

MILK PRODUCTION

September 11, 1964

SUMMARY

Milk production in the United States during August is estimated at 10,177 million pounds, slightly above both August 1963 and the 1958-62 average for the month. The seasonal decline in production from July to August was 6 percent this year, compared with 7 percent in 1963. August milk production amounted to 1.71 pounds per person daily compared with 1.72 pounds in August 1963. Production per cow averaged 636 pounds for the month of August, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Pasture condition deteriorated during August. Condition as a percent of normal averaged 65 percent for the United States on September 1. A year earlier it was 73 percent, and the 1958-62 average for the date is 80 percent. From August 1 to September 1, dairy pasture condition declined 4 percentage points, compared with the 5-year average seasonal decline of 2 points.

Table 1.-Milk per cow and milk production by months, United States, 1964 with comparisons

Month	Milk per cow			Milk production			
	Average 1958-62	1963	1964	Average 1958-62	1963	1964	Change from 1963
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
January.....	549	599	620	9,867	10,065	10,066	0
February....	526	565	608	9,421	9,470	9,842	+3.9
March.....	603	651	681	10,778	10,879	11,007	+1.2
April.....	622	672	704	11,088	11,196	11,346	+1.3
May.....	694	742	767	12,331	12,315	12,330	+0.1
June.....	671	715	734	11,901	11,841	11,790	-0.4
July.....	617	658	675	10,913	10,861	10,824	-0.3
August.....	573	615	636	10,114	10,130	10,177	+0.5
September...	536	582		9,450	9,558		
October.....	540	584		9,489	9,557		
November....	516	564		9,054	9,205		
December....	547	596		9,580	9,706		
Annual....	6,995	7,545		123,986	124,783		

Table 2.-Monthly milk per cow and milk production
August 1964, with comparisons

State	Monthly milk per cow 1/			Milk production			
	August av. 1958-62 2/	August 1963	August 1964	August av. 1958-62 2/	August 1963	August 1964	Change from 1963
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	765	765	-	69	68	- 1
New Hampshire.....	-	655	675	-	33	32	- 3
Vermont.....	-	635	635	-	161	157	- 2
Massachusetts.....	-	760	765	-	66	64	- 3
Rhode Island.....	-	770	765	-	9.3	8.8	- 5
Connecticut.....	-	770	780	-	59	57	- 3
New York.....	608	657	665	761	794	795	0
New Jersey.....	719	772	790	93	90	88	- 2
Pennsylvania.....	623	675	695	549	568	567	0
Ohio.....	644	724	770	438	451	461	+ 2
Indiana.....	659	735	765	286	291	298	+ 2
Illinois.....	645	690	690	374	346	328	- 5
Michigan.....	694	740	770	449	462	477	+ 3
Wisconsin.....	620	640	655	1,337	1,360	1,385	+ 2
Minnesota.....	494	515	540	632	650	677	+ 4
Iowa.....	578	615	630	496	483	481	0
Missouri.....	525	540	550	349	326	316	- 3
North Dakota.....	522	565	590	147	144	146	+ 1
South Dakota.....	460	495	495	115	113	111	- 2
Nebraska.....	535	555	570	175	157	153	- 3
Kansas.....	469	510	530	158	154	153	- 1
Delaware.....	-	625	630	-	15.0	14.5	- 3
Maryland.....	616	645	660	134	137	137	0
Virginia.....	560	560	590	187	172	173	+ 1
West Virginia.....	444	450	465	58	50	49	- 2
North Carolina.....	497	535	560	135	133	137	+ 3
South Carolina.....	418	445	475	47	44	44	0
Georgia.....	400	435	465	87	83	85	+ 2
Florida.....	512	585	610	96	102	107	+ 5
Kentucky.....	519	580	600	263	277	275	- 1
Tennessee.....	467	475	490	232	225	220	- 2
Alabama.....	352	387	396	87	83	80	- 4
Mississippi.....	321	360	370	118	108	104	- 4
Arkansas.....	407	430	445	91	81	77	- 5
Louisiana.....	-	360	390	-	78	81	+ 4
Oklahoma.....	485	535	550	125	113	109	- 4
Texas.....	440	474	504	256	244	244	0
Montana.....	507	525	530	40	37	36	- 3
Idaho.....	703	712	715	141	137	134	- 2
Wyoming.....	565	593	590	17.1	15.4	14.8	- 4
Colorado.....	581	660	670	72	73	70	- 4
New Mexico.....	-	575	585	-	23	24	+ 4
Arizona.....	-	770	790	-	39	41	+ 5
Utah.....	671	700	720	64	63	62	- 2
Nevada.....	646	760	780	9.7	10.6	10.9	+ 3
Washington.....	710	781	800	166	173	173	0
Oregon.....	641	670	675	103	96	93	- 3
California.....	846	904	950	694	720	745	+ 3
Alaska.....	-	770	820	-	2.0	2.0	0
Hawaii.....	-	725	815	-	10.1	11.6	+15
United States.....	573	615	636	10,114	10,130	10,177	+ 0.5

1/ Monthly rate based on all milk cows on farms (in milk or dry).

2/ Five-year averages not available for States where not shown.

August milk production slightly above a year earlier

Milk production in the United States during August is estimated at 10,177 million pounds. This is slightly above the 10,130 million pounds produced in August 1963, also slightly above the 1958-62 average for the month. The seasonal decline in production from July to August was 6 percent this year compared with 7 percent in 1963. Relative to population, August milk production amounted to 1.71 pounds per person daily compared with 1.72 pounds in August 1963.

Milk production in August was below a year earlier in 28 States. The slight increase from a year earlier in U. S. production resulted mostly from gains of 2 percent or more in several important midwestern States and in California. New record highs in August production were set in 8 States -- Wisconsin, Florida, Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, and Hawaii.

August production per cow up 3 percent from last year

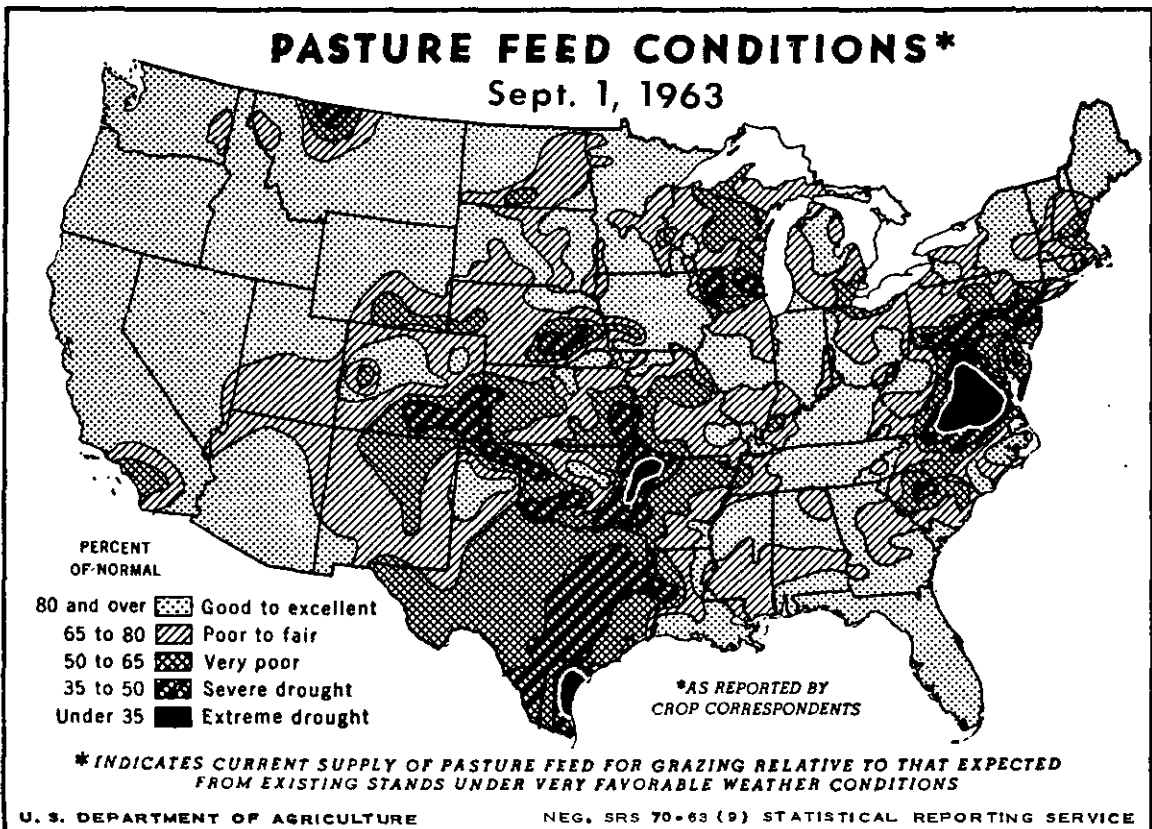
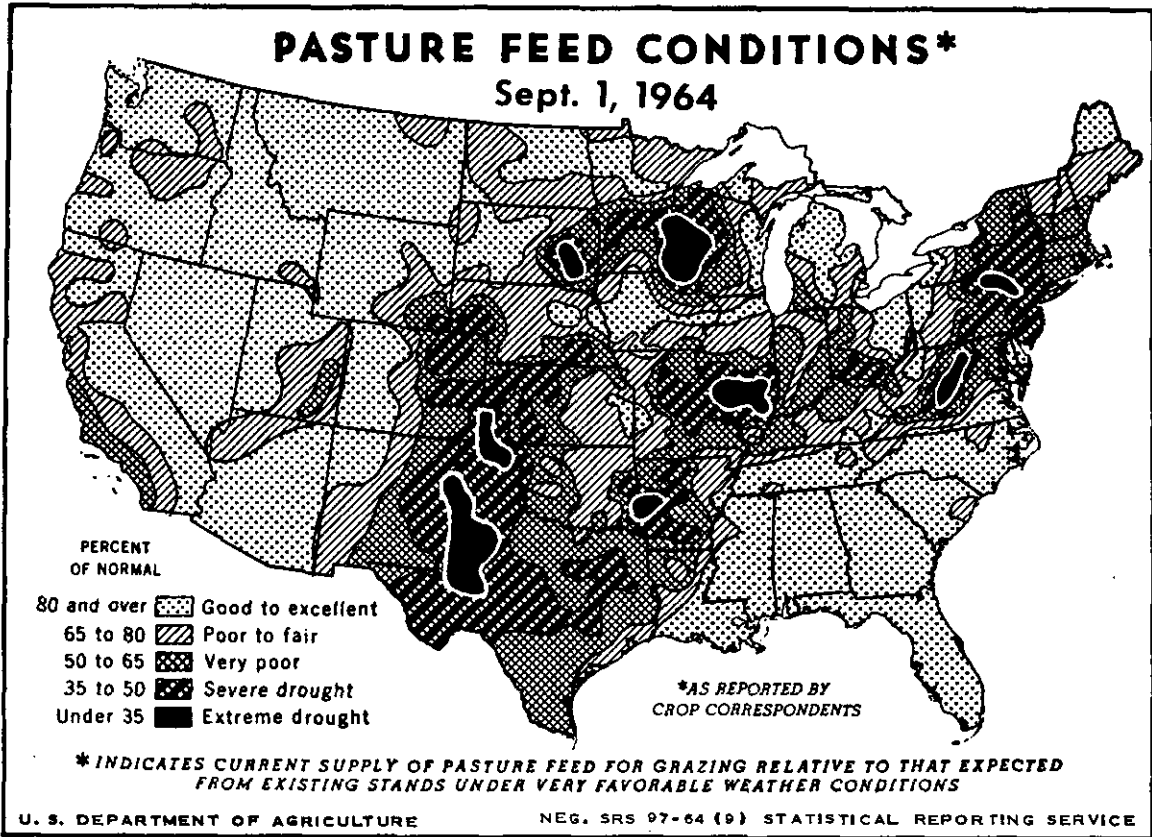
Milk production per cow averaged 636 pounds for the month of August, up 3 percent from a year earlier. On a daily basis, August 1964 output averaged 20.5 pounds per cow, down 6 percent from July. In 1963, the seasonal decline in rate per cow from July to August was 7 percent. Production per cow was at a record high level for August in 47 States. The leading States in August output per cow were California, Alaska, Hawaii, Washington; with New Jersey and Arizona tied for 5th place.

Milk-feed price ratio 1 percent above August 1963

The milk-feed price ratio for August, at 1.36, was 1 percent higher than a year earlier but 2 percent below the 1958-62 average for the month. Seasonally, the increase of 5 percent from July was equal to the average change between July and August. The change from a year earlier resulted from an increase in wholesale milk prices and a decrease in ration values. In cream producing areas, the milkfat-feed price ratio was 23.4 -- up 3 percent from August last year. The 5-year average for August is 24.6.

September 1 pasture condition 15 points below average

Condition of dairy pastures as a percent of normal averaged 65 percent for the United States on September 1. This compares with 73 percent a year ago and the 1958-62 average for the date of 80 percent. From August 1 to September 1, dairy pasture feed condition declined 4 percentage points, compared with the 5-year average seasonal decline during August of 2 percentage points. During the first week of August temperatures averaged above normal over most of the western half of the nation, the lower Mississippi Valley, and the Ohio Valley. At the same time, temperatures of 100 degrees or more were recorded in many areas of the South Central States. For the remainder of the month below normal temperatures dominated in most areas of the United States. Above normal amounts of rainfall were received in much of the Plains area except the Dakotas; a large area in the Northwest centered in Idaho; in eastern Arizona and western New Mexico; and in much of the great Lakes area. The South Atlantic States received above normal amounts of rainfall from hurricane Cleo at the end of the month.



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Pasture feed conditions were unusually poor in the North Atlantic States on September 1 -- particularly in New York and New Jersey. All States in this region show condition 14 or more percentage points below the 5-year average for the date and, except for Pennsylvania, pasture condition in all States of the area was 7 or more percentage points below a year earlier. New Jersey's pastures literally dried-up during August as pasture feed condition on September 1 was 22 points below August 1. Pastures ranged from good or excellent in western Pennsylvania to extreme drought in the northeastern part of the State. In New York, pastures furnished less than normal amounts of feed during early August in the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys, most of northern New York and area south of the Finger Lakes, but scattered showers in mid-August and general rains on the 22nd and 23rd improved conditions.

In Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, pasture feed condition on September 1 was much below the 5-year average for the date. Limited rainfall during August coupled with high temperatures in the early part of the month resulted in rapid deterioration of pasture grasses in Delaware and Maryland. Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and northern area pastures were described as "burned out". No crops were being harvested from alfalfa or other late hays and corn was a poor feed for "green chop" and silage. Dairy cows were on full winter feeding schedules. By contrast,

Table 3.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, September 1, 1964, with comparisons 1/

State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1958-62	Sept. 1, 1963	Sept. 1, 1964	State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1958-62	Sept. 1, 1963	Sept. 1, 1964
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	86	83	72	N. C.	88	68	89
N. H.	86	70	57	S. C.	80	64	87
Vt.	83	78	68	Ga.	81	82	90
Mass.	82	68	55	Fla.	86	89	92
R. I.	79	85	64	S. Atl. ..	84	64	74
Conn.	87	83	59	Ky.	85	88	63
N. Y.	76	79	54	Tenn.	82	83	84
N. J.	82	49	42	Ala.	80	82	90
Pa.	75	60	61	Miss.	80	80	87
N. Atl.	78	72	58	Ark.	80	57	55
Ohio.....	80	77	70	La.	79	78	82
Ind.	86	86	61	Okla.	86	54	59
Ill.	85	76	54	Tex.	77	48	51
Mich.	81	74	77	S. Cent. .	81	68	67
Wis.	77	60	51	Mont.	71	86	89
E. N. Cent. .	81	71	60	Idaho.....	83	91	90
Minn.	75	82	58	Wyo.	74	81	80
Iowa.....	91	84	74	Colo.	77	69	57
Mo.	74	67	58	N. Mex.	81	72	51
N. Dak.	62	78	76	Ariz.	83	87	88
S. Dak.	66	82	59	Utah.....	71	80	81
Nebr.	83	68	66	Nev.	80	88	88
Kans.	86	63	62	Wash.	72	90	91
W. N. Cent. .	79	77	64	Oreg.	78	89	85
Del.	83	51	49	Calif.	77	89	72
Md.	78	54	54	West.	76	86	79
Va.	87	42	60	U. S.	80	73	65
W. Va.	84	77	67				

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

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September 1 pasture condition was rated good to excellent in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida. This resulted from late July and early August rainfall combined with favorable growing temperatures. Hurricane Cleo brought additional heavy rainfall in late August.

Except in Kentucky, pasture feed condition improved during August in the South Central States. Nevertheless, pasture condition was more than 20 percentage points below the average for September 1 in Kentucky, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Above normal temperatures prevailed early in August when 100 degrees or more was recorded at many weather stations. Relief occurred about mid-month with cooler temperatures and rainfall. After more rain was received on the 20th through 23rd and near the end of the month, many droughty areas began to improve. However, there are still some very dry areas in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Pastures in Illinois and Indiana deteriorated rapidly during August as rainfall was limited to scattered showers from late July to late August, combined with above normal temperatures in early August. Substantial rainfall was received in the area on the 22nd and 23rd of August; however, this was not sufficient to relieve the drought situation in a large part of southern Illinois. Much of western Wisconsin was also hit by drought condition. Although 26 percentage points below average for September 1, Wisconsin's September 1 pasture condition was only 1 point below August 1.

Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Kansas each had large drought areas at the end of August. Although these areas received rains late in August, reporters were not optimistic about the prospects of recovery for late fall grazing. Pasture feed conditions were below average in all West North Central States except North Dakota. Condition declined sharply from August 1 to September 1 in Iowa, Missouri, and North Dakota. Pastures in the southern part of the Nebraska Panhandle were "dry and brown" on September 1, and provided practically no feed. In other areas of the State, moisture conditions were favorable, but any new growth of pasture grasses will be consumed rapidly. In Kansas, pastures in the

Table 4.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, August 1964, with comparisons

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	August av. 1958-62	August 1963	July 1964	August 1964	August av. 1958-62	August 1963	July 1964	August 1964
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl.	4.88	4.70	4.52	4.76	3.51	3.58	3.55	3.52
E. N. Cent. ..	3.63	3.63	3.49	3.65	2.73	2.80	2.81	2.82
W. N. Cent. ..	3.39	3.39	3.31	3.41	2.28	2.44	2.45	2.42
S. Atl.	5.20	5.27	5.18	5.25	3.39	3.50	3.37	3.35
S. Cent.	4.36	4.39	4.27	4.40	3.06	3.18	3.14	3.13
West.	4.15	4.17	4.13	4.19	3.14	3.18	3.22	3.20
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.11	4.08	3.94	4.10	2.95	3.04	3.03	3.01
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.43	2.54	2.53	2.50
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.91	3.02	3.01	2.99

Table 5.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, August 1964, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	August av. 1958-62	August 1963	July 1964	August 1964	August av. 1958-62	August 1963	July 1964	August 1964
N. Atl.	1.39	1.31	1.27	1.35	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.33	1.30	1.24	1.29	20.2	19.8	19.5	19.6
W. N. Cent. ..	1.48	1.39	1.35	1.41	26.8	24.1	24.1	24.5
S. Atl.	1.54	1.51	1.54	1.57	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.43	1.38	1.36	1.41	16.6	16.2	16.3	16.4
West.	1.32	1.31	1.28	1.31	18.5	18.2	18.0	18.1
U. S.	1.39	1.34	1.30	1.36	24.6	22.8	23.0	23.4

1/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of whole milk sold by farmers.

2/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of milkfat in cream sold by farmers.

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Western area of the State were generally "brown and dormant" due to sustained shortages of moisture. Limited amounts of volunteer wheat pastures were being utilized, and some farmers chopped drought damaged sorghum where pastures failed to provide the necessary feed requirements. In Missouri, pastures were beginning to show improvement from recent rains but recovery was expected to be slow due to over-grazed conditions.

In the Western States, pasture feed condition declined seasonally at about the average rate during August but September 1 condition in Colorado and in New Mexico was considerably below average. In these States, along with California, September 1 condition was substantially below a year ago. Although rainfall was limited during August, below normal temperatures were beneficial to most western areas. Pastures were mature or in the curing stage in Montana on September 1. Temperatures dropped below freezing in scattered localities of eastern Idaho late in August. Showers during part of August helped to maintain pasture feed in Oregon. Irrigated pastures in California are in good condition but dryland pastures in the southern part of the State are in poor condition. In Colorado, lack of moisture on the eastern slope has resulted in a drop in pasture condition since July; grasses are parched and making no growth, and outlook for fall growth is bleak.

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