

# MILK PRODUCTION

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## SUMMARY

Milk production on farms in the United States was estimated at 9,413 million pounds for September. This was 1 percent less milk than produced in September last year but 2 percent more than the 1948-57 average. Production in the first 9 months of this year totaled nearly 96.7 billion pounds, compared with 97.5 billion pounds in January-September 1958. Milk cows in crop reporters' herds produced an average 19.52 pounds of milk per cow on October 1. This was 3 percent above the October 1, 1958 rate per cow. Farmers again reported feeding grain and concentrates to milk cows at record levels. The amount fed on October 1, at 5.71 pounds per cow, was 4 percent above the October 1 rate last year. Dairy pastures were reported as 78 percent of normal on October 1. This was 6 percentage points below the excellent condition of October 1 last year, but 5 points above average for the date. Pastures for milk cows improved during September in the West North Central States and the West, but deteriorated in other sections of the country. As of October 1, pasture feed was generally poor in most Atlantic States from New York to Virginia and westward through Indiana, the Northern Great Plains, and most Western States outside the Pacific Northwest.

Table 1.-Monthly milk production on farms, United States, 1948-57 average, 1958 and 1959

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average 1948-57	1958	1959	$\frac{1959}{1958}$	Average 1948-57	1958	1959
	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan. ....	8,717	9,781	9,754	100	1.78	1.83	1.79
Feb. ....	8,562	9,356	9,344	100	1.92	1.93	1.90
Mar. ....	10,034	10,734	10,667	99	2.05	2.00	1.95
Apr. ....	10,685	11,177	11,171	100	2.26	2.15	2.11
May.....	12,435	12,712	12,595	99	2.54	2.36	2.30
June.....	12,224	12,332	12,152	99	2.58	2.36	2.29
July.....	11,365	11,450	11,224	98	2.32	2.12	2.04
Aug. ....	10,451	10,487	10,335	99	2.12	1.94	1.88
Sept. ...	9,225	9,492	9,413	99	1.94	1.81	1.76
Oct. ....	8,824	9,455			1.78	1.74	
Nov. ....	8,118	8,889			1.70	1.69	
Dec. ....	8,518	9,371			1.72	1.72	
Year...	119,158	125,236			2.06	1.97	

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Table 2.-Monthly milk production on farms, selected States, September 1959 1/

[In millions of pounds]

State	Sept. av. 1948-57	Sept. 1958	Aug. 1959	Sept. 1959	State	Sept. av. 1948-57	Sept. 1958	Aug. 1959	Sept. 1959
N. Y. ....	684	719	716	709	Ga. ....	97	95	96	95
N. J. ....	91	88	93	91	Ky. ....	223	235	272	239
Pa. ....	472	522	542	531	Tenn. ....	213	215	233	213
Ohio.....	452	440	446	427	Ala. ....	104	89	98	92
Ind. ....	319	304	321	296	Miss. ....	117	115	134	118
Ill. ....	408	399	419	375	Ark. ....	107	90	107	94
Mich. ....	442	455	474	452	Okla. ....	140	122	140	127
Wis. ....	1,096	1,210	1,299	1,156	Tex. ....	246	231	249	227
Minn. ....	492	531	611	520	Mont. ....	44	41	43	37
Iowa.....	458	448	487	430	Idaho.....	108	124	145	129
Mo. ....	351	317	360	318	Wyo. ....	18	17	18	17
N. Dak. ..	130	125	157	126	Colo. ....	69	66	71	65
S. Dak. ..	105	107	125	110	Utah.....	51	59	65	61
Nebr. ....	166	154	181	150	Wash. ....	142	154	161	154
Kans. ....	182	151	168	151	Oreg. ....	97	88	104	90
Md. ....	113	130	134	130	Calif. ...	529	613	685	644
Va. ....	181	189	193	193	Other				
W. Va. ...	72	68	73	69	States..	527	578	703	577
N. C. ....	140	150	159	152	U. S. ....	9,225	9,492	10,335	9,413
S. C. ....	49	53	53	48					

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

Table 3.-Dairy product-feed price ratios, by regions, September 15, 1959

Region	Milk-feed 1/				Butterfat-feed 2/			
	Sept. 15, av. 1948-57	Sept. 15, 1958	Aug. 15, 1959	Sept. 15, 1959	Sept. 15, av. 1948-57	Sept. 15, 1958	Aug. 15, 1959	Sept. 15, 1959
N. Atl. ...	1.35	1.48	1.44	1.54	-	-	-	-
E.N.C. ...	1.29	1.34	1.30	1.40	20.3	19.5	19.9	20.6
W.N.C. ...	1.44	1.62	1.45	1.54	24.7	27.5	26.5	27.2
S. Atl. ...	1.48	1.59	1.52	1.59	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. .	1.44	1.55	1.41	1.53	15.9	16.4	16.4	16.6
West. ....	1.31	1.46	1.30	1.37	18.6	19.4	18.4	18.8
U. S. ...	1.35	1.46	1.38	1.48	22.2	24.2	24.0	24.7

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.

Table 4.-Value per 100 pounds of concentrate rations fed to milk cows, by regions, September 15, 1959

[In dollars]

Region	Sept. 15, av. 1948-57	Sept. 15, 1958	July 15, 1959	Aug. 15, 1959	Sept 15, 1959
N. Atl. ....	3.76	3.53	3.54	3.50	3.47
E. N. Cent. ....	3.06	2.74	2.68	2.72	2.67
W. N. Cent. ....	2.69	2.20	2.27	2.30	2.28
S. Atl. ....	3.72	3.45	3.37	3.40	3.37
S. Cent. ....	3.47	3.05	3.06	3.08	3.05
West. ....	3.45	3.01	3.21	3.21	3.21
U. S.					
Milk-selling areas.	3.31	2.95	2.95	2.96	2.93
Cream-selling areas	2.90	2.42	2.43	2.46	2.43
Combined milk and cream areas.....	3.24	2.89	2.90	2.92	2.89

## Milk production continues less than last year

Milk production on farms in the United States was estimated at 9,413 million pounds for September. This was 1 percent less milk than produced in September last year, but 2 percent more than the 1948-57 average for the month. Total output of milk declined 9 percent from August 1959, about the same as the seasonal decrease from August to September last year. Production in the first 9 months of this year totaled 96.7 billion pounds, compared with 97.5 billion pounds in January-September 1958. Milk production in September was sufficient to provide 1.76 pounds per person-- 3 percent less than for the same month last year and 9 percent below the September average.

Among the 36 States with monthly milk production estimates available, September output was a record high for the month in 7, including the heavy milk producing States of California and Pennsylvania. On the other hand, production was below average for September in 19 States. Wisconsin, as usual, led all States in milk production with 1,156 million pounds in September, followed by New York with 709 million, California with 644 million, Pennsylvania with 531 million, and Minnesota with 520 million pounds.

## Rate per cow at new high

Milk cows in crop reporters' herds produced an average 19.52 pounds of milk per cow on October 1. This was 3 percent above the October 1, 1958 rate per cow and nearly one-fourth greater than the 1948-57 average for the date. The October 1 rate was higher than last year in all regions except the East North Central, where production per cow was off 1 percent. The gains from October 1, 1958 ranged from 3 percent in the North Atlantic States to 9 percent in the South Atlantic. Other increases were 4 percent in both in the West North Central and the West, and 8 percent in the South Central. For the country as a whole, output per cow showed only a slight decline from September 1 compared with a decrease of 1 percent from September 1 to October 1 last year. Crop reporters indicated that 71 percent of the cows in their herds were milked on October 1. This is about a 1 percent larger proportion than a year earlier and 3 percent above the October 1 average.

## Feeding rates reach new high

Farmers throughout the United States again reported feeding grain and concentrates to milk cows at record levels. The amount fed on October 1, at 5.71 pounds per cow, was 4 percent above the October 1 rate last year and was about one-fourth more than the 1948-57 average for the date. Feeding rates per cow increased 5 percent between August 1 and October 1, which was about 3 percentage points less than the usual seasonal increase. Advances from August 1 to October 1 this year were shown in all regions except the East North Central, where the amount of grain and concentrates fed per cow was unchanged.

Compared with a year earlier, feeding rates this October 1 were unchanged in the North Atlantic States, but were off 2 percent in the East North Central. Gains occurred in all other regions.

Feeding rates in the North Atlantic States averaged 6.9 pounds per milk cow on October 1 -- still the highest level for the date in all regions. Crop reporters fed an average of 6.2 pounds per milk cow in the West, 5.8 pounds in both the East North Central and South Atlantic, 5.3 pounds in the West North Central, and 4.7 pounds in the South Central region. The quantity of grain and concentrates fed was well above the 10-year October 1 average for all regions, with increases ranging from 15 percent in the North Atlantic to 35 percent in both the South Atlantic and the West. Almost 77 percent of the farmers reported feeding some grain and concentrates to their milk cows on October 1. This was about the same as a year earlier, but above the October 1 average.

### Dairy product-feed price ratios favorable

In mid-September, the value of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows averaged \$2.89 per hundredweight -- the lowest September 15 average since 1945. Dairy product-feed price relationships on September 15 continued relatively favorable. The milk-feed price ratio was the most favorable for the date since 1931. An increase of 2 percent from September 15, 1958 was shown in the butterfat-feed price ratio, which was the highest mid-September ratio since 1948.

### Dairy pastures show usual decline

Dairy pastures in the United States were reported at 78 percent of normal on October 1. This was 6 percentage points below the excellent condition of October 1 last year, but 5 points above the 1948-57 average for the date. Condition declined 1 percentage point from September 1, which was the usual seasonal change between September 1 and October 1. Pastures for milk cows improved during September in the West North Central States and the West, but deteriorated in other sections of the country. As of October 1, pasture feed was generally poor in most Atlantic States from New York to Virginia and westward through Indiana, the Northern Great Plains, and most Western States outside the Pacific Northwest.

Condition of dairy pastures in the East North Central States showed the usual decline during September, but was well above average for October 1. Shortage of moisture in Indiana and Ohio caused pastures to deteriorate rapidly and resulted in decreases of 23 and 34 percentage points, respectively, from the excellent conditions of October 1 last year. Condition was better than usual for October 1 in Illinois, although hot dry weather reduced pasture feed considerably during September. Excellent dairy pastures in Michigan and Wisconsin were well above average for October 1, with those in Wisconsin further improved by September rains.

Generally, dairy pastures in the West North Central States were considerably better than on September 1 in contrast to the usual seasonal decline of 4 percent. General rains were beneficial to grass during September, as condition in all States in the region, except Missouri, improved by October 1. In Missouri pastures were poor and down 20 percentage points from the lush condition of October 1 last year. Badly needed moisture brought limited new growth of grass by October 1 in South Dakota, but condition of pastures for milk cows there and in North Dakota remained at least 20 percentage points below average for the date. In contrast, good pastures in Iowa and Kansas were 17 and 18 percentage points, respectively, above the October 1 average.

Pasture conditions for milk cows in the South Central region were poorer than on October 1 a year earlier, but better than average in all States. Pastures in Kentucky declined sharply during September due to moisture shortage, but were still slightly better than average. Condition in other States in the region were at least 12 percentage points above the October 1 average. Grass improved during September in Alabama, but dairy pastures furnished less green feed than a month earlier in other South Central States. Although poorer than on October 1 last year in Oklahoma and Texas, pastures for milk stock continued good with condition 23 and 24 percentage points, respectively, above average in these States.

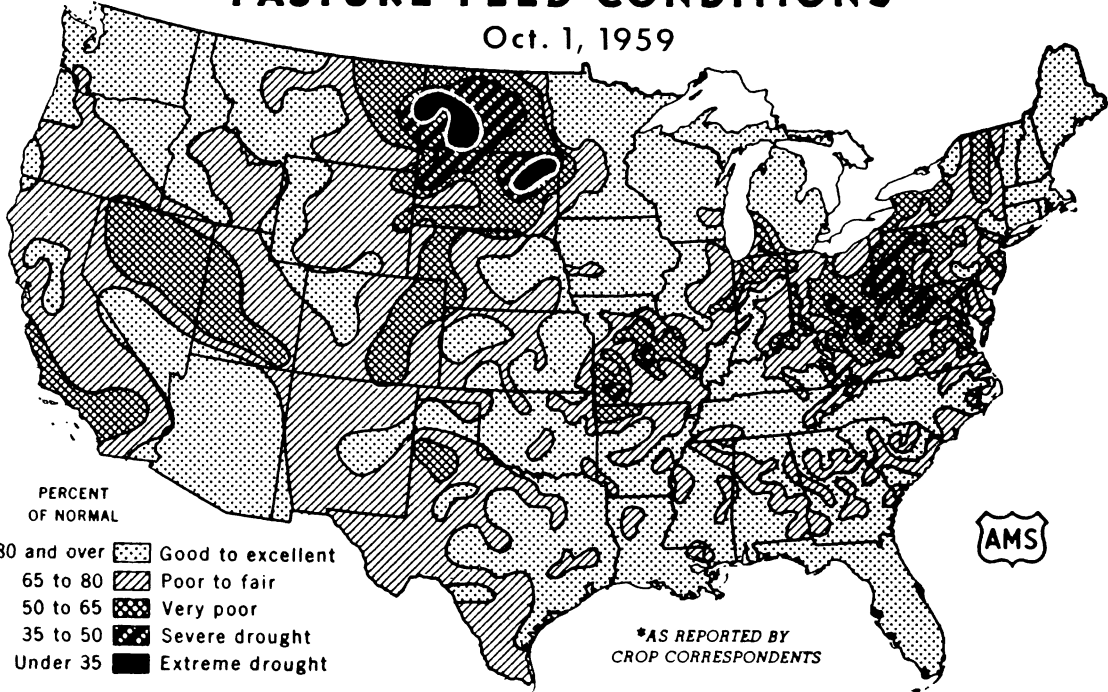
### Pastures below October 1 average along East Coast

In both the Atlantic Coast regions pastures declined during September and did not furnish as much grass as usual for October 1. Dairy pastures were generally excellent in the New England States, but suffered from dry weather in most of the remainder of the North Atlantic region. Pastures deteriorated rapidly in Pennsylvania and were in much poorer condition there and in New York than on October 1 last year. In the South Atlantic region condition of dairy pastures ranged from very poor to excellent. Pastures in the upper South Atlantic States declined during September due to lack of moisture and by October 1 were well below last year and average in most States.






Continued-

# PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS\*

Oct. 1, 1959



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

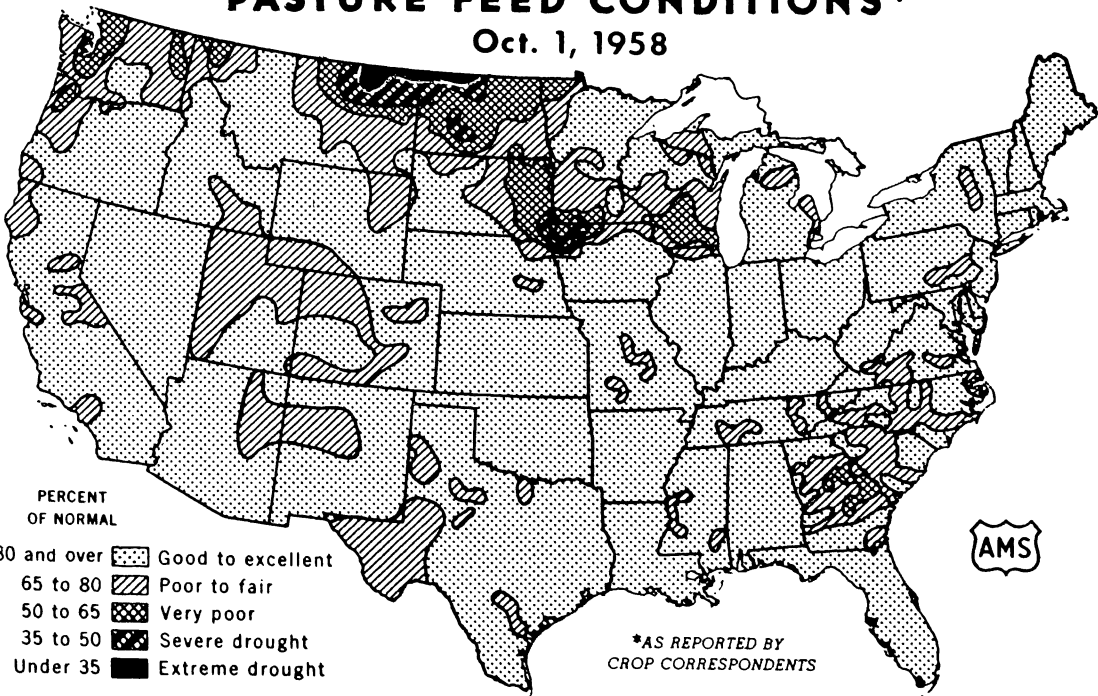
\*INDICATES CURRENT SUPPLY OF PASTURE FEED FOR GRAZING RELATIVE TO THAT EXPECTED FROM EXISTING STANDS UNDER VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE






NEG. 7516-59 (10) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

# PASTURE FEED CONDITIONS\*

Oct. 1, 1958



PERCENT OF NORMAL

- 80 and over  Good to excellent
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- 35 to 50  Severe drought
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\*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. 6558-58 (10) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Table 5.-Milk produced per milk cow and percent of milk cows milked in herds kept by reporters 1/

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow 2/			Percent of milk cows milked		
	Oct. 1, av. 1948-57	Oct. 1, 1958	Oct. 1, 1959	Oct. 1, av. 1948-57	Oct. 1, 1958	Oct. 1, 1959
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent
Me. ....	18.8	23.3	22.3	80.4	83.0	80.8
N. H. ....	19.6	22.4	23.2	77.9	76.8	77.8
Vt. ....	17.4	20.7	20.5	74.4	75.8	75.6
Mass. ....	20.2	23.8	23.5	79.6	78.6	80.5
Conn. ....	20.6	23.6	23.4	78.4	77.2	78.7
N. Y. ....	20.1	22.8	23.0	75.9	75.3	77.3
N. J. ....	22.2	23.4	24.9	78.5	78.9	79.0
Pa. ....	19.8	22.4	23.4	76.8	77.6	78.1
N. Atl. ....	20.03	22.59	23.21	76.6	77.3	78.0
Ohio. ....	19.3	23.8	22.1	75.3	77.1	76.3
Ind. ....	17.9	21.1	20.8	72.7	74.3	74.4
Ill. ....	17.7	21.1	21.6	69.3	74.2	73.9
Mich. ....	20.4	24.8	24.7	79.3	79.7	79.7
Wis. ....	17.2	20.5	20.7	73.3	73.2	72.7
E. N. Cent. ....	18.26	21.98	21.68	73.9	75.0	74.6
Minn. ....	14.3	16.5	16.6	62.6	63.2	63.9
Iowa. ....	16.8	19.5	19.8	67.4	68.8	68.4
Mo. ....	14.4	15.3	16.7	68.1	68.7	70.0
N. Dak. ....	12.9	15.4	15.6	61.5	60.4	61.2
S. Dak. ....	12.6	14.6	15.9	61.1	61.7	65.5
Nebr. ....	14.8	16.3	17.5	65.9	61.2	70.9
Kans. ....	14.5	16.7	17.6	64.3	64.4	66.6
W. N. Cent. ....	14.50	16.52	17.20	64.4	64.4	65.9
Md. ....	18.8	21.6	21.8	74.9	75.6	75.5
Va. ....	16.8	20.9	21.6	72.1	75.3	77.6
W. Va. ....	14.5	17.1	17.6	72.8	73.6	73.9
N. C. ....	14.9	18.1	18.2	72.4	74.5	74.0
S. C. ....	12.3	13.4	13.0	67.4	68.0	65.6
Ga. ....	10.6	12.8	13.5	59.8	60.3	60.0
S. Atl. ....	14.79	17.52	19.15	69.8	73.0	73.4
Ky. ....	14.0	16.2	16.8	69.9	69.2	70.0
Tenn. ....	12.2	14.1	15.1	69.6	72.2	68.8
Ala. ....	8.9	8.8	9.0	56.6	52.0	48.5
Miss. ....	7.8	8.0	8.7	57.2	61.1	59.8
Ark. ....	9.7	11.2	12.2	58.4	57.8	60.1
La. ....	7.3	8.3	9.1	46.7	52.6	59.5
Okla. ....	11.2	13.5	14.9	58.1	61.9	61.2
Tex. ....	9.3	11.0	11.4	53.5	53.3	55.1
S. Cent. ....	10.82	12.98	13.99	61.0	63.0	63.5
Mont. ....	16.4	19.8	16.8	68.8	68.3	67.9
Idaho. ....	19.8	21.7	21.5	76.0	75.6	76.8
Wyo. ....	18.0	19.4	21.0	69.5	70.3	72.9
Colo. ....	16.6	18.4	19.6	69.1	69.6	72.9
Utah. ....	20.6	22.8	24.2	76.3	78.8	79.6
Wash. ....	20.6	23.2	24.8	78.1	79.8	78.8
Oreg. ....	17.9	20.0	20.0	77.8	79.8	78.1
Calif. ....	21.7	27.8	26.7	78.6	82.7	80.0
West. ....	19.54	23.00	23.95	75.7	77.8	77.9
U. S. ....	16.02	18.91	19.52	69.4	70.9	71.4

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).

Table 6.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, and "grain" fed per milk cow in herds kept by reporters

State and division	Dairy pasture feed condition <u>1/</u>			"Grain" fed per milk cow <u>2/</u>		
	Oct. 1, av. 1948-57	Oct. 1, 1958	Oct. 1, 1959	Oct. 1, av. 1948-57	Oct. 1, 1958	Oct. 1, 1959
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Me. ....	75	93	89	5.6	6.3	6.2
N. H. ....	76	91	93	5.0	5.8	6.4
Vt. ....	78	89	86	4.7	5.7	5.5
Mass. ....	71	91	89	5.9	6.6	6.6
Conn. ....	73	93	86	6.2	7.4	7.1
N. Y. ....	75	90	69	5.8	6.9	6.7
N. J. ....	71	85	73	7.2	7.6	7.5
Pa. ....	72	88	60	6.8	7.3	7.8
N. Atl. ....	73	89	69	6.0	6.9	6.9
Ohio. ....	76	97	63	5.4	6.2	7.3
Ind. ....	77	96	73	5.0	6.1	6.4
Ill. ....	75	91	78	5.0	5.7	6.1
Mich. ....	78	88	87	5.4	6.3	6.4
Wis. ....	75	73	92	4.1	5.6	4.9
E. N. Cent. ....	76	85	82	4.8	5.9	5.8
Minn. ....	76	75	83	3.4	4.3	4.8
Iowa. ....	76	90	93	5.0	5.8	5.9
Mo. ....	65	88	68	4.4	5.2	5.8
N. Dak. ....	73	58	52	3.2	4.3	4.7
S. Dak. ....	73	63	53	2.9	4.2	4.2
Nebr. ....	72	87	75	3.6	5.0	5.2
Kans. ....	64	91	82	4.4	6.0	6.4
W. N. Cent. ....	72	82	79	4.0	5.0	5.3
Md. ....	79	87	64	6.3	6.2	7.1
Va. ....	76	86	67	4.5	5.6	7.0
W. Va. ....	76	91	51	3.0	3.4	4.3
N. C. ....	74	81	86	4.6	5.8	6.1
S. C. ....	70	77	82	4.1	5.0	4.9
Ga. ....	72	78	82	4.0	4.9	5.1
S. Atl. ....	75	84	73	4.3	5.2	5.8
Ky. ....	72	92	75	3.6	4.3	5.1
Tenn. ....	68	87	84	3.7	4.6	4.7
Ala. ....	70	87	82	3.8	4.0	4.2
Miss. ....	69	89	83	2.7	3.4	3.8
Ark. ....	65	92	80	3.1	3.9	4.2
La. ....	74	93	88	3.1	4.0	4.0
Okla. ....	62	91	85	3.8	5.4	5.6
Tex. ....	57	88	81	4.4	6.0	5.5
S. Cent. ....	65	90	82	3.6	4.6	4.7
Mont. ....	79	74	74	3.1	4.1	4.0
Idaho. ....	84	84	86	3.7	4.2	4.7
Wyo. ....	75	83	73	3.0	3.3	4.4
Colo. ....	67	83	69	4.7	5.9	5.2
Utah. ....	76	75	73	4.1	4.8	5.0
Wash. ....	76	62	81	4.7	5.9	6.1
Oreg. ....	74	77	84	4.7	4.8	4.8
Calif. ....	76	85	70	5.0	6.5	7.5
West. ....	75	79	76	4.6	5.7	6.2
U. S. ....	73	84	78	4.48	5.50	5.71

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.

2/ 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. Includes grain, millfeeds, and other concentrates.

Official Business

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(Continued from page 4)

In West Virginia condition was very poor and dropped 40 percentage points from October 1 last year. In contrast, dairy pastures showed gains from both October 1 last year and average in the lower South Atlantic States.

October 1 condition of dairy pastures showed sharp variations in the West due to the frequency and amount of moisture received in the several States. For the region as a whole, pastures were not as good as the ones of last year, but were slightly better than usual for the date. In California condition lagged far below October 1 last year and pastures supplied considerably less grass for milk cows than usual. Precipitation was generally ample during September in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, and resulted in lush pastures for milk stock. Recent rains improved conditions in Montana and Utah.