

~~LABORATORY ROOM~~

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# MILK PRODUCTION

December 12, 1957

Milk cows on farms produced 8,783 million pounds of milk during November -- 1 percent above the previous record high for November last year and 11 percent above the 1946-55 average for the month. Total production declined 7 percent seasonally, slightly more rapidly than from October to November last year, but less than the average decline of 9 percent between these months during 1946-55. Relative to population, November milk output averaged 1.70 pounds per person per day, which was about the same as for November last year and the average. Milk production in the first 11 months of 1957 totaled 117.6 billion pounds, compared with the previous record high of 116.5 billion pounds for the January-November period last year.

Milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds averaged 17.91 pounds on December 1 -- 3 percent above the previous high for the date last year and 23 percent above the December 1 average. Output per cow was at a record high in all regions except the South Central where it was below December 1 last year. On December 1, rate per milk cow reached record highs in half of

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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	9,611	101	1.99	1.88	1.86
Oct. ....	8,658	9,276	9,412	101	1.82	1.77	1.76
Nov. ....	7,879	8,695	8,783	101	1.70	1.71	1.70
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,  
November 1957, with comparisons 1/

[In millions of pounds]

State	Nov. av. 1946-55	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1957	Nov. 1957	State	Nov. av. 1946-55	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1957	Nov. 1957
N.Y. ....	603	680	735	697	Ga. ....	86	97	100	95
N.J. ....	85	86	93	89	Ky. ....	159	183	214	182
Pa. ....	410	464	512	488	Tenn. ....	157	176	196	173
Ohio.....	379	428	451	431	Ala. ....	93	88	88	80
Ind. ....	257	259	285	262	Miss. ....	96	109	111	106
Ill. ....	355	375	389	362	Ark. ....	88	91	92	85
Mich. ....	371	385	433	386	Okla. ....	126	120	122	113
Wis. ....	941	1,128	1,184	1,156	Tex. ....	238	240	232	232
Minn. ....	515	599	528	605	Mont. ....	37	36	40	35
Iowa.....	402	439	471	425	Idaho.....	89	102	117	104
Mo. ....	267	271	312	263	Wyo. ....	16	15	17	15
N. Dak. ..	96	98	110	97	Colo. ....	64	65	69	68
S. Dak. ..	81	86	97	88	Utah.....	46	53	56	54
Nebr. ....	140	149	154	144	Wash. ....	122	128	147	133
Kans. ....	176	168	161	163	Oreg. ....	81	77	84	76
Va. ....	113	157	185	166	Calif. ...	464	553	628	598
W. Va. ....	59	60	65	60	Other States...	477	551	738	566
N.C. ....	118	133	144	140	U.S. ....	7,879	8,695	9,412	8,783
S.C. ....	42	46	52	46					

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

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

Region	Milk-feed 1/				Butterfat-feed 2/			
	Nov. 15, av. 1936-55	Nov. 15, 1956	Oct. 15, 1957	Nov. 15, 1957	Nov. 15, av. 1936-55	Nov. 15, 1956	Oct. 15, 1957	Nov. 15, 1957
N. Atl. ..	1.42	1.51	1.57	1.62	-	-	-	-
E.N.C. ...	1.43	1.51	1.47	1.55	23.7	20.9	20.3	20.8
W.N.C. ...	1.61	1.54	1.62	1.71	27.6	25.5	26.2	27.3
S. Atl. ..	1.59	1.70	1.66	1.69	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. ..	1.59	1.71	1.65	1.75	18.6	16.1	16.3	16.8
West. ....	1.41	1.46	1.48	1.55	21.1	18.9	19.2	19.7
U.S. ...	1.45	1.53	1.54	1.60	24.8	23.1	23.7	24.6

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.

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the States. Production per cow for the entire country increased 1 percent in contrast to the usual decrease of 1 percent from November 1 to December 1. Production per cow advanced in the Northeast and North Central States, but declined in other sections of the country. Although rates per cow were well above average for December 1 in all areas of the country, the decline was greater than usual from November 1 in the Western States.

Crop reporters indicated that 70.2 percent of the milk cows in their herds were milked on December 1 compared with 70.0 percent on the same date last year and the December 1 average of 67.0 percent. Crop reporters in all regions were milking more than the usual proportion of milk cows on December 1. The percentage of cows milked exceeded the level of November 1 this year in only the Northeastern part of the country.

Among the 35 States with monthly milk production estimates available, November output was at a record level for the month in 9 States. However, November milk production was below average in 9 other States, Wisconsin, as usual, led all States in November milk production with 1,156 million pounds, followed by New York with 697 million; Minnesota, 605 million; California, 598 million; and Pennsylvania, 488 million pounds.

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Table 4.-Milk produced per milk cow, percent of milk cows milked, and "grain" fed per milk cow in herds kept by reporters 1/

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow 2/			Percent of milk cows milked			"Grain" fed per milk cow 3/		
	Dec. 1, av. 1946-55	Dec. 1, 1956	Dec. 1, 1957	Dec. 1, av. 1946-55	Dec. 1, 1956	Dec. 1, 1957	Dec. 1, av. 1946-55	Dec. 1, 1956	Dec. 1, 1957
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Me. ....	15.4	18.8	19.2	79.0	80.3	80.2	6.2	7.0	7.2
N. H. ....	17.1	18.6	22.0	79.1	78.4	79.8	5.6	5.8	6.5
Vt. ....	15.7	18.2	19.8	75.7	76.9	78.6	5.7	6.2	6.4
Mass. ....	18.2	21.3	22.7	79.6	78.4	81.0	6.3	6.9	7.3
Conn. ....	18.4	22.1	23.2	77.9	78.5	79.1	6.5	7.0	7.8
N. Y. ....	18.8	20.7	21.9	74.6	76.1	77.0	6.7	7.3	7.7
N. J. ....	20.6	21.2	23.0	77.7	76.0	77.3	7.9	7.7	8.2
Pa. ....	18.0	19.7	21.6	75.3	80.4	77.1	7.4	7.7	8.4
N. Atl. ....	18.37	20.10	21.76	75.8	78.6	77.4	6.8	7.3	7.8
Ohio.....	16.8	20.3	21.4	73.6	73.4	77.3	6.4	7.2	7.7
Ind. ....	15.4	18.0	19.0	70.2	71.3	73.5	6.1	7.1	7.2
Ill. ....	15.8	19.5	19.4	66.8	70.5	71.5	6.4	6.7	7.2
Mich. ....	18.5	22.0	22.6	77.0	79.9	80.6	6.4	7.5	7.5
Wis. ....	16.2	20.0	20.5	70.6	73.3	74.3	5.8	6.4	6.8
E. N. Cent. ...	16.58	20.24	20.88	71.3	73.8	75.3	6.1	6.8	7.1
Minn. ....	16.4	19.0	19.4	64.7	67.3	67.9	5.5	6.2	6.5
Iowa.....	15.4	19.2	18.2	65.2	69.4	67.2	6.3	6.8	7.1
Mo. ....	11.5	13.3	13.1	63.7	65.4	63.4	5.0	6.5	5.9
N. Dak. ....	11.8	13.5	13.7	54.4	54.7	55.5	4.5	5.0	5.6
S. Dak. ....	11.3	12.7	13.3	55.6	57.0	58.4	3.9	4.2	4.2
Nebr. ....	14.0	17.4	17.0	62.2	67.8	65.9	4.8	5.5	5.7
Kans. ....	14.6	17.5	17.6	63.6	66.2	68.3	5.3	7.0	6.9
W. N. Cent. ...	14.12	16.56	16.71	62.3	64.8	64.8	5.3	6.2	6.3
Md. ....	16.9	19.2	21.4	73.4	75.4	75.9	7.2	7.9	8.2
Va. ....	14.1	17.8	19.3	69.8	72.6	74.2	5.2	6.3	6.8
W. Va. ....	11.6	12.4	14.0	71.3	69.9	71.6	3.8	4.2	4.8
N. C. ....	12.9	16.3	17.3	70.8	73.7	74.9	5.3	6.3	6.7
S. C. ....	11.0	14.5	12.0	67.5	69.7	66.4	4.2	6.2	5.9
Ga. ....	9.2	12.4	11.5	58.3	62.5	60.7	4.2	5.8	5.6
S. Atl. ....	12.81	15.77	16.68	68.3	70.5	73.5	4.9	5.9	6.3
Ky. ....	11.3	13.6	13.8	65.3	65.9	64.4	5.2	6.0	6.1
Tenn. ....	10.0	12.5	12.2	65.6	66.6	67.1	4.7	5.9	5.6
Ala. ....	8.5	9.3	8.1	56.8	55.6	52.5	4.5	6.2	4.9
Miss. ....	7.1	8.6	8.5	55.6	58.4	59.2	3.5	5.2	4.7
Ark. ....	7.8	10.5	8.6	52.7	58.5	53.3	3.6	5.4	4.9
La. ....	6.6	8.1	7.8	42.8	53.5	53.7	3.5	4.8	4.4
Okla. ....	10.2	13.7	13.0	55.2	61.9	59.9	4.2	6.7	5.7
Tex. ....	8.4	9.7	10.2	52.7	50.4	51.8	4.5	6.1	5.5
S. Cent. ....	9.25	11.62	11.42	57.9	60.8	59.8	4.3	5.9	5.3
Mont. ....	14.0	15.4	15.2	63.7	65.6	63.5	3.8	4.0	4.2
Idaho.....	18.0	20.1	19.3	74.4	75.9	76.2	4.0	4.2	4.6
Wyo. ....	15.1	19.5	18.0	65.9	68.5	65.8	3.6	4.3	4.1
Colo. ....	15.7	17.4	19.3	67.4	72.2	75.1	5.2	5.6	5.8
Utah.....	18.4	21.8	22.1	75.3	79.4	77.0	4.4	5.4	5.0
Wash. ....	17.6	20.4	21.1	76.3	79.0	80.1	5.5	6.3	6.5
Oreg. ....	14.7	16.1	17.5	72.5	74.8	75.7	4.6	5.1	6.2
Calif. ....	19.0	22.8	23.0	76.2	77.7	76.5	4.6	5.5	6.5
West. ....	16.96	20.14	20.69	73.0	76.1	76.3	4.7	5.4	6.0
U. S. ....	14.52	17.39	17.91	67.0	70.0	70.2	5.42	6.35	6.52

1/ 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.

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

3/ Includes grain, millfeeds, and other concentrates.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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Grain fed continues high

Farmers continued feeding grain and concentrates at a record high rate as milk cows were shifted to winter rations. Crop reporters fed their milking herds an average of 6.52 pounds of concentrates per head on December 1 -- 3 percent more than a year earlier and 20 percent more than average for that date. Seasonally, the increase from the October 1 record high rate was less than the usual gain from October 1 to December 1.

Generally, ample supplies of grain and hay in most areas of the country and favorable dairy product-feed price relationships were contributing factors in the high rate of concentrate feeding. The amount of grain fed per milk cow was at a December 1 record high in all areas of the country except the South Central region. By regions, feeding rates were highest in the North Atlantic States where crop reporters fed an average of 7.8 pounds of grain and concentrates per milk cow in their herds, and lowest in the South Central States where milk cows were fed an average of 5.3 pounds. Averages in other regions on December 1 were 7.1 pounds per head in the East North Central States, 6.3 pounds in both the West North Central and South Atlantic States and 6.0 pounds in the West. Crop reporters in all areas of the country were feeding their milking herds at a considerably higher rate than the December 1 average. The proportion of crop reporters feeding some grain and concentrates to milk cows averaged 84.2 percent on December 1, about the same as average, but 2 percent below a year earlier.

Record high milk-feed price ratio

The value of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows averaged \$2.85 per hundredweight on November 15 -- the lowest value for that date since 1949. In milk-selling areas, the value of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows on November 15 was \$2.90 per hundredweight and in cream-selling areas, \$2.40. The milk-feed price ratio on November 15 was 5 percent above a year earlier and the highest of record for that date. The butterfat-feed price ratio was 6 percent higher than on November 15 last year and the highest since mid-November 1949.