

# MILK PRODUCTION

~~PERIODICAL ROOM~~

September 12, 1957

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## SUMMARY

Milk production on farms during August totaled 10,794 million pounds-- 1 percent more than in August last year and 3 percent above the 1946-55 average for the month. Seasonally, total production declined slightly more than at this time last year, but less than usual from July to August. For the first 8 months of 1957, a record total of 89.8 billion pounds of milk was produced, compared with the previous high of 89.0 billion pounds for the same period last year. Milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds averaged 18.28 pounds on September 1. Output was at record levels for the date in all sections of the country except the North and South Atlantic, where production per cow was down from last year. Condition of dairy pastures continued to decline during August from the high level of July 1, and on September 1 was 73 percent of normal. This compares with 75 percent reported on September 1 last year and the 1946-55 average for the date of 74 percent. The dry condition that existed a month earlier in the Northern and Middle Atlantic Coastal States has expanded to include much of the area east of the Mississippi and Ohio River Valleys.

Table 1.-Monthly milk production on farms, United States, 1946-55 average, 1956 and 1957

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average 1946-55	1956	1957	1957 1956	Average 1946-55	1956	1957
	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan. ....	8,446	9,603	9,697	101	1.79	1.86	1.84
Feb. ....	8,284	9,657	9,464	1/98	1.93	1.99	1.99
Mar. ....	9,799	10,888	10,961	101	2.07	2.10	2.08
Apr. ....	10,530	11,325	11,428	101	2.30	2.25	2.24
May.....	12,368	12,840	13,122	102	2.62	2.47	2.48
June.....	12,242	12,490	12,633	101	2.67	2.48	2.47
July.....	11,428	11,526	11,692	101	2.41	2.21	2.21
Aug. ....	10,453	10,659	10,794	101	2.20	2.04	2.03
Sept. ...	9,158	9,512			1.99	1.88	
Oct. ....	8,658	9,276			1.82	1.77	
Nov. ....	7,879	8,695			1.70	1.71	
Dec. ....	8,223	9,227			1.72	1.76	
Year...	117,468	125,698			2.10	2.04	

1/ Influenced by extra day in February 1956.

Table 2.-Monthly milk production on farms, selected States,  
August 1957, with comparisons 1/

[In millions of pounds]

State	Aug. av. 1946-55	Aug. 1956	July 1957	Aug. 1957	State	Aug. av. 1946-55	Aug. 1956	July 1957	Aug. 1957
N. Y. ...	709	755	834	738	Ga. ....	104	102	104	100
N. J. ...	93	93	91	90	Ky. ....	252	266	278	269
Pa. ....	484	543	556	542	Tenn. ...	238	246	252	246
Ohio.....	491	497	519	485	Ala. ....	117	109	108	104
Ind. ....	352	340	353	341	Miss. ...	136	146	149	141
Ill. ....	466	449	482	455	Ark. ....	126	120	126	123
Mich. ...	483	466	494	477	Okla. ...	178	149	144	139
Wis. ....	1,275	1,301	1,573	1,389	Tex. ....	287	246	262	258
Minn. ...	608	625	805	644	Mont. ...	54	47	52	47
Iowa.....	548	538	619	561	Idaho....	119	133	143	134
Mo. ....	399	400	408	383	Wyo. ....	22	18	21	19
N. Dak. .	178	169	201	164	Colo. ...	81	77	85	80
S. Dak. .	131	129	156	128	Utah.....	57	63	70	64
Nebr. ...	210	200	226	201	Wash. ...	160	162	173	163
Kans. ...	225	189	191	182	Oreg. ...	115	108	116	106
Va. ....	189	195	195	192	Calif. ..	549	641	685	667
W. Va. ..	79	77	77	72	Other				
N. C. ...	148	159	162	160	States..	737	845	927	871
S. C. ...	53	56	55	59	U. S. ...	10,453	10,659	11,692	10,794

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

Table 3.-Dairy product-feed price ratios, by regions,  
August 15, 1957, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed 1/				Butterfat-feed 2/			
	Aug. 15, av. 1936-55	Aug. 15, 1956	July 15, 1957	Aug. 15, 1957	Aug. 15, av. 1936-55	Aug. 15, 1956	July 15, 1957	Aug. 15, 1957
N. Atl. .	1.23	1.33	1.29	1.41	-	-	-	-
E.N.C. ..	1.22	1.26	1.23	1.30	21.7	18.7	18.9	19.2
W.N.C. ..	1.43	1.33	1.36	1.41	25.5	22.9	24.4	24.9
S. Atl. .	1.41	1.48	1.52	1.51	-	-	-	-
S. Cent..	1.32	1.43	1.36	1.40	17.1	15.1	15.2	15.3
West. ...	1.26	1.27	1.28	1.32	20.0	18.4	18.1	18.3
U.S. ..	1.25	1.31	1.30	1.36	22.9	21.0	22.2	22.5

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.

## Milk production 1 percent above August 1956

Milk production on farms during August totaled 10,794 million pounds-- 1 percent more than in August last year and 3 percent above the 1946-55 average for the month. Seasonally, total production declined slightly more than at this time last year, but less than usual from July to August. The total quantity of milk produced during August was sufficient to provide 2.03 pounds of milk per person per day--about the same amount as a year ago, but 8 percent less than the August average. For the first 8 months of 1957, a record total of 89.8 billion pounds of milk was produced, compared with the previous high of 89.0 billion pounds for the same period last year.

## Rate per cow at record levels except in East

Milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds averaged 18.28 pounds on September 1. Output was at record levels for the date in all sections of the country except the North and South Atlantic, where production per cow was down from last year. Compared with the average seasonal decline, production per cow decreased more than usual from August 1 to September 1 in the Atlantic Coastal areas and the West North Central. Output per cow on September 1 exceeded the averages for the date in all regions by 5 to 19 percent, with largest gains in the South and West.

## Proportion of cows milked about average

Crop reporters indicated that 71.4 percent of the milk cows in their herds were milked on September 1 -- equal to the proportion of cows usually milked on that date. On September 1 last year, 70.8 percent of the cows were milked. Only reporters in the South Central States milked a lower percentage of the milk cows in herds than on September 1 last year. Compared with the September 1 average, the smaller proportion of cows milked in the North Atlantic and North Central States was offset by larger proportions in other parts of the country.

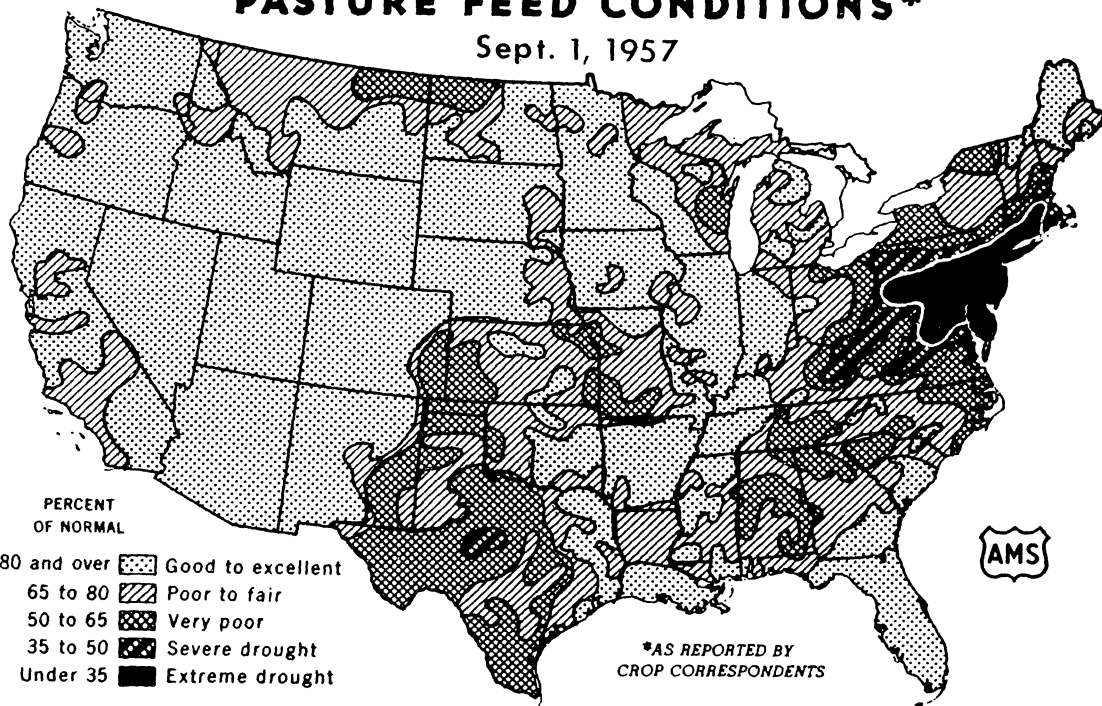
Among the States with monthly milk production estimates available, August production equaled or exceeded the record high for the month in 7 States, but was below the August average in 20 States. Wisconsin was the leading milk-producing State, with an output of 1,389 million pounds in August -- a new record high. New York was second with 738 million pounds, followed by California with 667 million, Minnesota with 644 million, and Iowa with 561 million pounds.

## Dairy pastures decline more than usual during August

Condition of dairy pastures continued to decline during August from the high level of July 1, and on September 1 was 73 percent of normal. This compares with 75 percent reported on September 1 last year and the 1946-55 average for the date of 74 percent. Dry weather continued during August in some parts of the country and caused further deterioration of pasture feed supplies. The dry condition that existed a month earlier in the Northern and Middle Atlantic Coastal States has expanded to include much of the area east of the Mississippi and Ohio River Valleys. Dairy pastures are dry in

# PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS\*

Sept. 1, 1957



- 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

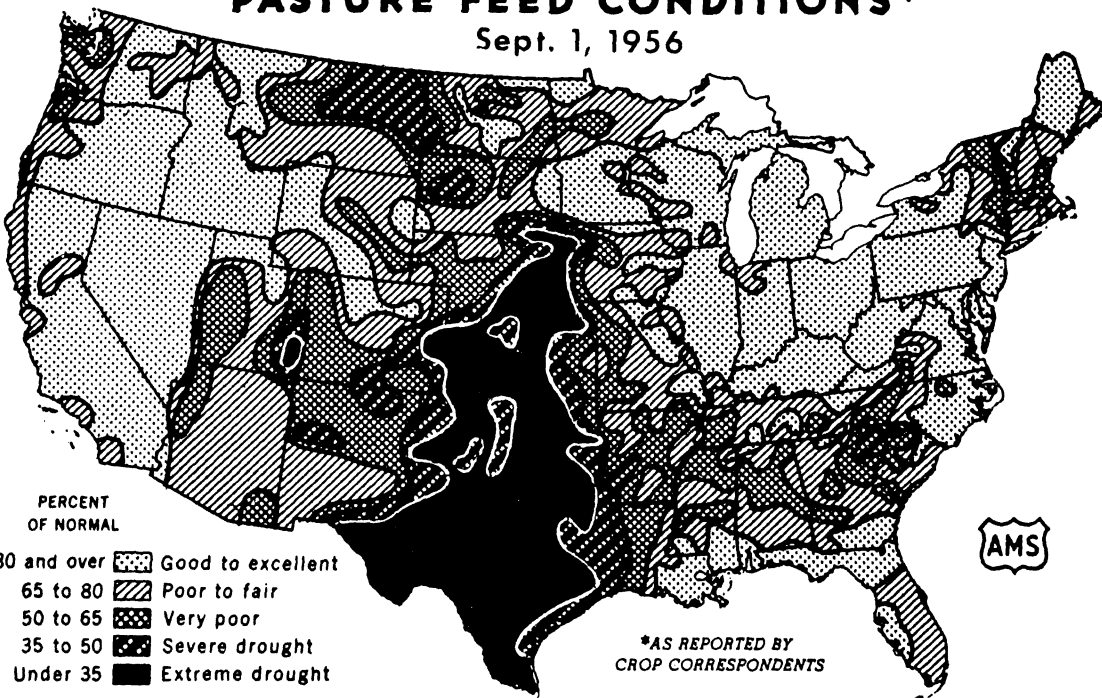
\* INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

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NEG. 4451-57 (9) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

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the southern Great Plains from Kansas to Texas, in eastern Wisconsin, and a section of North Dakota and Montana. Milk cows have good grazing in most western States, although rainfall is needed soon in the far West to maintain pastures.

#### Pastures deteriorate further in East

Extreme drought conditions existed on September 1 in an area covering Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland. In addition, dairy pastures were poor in much of the remainder of the area east of the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys and from southern Maine to northern Florida. Supplemental feeding is necessary to maintain milk cows in good condition. Dairy pastures in the North Atlantic States were 52 percent of normal on September 1. This was about 28 points lower than a year earlier and the poorest for the date since 1949. In the South Atlantic States, pastures were 55 percent of normal on September 1-- down 23 points from the average and 24 points from September 1, 1956.

#### Condition above average in Great Plains

In the northern Great Plains, pastures were in good condition except in northwestern North Dakota which remained dry. In the West North Central States, pasture condition was 82 percent of normal compared with 68 percent a year ago and the average of 74 percent. Pastures in the southern Great Plains were short and dry and some supplemental feeding of milk cows was required on September 1. Pasture condition in the South Central States was 73 percent compared with 54 percent last year and the average of 68 percent.

Dairy pastures were generally good in the western States on September 1, but some areas had begun to show the effects of dry weather. Condition of pastures, at 85 percent, was 10 points above a year ago and 6 points above average. Pastures were poor in northern Montana due to dry weather. Other western sections reported good pastures although more rainfall will be needed soon in the Pacific Coast area to maintain their condition.

Table 4.-Milk produced per milk cow and percent of milk cows milked in herds kept by reporters <sup>1/</sup>

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow <sup>2/</sup>			Percent of milk cows milked		
	Sept. 1, av. 1946-55	Sept. 1, 1956	Sept. 1, 1957	Sept. 1, av. 1946-55	Sept. 1, 1956	Sept. 1, 1957
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent
Me. ....	18.6	22.1	22.1	80.6	80.8	79.9
N. H. ....	18.5	21.9	21.5	77.4	77.0	77.1
Vt. ....	16.5	17.8	17.9	75.1	72.9	72.7
Mass. ....	19.5	20.6	22.4	79.7	81.4	80.9
Conn. ....	19.6	21.1	20.4	77.8	76.9	74.6
N. Y. ....	19.5	20.5	20.5	77.0	75.3	73.6
N. J. ....	21.7	23.0	22.1	79.0	78.1	77.8
Pa. ....	19.5	21.0	20.5	78.1	76.6	77.0
N. Atl. ....	19.55	20.83	20.57	77.5	76.1	76.2
Ohio.....	19.1	21.6	21.2	76.3	73.7	76.0
Ind. ....	18.1	20.2	21.0	74.8	74.7	74.7
Ill. ....	18.0	20.2	20.5	71.0	73.1	74.2
Mich. ....	21.0	22.7	23.7	81.7	79.7	79.8
Wis. ....	18.2	18.5	20.1	78.1	74.5	75.4
E. N. Cent. ....	18.71	20.03	20.99	76.8	75.1	75.9
Minn. ....	15.3	15.8	16.3	69.4	66.2	68.6
Iowa.....	16.9	19.5	20.6	69.8	69.5	72.6
Mo. ....	14.9	16.7	15.9	69.6	69.0	66.9
N. Dak. ....	15.4	15.2	15.9	69.8	66.5	65.8
S. Dak. ....	13.6	15.0	14.7	65.0	66.9	67.0
Nebr. ....	16.0	17.6	17.5	69.5	68.6	68.5
Kans. ....	15.0	15.7	16.5	66.2	64.7	66.6
W. N. Cent. ....	15.40	16.41	16.75	68.5	67.1	68.0
Md. ....	18.6	21.5	20.0	74.6	75.3	75.4
Va. ....	16.4	19.6	19.3	70.9	71.3	73.9
W. Va. ....	15.1	17.0	15.6	73.0	73.4	71.3
N. C. ....	15.0	16.7	16.3	72.0	69.3	70.2
S. C. ....	12.4	13.9	14.0	68.3	68.0	66.8
Ga. ....	10.6	12.3	11.7	60.4	61.2	57.4
S. Atl. ....	14.74	16.74	16.58	69.5	68.9	70.7
Ky. ....	14.6	15.9	16.0	70.7	71.9	70.7
Tenn. ....	13.1	13.9	13.8	71.2	68.1	69.2
Ala. ....	9.7	9.6	9.6	59.5	54.3	56.9
Miss. ....	8.4	9.6	8.8	60.2	60.9	56.3
Ark. ....	10.1	11.3	12.3	60.5	56.8	60.3
La. ....	7.3	8.5	8.5	46.5	54.1	51.3
Okla. ....	11.3	13.7	13.4	59.5	62.2	62.0
Tex. ....	9.0	9.3	10.5	55.0	55.0	55.4
S. Cent. ....	11.02	12.64	12.66	62.1	62.4	62.2
Mont. ....	17.8	19.0	19.6	72.0	72.8	71.4
Idaho.....	20.6	22.0	22.7	78.1	78.4	78.2
Wyo. ....	19.5	19.4	19.7	74.0	73.0	68.1
Colo. ....	17.4	18.5	20.8	71.6	72.6	76.8
Utah.....	20.3	24.1	23.0	78.7	77.6	77.6
Wash. ....	21.8	22.0	23.6	80.2	78.8	77.7
Oreg. ....	19.0	20.3	22.3	78.8	82.4	82.9
Calif. ....	21.1	25.2	26.2	78.0	78.5	81.1
West. ....	19.94	22.36	23.72	77.1	78.0	78.9
U. S. ....	16.30	17.89	18.28	71.4	70.8	71.4

<sup>1/</sup> Figures for New England States and New Jersey represent combined crop and special dairy reporters; others represent crop reporters only. Regional averages include less important dairy States not shown separately.

<sup>2/</sup> Averages represent daily milk production divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry).

Table 5.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal,  
September 1, 1957, with comparisons <sup>1/</sup>

[Percent]

State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1946-55	Sept. 1, 1955	Sept. 1, 1956	Sept. 1, 1957
Me. ....	74	89	80	77
N. H. ....	75	91	68	72
Vt. ....	78	88	72	76
Mass. ....	73	82	61	34
R. I. ....	81	94	80	36
Conn. ....	80	82	70	28
N. Y. ....	72	75	77	64
N. J. ....	74	74	84	11
Pa. ....	73	75	91	33
N. Atl. ....	74	78	80	52
Ohio.....	77	85	94	67
Ind. ....	79	83	87	88
Ill. ....	77	68	87	86
Mich. ....	72	64	94	74
Wis. ....	73	62	84	79
E. N. Cent. ....	75	70	88	78
Minn. ....	76	74	83	89
Iowa.....	76	45	72	86
Mo. ....	72	62	71	72
N. Dak. ....	75	77	72	80
S. Dak. ....	73	49	66	84
Nebr. ....	76	38	47	86
Kans. ....	71	41	35	68
W. N. Cent. ....	74	57	68	82
Del. ....	77	88	94	21
Md. ....	80	91	90	23
Va. ....	80	90	84	48
W. Va. ....	80	83	94	48
N. C. ....	79	88	72	71
S. C. ....	71	81	59	69
Ga. ....	73	83	69	70
Fla. ....	81	80	80	84
S. Atl. ....	78	86	79	55
Ky. ....	76	87	92	73
Tenn. ....	72	78	71	75
Ala. ....	72	83	67	65
Miss. ....	73	87	67	80
Ark. ....	67	80	61	91
La. ....	76	93	63	78
Okla. ....	66	60	31	73
Tex. ....	58	63	24	65
S. Cent. ....	68	75	54	73
Mont. ....	81	87	64	76
Idaho.....	86	88	87	91
Wyo. ....	78	84	74	97
Colo. ....	74	70	57	88
N. Mex. ....	71	80	53	70
Ariz. ....	85	96	77	88
Utah.....	80	82	71	92
Nev. ....	85	76	94	93
Wash. ....	80	83	73	84
Oreg. ....	78	76	79	86
Calif. ....	77	77	81	82
West. ....	79	80	75	85
U. S. ....	74.3	70.8	75.1	73.4

<sup>1/</sup> 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.