	191	185
Minn.	784	740	922	764	Texas	345	285	281	284
Iowa	638	577	614	572	Mont.	66	56	59	56
Mo.	420	438	457	464	Idaho	126	146	151	146
N. Dak.	222	205	218	202	Wyo.	27	22	23	22
S. Dak.	169	149	158	145	Utah	64	65	68	66
Nebr.	250	221	232	219	Wash.	177	172	186	175
Kans.	255	224	238	222	Oreg.	134	135	133	132
Va.	183	193	198	197	Calif.	550	631	648	658
W. Va.	84	79	89	86	Other				
N. C.	148	163	152	159	States	1,632	1,735	1,914	1,713
S. C.	55	58	58	58	U. S.	11,552	11,558	12,665	11,704

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

in 4 more, Production was a record high for the month in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Missouri, Virginia, and California, and equaled the record high in South Carolina and Idaho. On the other hand, July output was a record or near record low in all the Great Plains States and Iowa. In these States, milk production per cow continues high, but cow numbers are sharply reduced, being down one-third to one-fourth from pre-World War II levels. Wisconsin, as usual, led all States in July output with 1,585 million pounds, followed by Minnesota with 764 million; California, 658 million; Iowa, 572 million; and Ohio with 547 million.

Grain and concentrate feeding continues high

With ample feed grains on hand and pasture feed reduced in some areas, farmers continued to feed liberal quantities of grain and other concentrates to their milk cows. On August 1, crop reporters fed an average of 4.30 pounds of grain and concentrates per milk cow--2 percent above last year's previous August 1 high and 18 percent above the 1944-53 average for the date.

Regionally, the quantity of grain and concentrates fed per milk cow on August 1 was above a year earlier in all major areas of the country except the South Central. In the West North Central States, the feeding rate averaged 3.9 pounds per cow; in the South Atlantic, 4.4 pounds; and in the East North Central, 4.6 pounds--all record highs for the date. In the North Atlantic region, crop reporters fed an average of 5.8 pounds of grain and concentrates per cow, just under the 5.9 pound record high for August 1. In the West, the feeding rate averaged 4.4 pounds, 4 percent below the record high, and in the South Central region 3.2 pounds--9 percent below last year's high. On August 1, 73.3 percent of the crop reporters fed some grain or other concentrates to milk cows in their herds, slightly above a year earlier and well above any other year in the 12 years of record.

DAIRY PRODUCT-FEED PRICE RATIOS, BY REGIONS

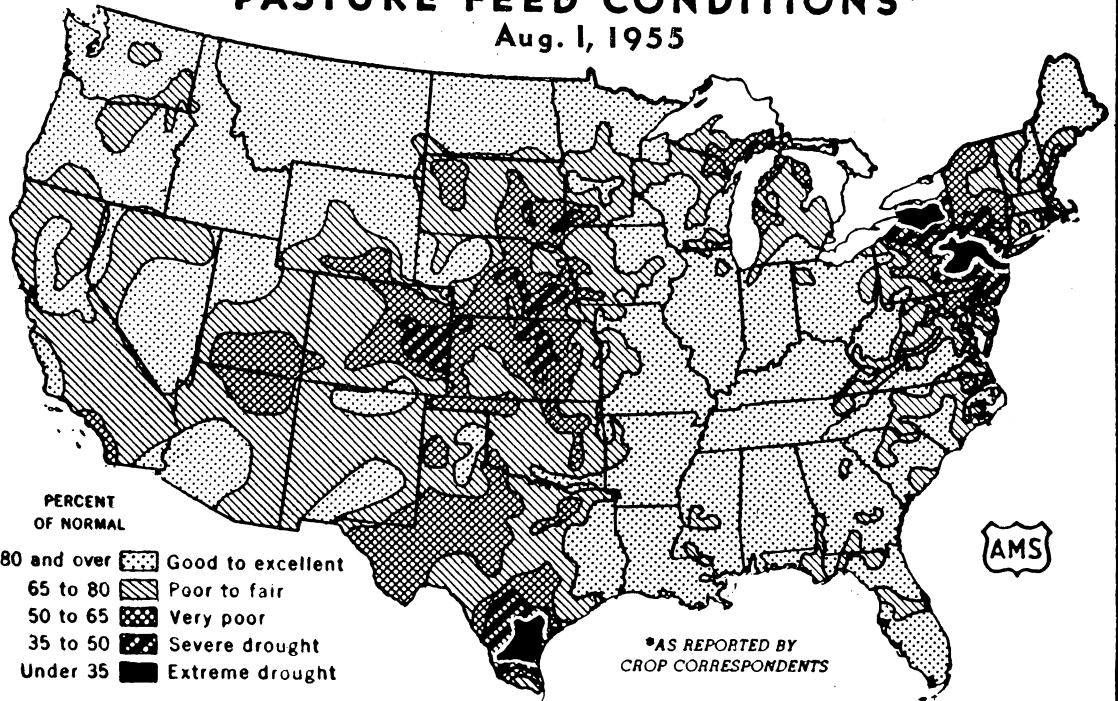
Region	Milk-Feed <u>1/</u>				Butterfat-Feed <u>2/</u>			
	July 1934-53 av.	July 1954	June 1955	July 1955	July 1934-53 av.	July 1954	June 1955	July 1955
N. Atl.	1.16	1.11	1.08	1.20	-	-	-	-
E.N.C.	1.14	1.06	1.08	1.15	21.0	17.3	18.0	18.4
W.N.C.	1.35	1.15	1.19	1.27	24.4	20.9	21.8	22.2
S. Atl.	1.38	1.38	1.36	1.42	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.25	1.16	1.26	1.31	16.8	13.8	14.5	14.7
West	1.19	1.14	1.17	1.20	19.6	16.1	16.7	16.9
U. S.	1.18	1.11	1.13	1.21	22.1	19.1	20.0	20.3

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.

PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS*

Aug. 1, 1955



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

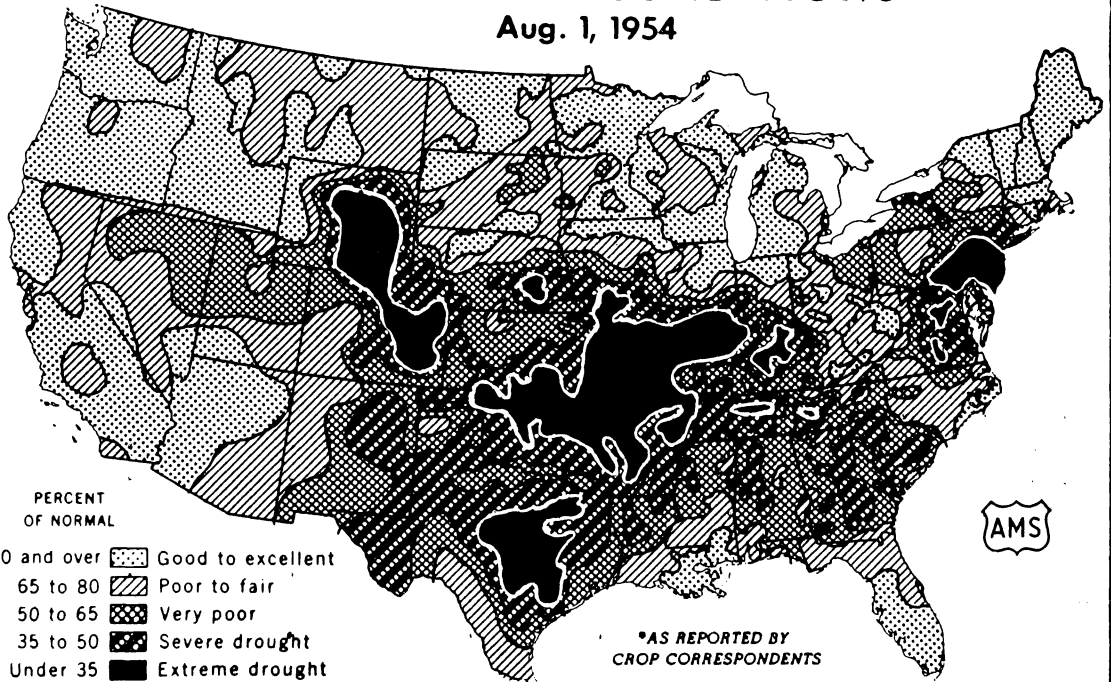
*INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED
FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 1756-55 (8) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

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- 80 and over Good to excellent
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 1024-54 (8) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Dairy product-feed price ratios improved

The value of grain and concentrate rations being fed to milk cows in milk-selling areas in July was \$3.15 per hundredweight and in cream-selling areas, \$2.76. Grain and concentrate costs have declined since early this year, and in July were the lowest for any month since April 1950. Dairy product-feed price ratios, which were sharply below average early in 1955, have improved in recent months. In July, the milk-feed price ratio was 3 percent above average, 9 percent above a year earlier, and as favorable as any for July in the last decade. The butterfat-feed price ratio, however, was 8 percent below the longtime average for the month, though 6 percent above a year earlier.

Pastures provide more feed than a year ago

On August 1 pastures provided milk cows the best green feed for the date in 4 years, but were still moderately below average as the result of dry, hot weather in middle Atlantic and central Great Plains areas. For the country as a whole, condition of dairy pastures averaged 76 percent of normal, compared with 65 percent on August 1, 1954 when drought was much more widespread, and with the 1944-53 August 1 average of 81 percent.

Pastures in most southern States east of the Great Plains improved to well above-average condition, and in the Ohio and Mississippi River Valley States and the Northwest continued mostly good to excellent. Precipitation in late July and early August over much of the country will help maintain pasture growth, but in some areas more rain will be needed.

Drought affects important eastern dairy States

In New Jersey, the northeastern half of Pennsylvania and southern and western New York, pastures on August 1 suffered from severe to extreme drought conditions with many milk cows forced on winter rations by lack of green feed. In New Jersey, pasture condition on August 1 was 42 points below average; in New York, 29; in Delaware, 28; and Pennsylvania, 23. Pasture feed was also very poor in sections of New England, Maryland, and Virginia. In Michigan and Wisconsin, pasture condition declined considerably and on August 1 green feed was short in northern sections, but recent rains are expected to revive growth. On the other hand, in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, pastures continued to provide excellent feed for milk cows, with condition above average and far better than during the drought last year. In most southern States east of the Plains, pasture conditions were well above average in contrast with very short feed on August 1 a year ago.

In the Central Great Plains area, pastures deteriorated sharply during the heat wave of late July, with areas of severe drought in eastern Colorado, central Nebraska, and central Kansas. In northern Rocky Mountain and northern Pacific Coast areas, pasture feed was mostly good to excellent, and in California, irrigated pastures were excellent.

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 2/		
	Aug. 1, av. 1944-53	Aug. 1, 1954	Aug. 1, 1955	Aug. 1, av. 1944-53	Aug. 1, 1954	Aug. 1, 1955
	Pounds			Pounds		
Me.	19.2	20.8	20.9	4.9	5.4	5.8
N. H.	18.5	20.9	20.3	4.4	4.2	4.2
Vt.	17.7	18.1	18.6	4.2	4.0	4.2
Mass.	19.8	20.1	21.5	5.4	5.0	5.3
Conn.	18.8	21.1	20.0	5.4	6.0	5.6
N. Y.	20.8	19.6	19.8	5.1	5.3	5.6
N. J.	21.6	20.0	21.7	6.9	7.3	7.4
Pa.	19.8	19.6	20.1	5.2	6.3	6.7
N. Atl.	20.12	19.75	20.12	5.3	5.6	5.8
Ohio	19.3	20.7	21.7	4.7	5.1	5.2
Ind.	18.7	20.9	21.3	4.4	5.2	5.2
Ill.	18.3	18.8	20.1	4.5	5.4	5.0
Mich.	21.3	22.8	23.0	4.2	4.8	5.3
Wis.	20.6	20.8	21.0	3.4	3.4	3.7
E. N. Cent.	19.27	20.92	21.31	4.0	4.4	4.6
Minn.	18.5	17.9	18.8	2.4	3.0	3.2
Iowa	18.5	19.1	19.2	3.8	4.5	5.0
Mo.	15.2	14.8	17.3	3.5	4.8	4.4
N. Dak.	17.7	17.6	18.2	2.3	3.0	2.7
S. Dak.	15.5	15.4	15.7	1.8	2.3	2.6
Nebr.	17.4	17.8	18.6	2.8	3.8	3.8
Kans.	15.6	15.5	16.7	3.4	4.2	4.2
W. N. Cent.	17.06	17.05	17.88	3.0	3.8	3.2
Md.	17.9	16.7	19.8	5.5	6.5	6.0
Va.	15.8	16.8	18.2	3.6	4.3	4.3
W. Va.	15.6	15.1	15.8	2.6	2.9	2.9
N. C.	14.8	15.4	15.5	4.0	4.9	4.9
S. C.	12.4	11.9	13.0	3.4	3.6	4.2
Ga.	10.3	10.3	10.3	3.0	3.8	4.0
S. Atl.	14.32	14.16	15.26	3.6	4.3	4.4
Ky.	14.9	14.2	15.5	2.7	3.3	3.1
Tenn.	13.5	12.9	13.5	3.1	3.7	3.7
Ala.	9.9	9.1	9.6	3.0	3.4	3.4
Miss.	9.0	8.3	8.7	2.0	2.5	2.3
Ark.	10.4	10.9	11.1	2.2	3.4	2.8
La.	7.4	7.3	7.5	2.3	2.2	2.7
Okla.	12.2	10.9	13.1	2.4	3.3	3.8
Tex.	9.5	9.3	9.7	3.1	4.6	3.5
S. Cent.	11.42	11.23	11.98	2.7	3.5	3.2
Mont.	19.2	19.2	19.5	2.3	2.3	3.2
Idaho	21.6	22.6	23.5	3.2	3.1	3.4
Wyo.	19.9	21.0	19.9	2.5	3.3	3.0
Colo.	18.1	19.1	20.0	4.0	4.4	5.3
Utah	21.0	21.0	23.2	3.3	3.4	4.7
Wash.	22.7	23.3	22.5	4.4	3.1	3.8
Oreg.	20.8	22.1	22.1	4.2	4.2	4.2
Calif.	21.8	22.9	24.9	4.4	5.0	5.0
West	20.82	21.47	22.37	4.0	4.1	4.4
U. S.	17.21	17.43	18.09	3.64	4.22	4.30

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.

DAIRY PASTURE FEED CONDITION 1/

State : August 1, : August 1, : August 1, : August 1,
and division : 1944-53 av. : 1953 : 1954 : 1955

Percent of normal.

Me.	78	73	97	79
N. H.	79	53	96	78
Vt.	82	63	94	74
Mass.	74	68	86	68
R. I.	68	85	73	82
Conn.	78	77	69	65
N. Y.	79	67	65	50
N. J.	72	57	25	30
Pa.	79	63	54	56
N. Atl.	78	66	66	57
Ohio	82	78	68	86
Ind.	83	79	62	94
Ill.	85	74	50	90
Mich.	82	80	80	73
Wis.	81	78	80	80
E. N. C.	82	78	71	83
Minn.	85	92	80	79
Iowa	92	81	65	79
Mo.	79	37	26	87
N. Dak.	82	94	80	86
S. Dak.	84	91	71	61
Nebr.	86	70	57	64
Kans.	82	61	45	61
W. N. Cent.	85	77	63	75
Del.	78	70	41	50
Md.	79	55	42	64
Va.	80	54	59	75
W. Va.	83	66	74	83
N. C.	79	67	62	83
S. C.	74	66	47	82
Ga.	77	87	51	87
Fla.	83	85	75	83
S. Atl.	79	67	57	78
Ky.	79	78	51	95
Tenn.	75	81	52	89
Ala.	77	84	54	89
Miss.	77	73	64	90
Ark.	75	58	35	88
La.	78	81	66	91
Okla.	80	71	36	68
Tex.	69	55	39	67
S. Cent.	76	71	46	81
Mont.	82	88	78	96
Idaho	88	87	89	91
Wyo.	86	74	50	79
Colo.	79	70	45	60
N. Mex.	68	56	54	73
Ariz.	79	87	83	81
Utah	82	75	71	76
Nev.	88	85	74	82
Wash.	80	94	92	92
Oreg.	82	90	88	85
Calif.	76	80	80	77
West	80	83	78	81
U. S.	81.1	74.5	64.9	76.0

1/ Indicates current supply of feed for grazing relative to that expected from existing stands under very favorable weather conditions. Regional and U. S. averages differ from those published in Crop Production in that States are combined with dairy rather than all livestock weights.