

DAIRY PRODUCTION

SEP 12 1955
September 12, 1955

HD
9275
U600
A2

SUMMARY

Production of milk on United States farms during August totaled 10,616 million pounds, 1 percent above August a year ago, but below the August record established in the mid-forties. In the first 8 months of 1955, production totaled 87.8 billion pounds, almost equal to last year's record for the period. On September 1, production per cow in crop reporters' herds averaged 17.05 pounds continuing the record high level of recent months. In all regions, production per cow was above both a year earlier and average for the date. Condition of dairy pasture feed on September 1 averaged 70.8 percent of normal -- above the last 2 years, but otherwise the lowest condition for the date since 1944. Hot, dry weather during August resulted in sharp deterioration of pastures in important western Great Lakes dairy States. In the western Corn Belt and central Great Plains States drought conditions were serious. On the other hand, pastures in the Northeast were revived by hurricane rains and on September 1 were providing mostly good to excellent feed for milk cows. In most of the South, pastures were generally good in contrast with drought conditions a year earlier. In the Pacific Coast States, dairy pastures on September 1 were providing average or better feed.

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

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average 1944-53	1954	1955	1955 1954	Average 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	10,616	101	2.29	2.08	2.07
Sept.	9,174	9,369			2.06	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

August milk output continues above year ago

During August, milk production totaled 10,616 million pounds, 1 percent above August 1954, but 4 percent short of the record for the month established a decade ago. Effect of dry, hot weather in the Midwest was partially offset by liberal supplemental feeding, while in the East, milk production responded to rapidly improving green feed following the hurricane rains.

Production during August was sufficient to provide each person in the United States with 2.07 pounds of milk daily, about 10 percent less than the 1944-53 average for the month. In the first 8 months of 1955, milk production totaled 87.8 billion pounds, almost equal to last year's record high for the period.

Production per cow up in South

On September 1, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 17.05 pounds, continuing the record high level of recent months and 7 percent above average. Regionally, production per cow ranged from 4 to 12 percent above average. In the South, where pastures have been good, production was well above a year ago, and in other regions, moderately above. Crop correspondents reported 70.3 percent of their milk cows in production on September 1, a slightly higher percentage than on that date in either of the past two years, but below average for September 1.

Among the 33 States for which monthly milk production estimates are currently available, new high records for August were established this year in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, and California. On the

MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, SELECTED STATES 1/

State	: August : : average : : 1944-53 :	: August : : 1954 :	: July : : 1955 :	: August : : 1955 :	State	: August : : average : : 1944-53 :	: August : : 1954 :	: July : : 1955 :	: August : : 1955 :
					Million pounds				
N. J.	93	92	94	93	: Ga.	107	112	113	112
Pa.	474	497	532	518	: Ky.	248	248	267	261
Ohio	490	501	547	519	: Tenn.	237	244	249	248
Ind.	348	343	363	341	: Ala.	123	124	130	123
Ill.	476	440	467	436	: Miss.	140	143	156	147
Mich.	489	497	531	514	: Ark.	133	126	145	133
Wis.	1,272	1,312	1,585	1,344	: Okla.	201	160	185	173
Minn.	625	576	764	612	: Texas	317	269	284	266
Iowa	569	518	572	508	: Mont.	57	49	56	48
Mo.	407	416	464	447	: Idaho	116	131	146	132
N. Dak.	186	171	202	172	: Wyo.	24	21	22	19
S. Dak.	139	119	145	123	: Utah	56	57	66	59
Nebr.	217	197	219	190	: Wash.	163	161	174	164
Kans.	242	213	222	211	: Oreg.	118	120	131	117
Va.	184	196	197	204	: Calif.	523	609	658	636
W. Va.	80	74	86	79	: Other				
N. C.	147	155	159	161	: States	1,474	1,526	1,715	1,448
S. C.	54	57	58	58	: U. S.	10,529	10,474	11,704	10,871

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

other hand, in Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, and Wyoming, milk production was the lowest for the month in records covering about a quarter century. Production was generally above a year earlier in the eastern States, in the western Great Lakes area, in the interior South, and in parts of the West. However, it was below last year in a number of the Corn Belt and Great Plains States. Wisconsin, with 1,344 million pounds, led all States in August milk output, followed by California with 636 million pounds, and Minnesota with 612 million pounds.

Dairy pasture condition below average

On September 1, the condition of dairy pastures averaged 70.8 percent of normal, above the last 2 years, but otherwise the lowest for the date since 1944. Hot and dry weather during August resulted in sharp deterioration of dairy pastures in the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Plains States, with substantial areas of serious to extreme drought. In southern areas, pastures were mostly providing good to excellent feed on September 1, much improved over condition a year earlier, while along the Central and North Atlantic Coast areas heavy rains accompanying Hurricanes "Connie" and "Diane" greatly improved pasture feed for milk stock. In the West, pasture feed for milk cows was in above average condition for the date.

Dry in upper Midwest

High temperatures and lack of moisture adversely affected pastures in the important dairy States in the western Great Lakes area. Pasture conditions on September 1 were below average and a year earlier in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Pastures also declined during August in Ohio and Indiana, but were furnishing above-average feed for milk cows on September 1 in those States.

Dairy pasture feed also deteriorated sharply under the hot, dry weather prevailing over the western Corn Belt and the central Great Plains States. Drought conditions developed over most of Nebraska, Kansas, and Iowa, and southeastern South Dakota. In these States, September 1 pasture condition ranged from 30 to 44 points below average. In Oklahoma, pastures were short and dry in the western half of the State, but improved by late August rains in the East. In Texas, pastures were good to excellent along the eastern and upper coastal areas, but were dry and short in most other areas. However, late August rains in South Texas should greatly benefit pastures.

(Continued on page 6)

DAIRY PRODUCT-FEED PRICE RATIOS, BY REGIONS

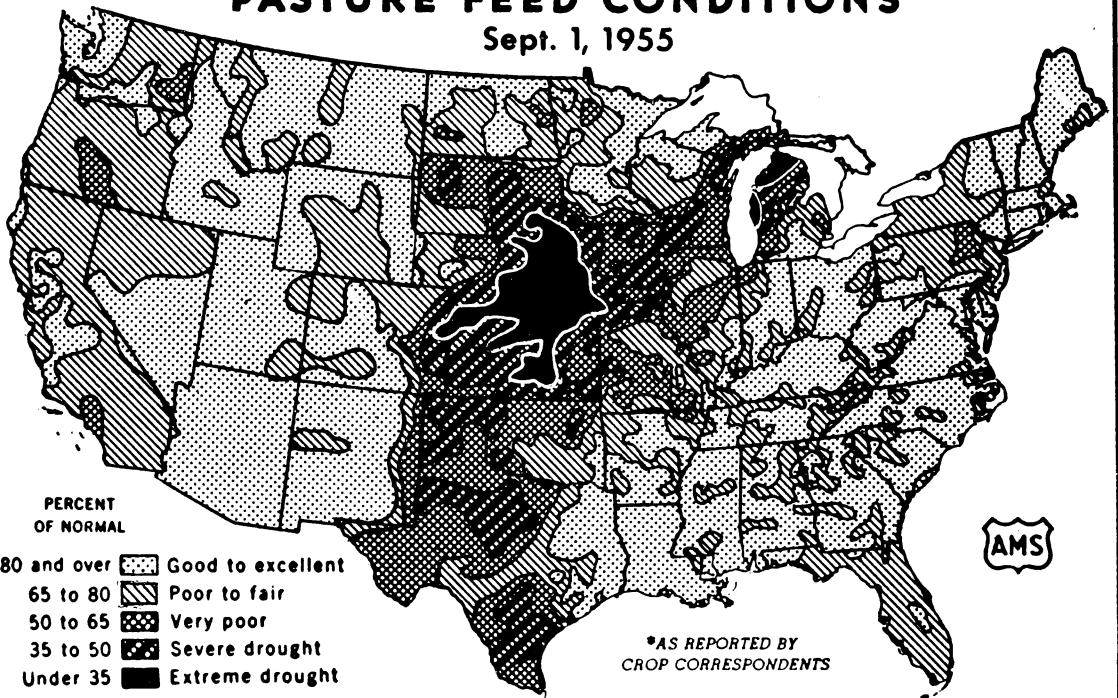
Region	Milk-Feed 1/				Butterfat-Feed 2/			
	Aug. 1934- 53 av.	August: 1954	July: 1955	August: 1955	Aug. 1934- 53 av.	August: 1954	July: 1955	August: 1955
N. Atl.	1.22	1.20	1.22	1.32	-	-	-	-
E.N.C.	1.20	1.09	1.13	1.24	21.7	17.1	18.4	19.0
W.N.C.	1.42	1.19	1.27	1.36	25.3	20.7	22.2	23.0
S. Atl.	1.40	1.36	1.40	1.42	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.30	1.22	1.28	1.37	17.1	13.5	14.5	14.7
West	1.24	1.18	1.18	1.22	20.1	16.4	16.6	16.9
U. S.	1.23	1.16	1.20	1.29	22.7	18.9	20.2	20.9

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*

Sept. 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

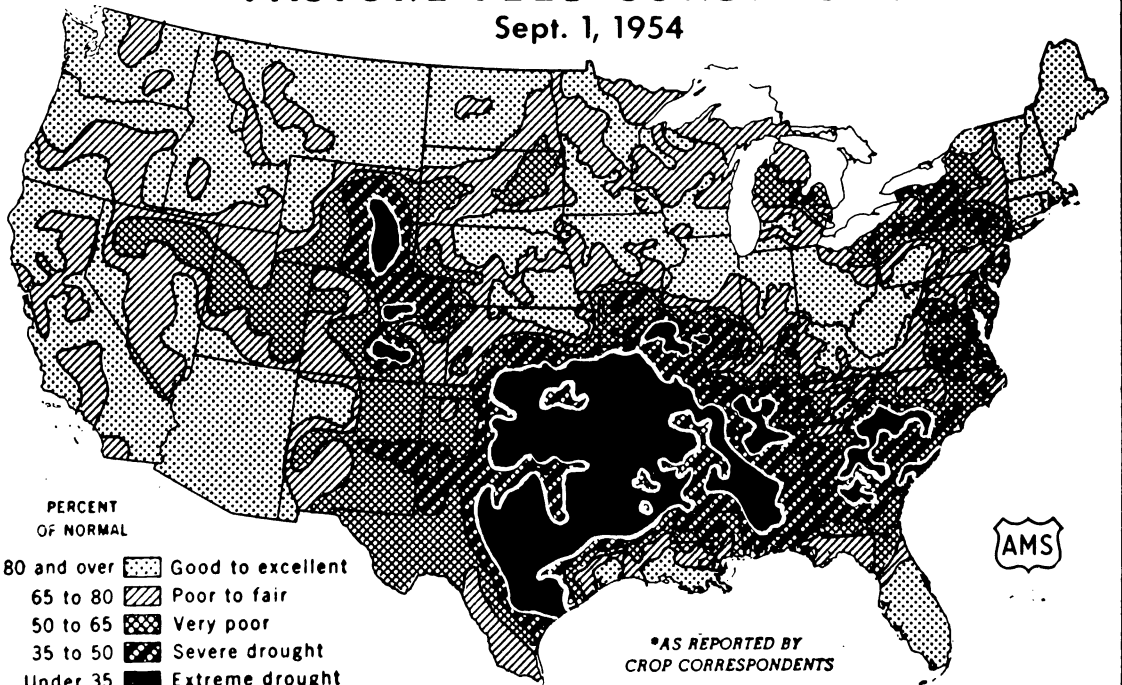
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 1802-55 (9)

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS*

Sept. 1, 1954



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. 1084-54 (9)

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow in herds kept by reporters 1/			Dairy pasture feed condition 2/		
	Sept. 1, 1944-53 av.	Sept. 1, 1954	Sept. 1, 1955	Sept. 1, 1944-53 av.	Sept. 1, 1954	Sept. 1, 1955
	Pounds			Percent of normal		
Me.	18.0	20.9	21.2	69	93	89
N. H.	17.8	21.1	19.5	71	90	91
Vt.	16.2	16.4	17.3	75	90	88
Mass.	19.3	21.0	19.0	70	87	82
Conn.	19.0	21.9	21.4	77	85	82
N. Y.	19.4	18.5	19.8	73	60	75
N. J.	21.6	21.4	21.0	73	60	74
Pa.	19.1	19.2	20.1	72	63	75
N. Atl.	19.25	19.27	20.00	73	69	78
Ohio	18.4	19.9	21.0	73	83	85
Ind.	17.4	19.2	20.4	76	82	83
Ill.	17.4	18.6	19.1	78	70	68
Mich.	20.2	21.2	23.1	72	69	64
Wis.	17.9	17.6	18.1	73	78	62
E. N. Cent.	18.20	18.72	19.57	74	77	70
Minn.	15.0	15.1	16.1	77	80	74
Iowa	16.4	17.0	18.2	82	79	45
Mo.	14.5	14.6	15.5	77	38	62
N. Dak.	15.1	14.8	15.5	76	81	77
S. Dak.	13.3	13.4	14.8	79	71	49
Nebr.	15.5	17.0	16.5	82	78	38
Kans.	14.5	15.8	15.6	79	53	41
W. N. Cent.	14.97	15.47	16.08	79	71	57
Id.	18.0	18.7	21.0	79	69	91
Va.	15.7	17.0	18.0	79	67	90
W. Va.	14.9	14.7	15.5	77	90	83
N. C.	14.6	14.8	16.6	80	60	88
S. C.	12.1	12.2	12.6	75	35	81
Ga.	10.2	11.0	10.8	75	45	83
S. Atl.	14.29	14.90	15.95	78	62	86
Ky.	14.4	13.9	14.9	75	69	87
Tenn.	13.1	12.3	13.3	73	47	78
Ala.	9.7	8.7	9.9	75	37	83
Miss.	8.4	7.5	8.7	76	41	87
Ark.	10.0	8.9	10.3	72	24	80
La.	7.2	6.6	7.6	77	60	93
Okla.	11.0	11.2	12.1	73	30	60
Tex.	8.8	9.1	9.3	61	37	63
S. Cent.	10.82	10.58	11.34	71	42	75
Mont.	17.1	19.5	18.6	80	85	87
Idaho	19.8	22.1	21.7	85	87	88
Wyo.	18.7	20.7	19.1	83	53	84
Colo.	16.3	19.2	20.8	79	52	70
Utah	19.7	20.0	21.5	82	65	82
Wash.	21.1	21.5	22.9	75	92	83
Oreg.	18.5	19.3	20.0	76	86	76
Calif.	20.6	23.6	22.9	76	81	77
West	19.20	21.09	21.24	78	79	80
U. S.	15.87	16.34	17.05	75.4	68.7	70.8

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.

2/ 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.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

(Continued from page 3)

Heavy rains revive pastures in Northeast

In the Atlantic Coast States from North Carolina through New England, dairy pastures benefited greatly from the hurricane rains. In many areas, grass made spring-like growth and by September 1 was furnishing excellent feed for milk cows. In South Carolina and Georgia and the Gulf Coast States, dairy pastures were furnishing good feed, with September 1 grazing substantially better than the dry short conditions of a year earlier. In the central Mississippi Valley States, condition declined during August, but dairy pastures were supplying ample feed with the September 1 condition also sharply above a year earlier. Pastures showed some decline during August in the Pacific Northwest, but were providing average or better feed for milk cows on September 1. California pastures were about average for September 1.