

MILK PRODUCTION

September 12, 1966

SUMMARY

Milk output in the United States during August is estimated at 9,799 million pounds, about 2 percent below a year earlier and the smallest August production since 1939. Production provided 1.60 pounds per person daily, 4 percent less than production per capita in August a year ago. For the first 8 months this year, milk production totaled about 4 percent less than in the same period last year. Milk output per cow in August averaged 676 pounds, 3.5 percent above a year earlier.

Reported dairy pasture feed condition on September 1 averaged 75 percent of normal -- unchanged from both a year earlier and average. Condition improved 8 percentage points during August in contrast to the 1960-64 average decrease of 2 points during the month. Below normal temperatures over most of the Nation in August coincided with above normal rainfall to revive pasture growth. The milk-feed price ratio for August was 1.53, an increase of 11 percent from a year earlier.

Table 1.-Milk per cow and milk production, by months, United States, 1966, with comparisons

Month	Milk per cow			Milk production			
	Average 1960-64	1965	1966	Average 1960-64	1965	1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
January.....	587	658	658	10,028	10,419	9,865	-5.3
February.....	565	622	620	9,634	9,820	9,254	-5.8
March.....	642	709	716	10,932	11,155	10,645	-4.6
April.....	659	722	735	11,197	11,305	10,874	-3.8
May.....	728	782	794	12,347	12,206	11,707	-4.1
June.....	701	756	780	11,872	11,742	11,397	-2.9
July.....	644	702	722	10,888	10,856	10,506	-3.2
August.....	602	653	676	10,158	10,046	9,799	-2.5
Jan.-Aug. total.	-	-	-	87,056	87,549	84,047	-4.0
September.....	567	615		9,555	9,404		
October.....	573	621		9,634	9,446		
November.....	551	602		9,252	9,106		
December.....	584	635		9,788	9,556		
Annual.....	7,407	8,080		125,285	125,061		

Table 2.-Monthly milk per cow and milk production
August 1966, with comparisons

State	Monthly milk per cow ^{1/}			Milk production			
	August av. 1960-64 ^{2/}	August 1965	August 1966	August av. 1960-64 ^{2/}	August 1965	August 1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	800	820	-	65	63	- 3
New Hampshire.....	-	735	775	-	32	31	- 3
Vermont.....	-	685	715	-	160	154	- 4
Massachusetts.....	-	820	835	-	63	61	- 3
Rhode Island.....	-	820	850	-	8.5	7.9	- 7
Connecticut.....	-	825	850	-	59	58	- 2
New York.....	644	696	695	793	812	764	- 6
New Jersey.....	754	810	820	92	85	80	- 6
Pennsylvania.....	657	710	735	563	555	547	- 1
Ohio.....	693	760	770	445	429	410	- 4
Indiana.....	702	780	800	285	280	262	- 6
Illinois.....	676	725	760	355	321	307	- 4
Michigan.....	727	795	815	459	477	452	- 5
Wisconsin.....	637	690	700	1,357	1,428	1,396	- 2
Minnesota.....	512	540	570	651	660	644	- 2
Iowa.....	602	615	670	491	447	438	- 2
Missouri.....	535	550	580	333	296	285	- 4
North Dakota.....	553	590	620	145	132	123	- 7
South Dakota.....	483	520	560	115	115	115	0
Nebraska.....	556	565	605	167	151	151	0
Kansas.....	501	555	605	156	147	145	- 1
Delaware.....	-	645	655	-	14.2	13.8	- 3
Maryland.....	633	675	680	135	136	134	- 1
Virginia.....	573	625	625	181	174	168	- 3
West Virginia.....	449	465	470	53	47	44	- 6
North Carolina.....	523	580	595	134	134	134	0
South Carolina.....	437	485	515	44	42	42	0
Georgia.....	431	515	540	85	87	85	- 2
Florida.....	561	610	630	102	108	113	+ 5
Kentucky.....	549	610	620	265	261	250	- 4
Tennessee.....	478	500	500	229	220	210	- 5
Alabama.....	371	420	440	83	81	80	- 1
Mississippi.....	348	385	410	112	102	101	- 1
Arkansas.....	426	485	515	84	78	75	- 4
Louisiana.....	-	405	440	-	82	85	+ 4
Oklahoma.....	519	585	620	117	110	110	0
Texas.....	472	535	585	251	244	251	+ 3
Montana.....	520	540	530	38	35	33	- 6
Idaho.....	717	730	750	139	130	124	- 5
Wyoming.....	586	635	640	16.4	16.2	15.7	- 3
Colorado.....	623	660	695	72	69	71	+ 3
New Mexico.....	-	610	620	-	24	26	+ 8
Arizona.....	-	840	860	-	43	45	+ 5
Utah.....	688	740	775	63	63	62	- 2
Nevada.....	699	830	855	10.4	11.5	11.5	0
Washington.....	753	815	830	171	173	171	- 1
Oregon.....	663	710	710	99	91	87	- 4
California.....	893	939	975	718	733	749	+ 2
Alaska.....	753	815	790	2.00	1.87	1.58	-16
Hawaii.....	763	855	840	10.7	12.7	12.5	- 2
United States.....	602	653	676	10,158	10,046	9,799	- 2.5

^{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 output 2 percent below last year

Milk output in the United States during August is estimated at 9,799 million pounds, 2.5 percent below a year earlier and the smallest August production since 1939. Production declined about 7 percent from July to August, about the same seasonal decline as in 1965. Relative to population, August milk output provided 1.60 pounds per person daily, 4 percent less than production per capita a year earlier. For the first 8 months of this year, milk production totaled about 4 percent less than in the corresponding period last year.

August milk production was below a year earlier in all of the 10 leading States except California where output gained 2 percent. In the important North Central States, production continued below a year earlier through August in all States except South Dakota and Nebraska. However, for most States in this region, August production was closer to a year earlier than in July.

August output per cow shows good gain over 1965

Milk output per cow in August averaged 676 pounds for the United States, 3.5 percent above a year earlier. This was the largest year-to-year gain in monthly production per cow since July 1965. August rates per cow were record highs in 46 States. The average daily rate of 21.8 pounds per cow in August was down 6 percent from July, slightly less than the corresponding seasonal decline in 1965.

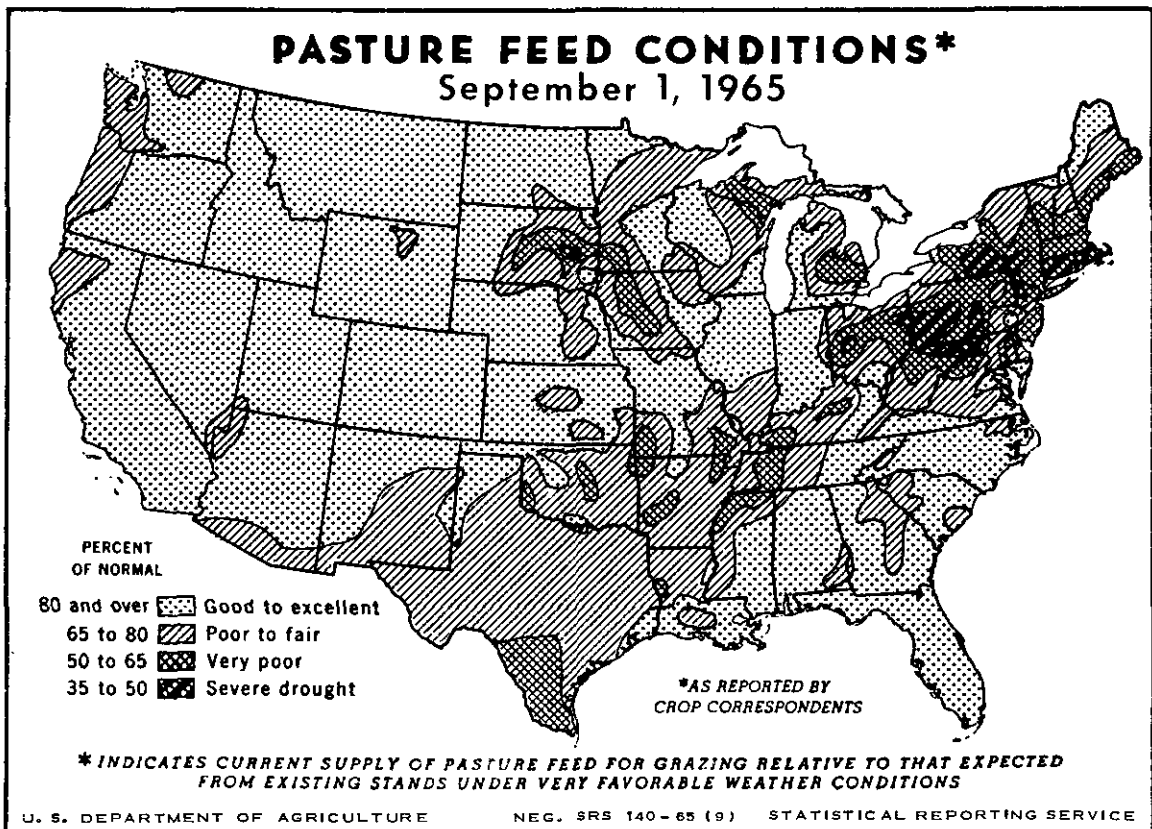
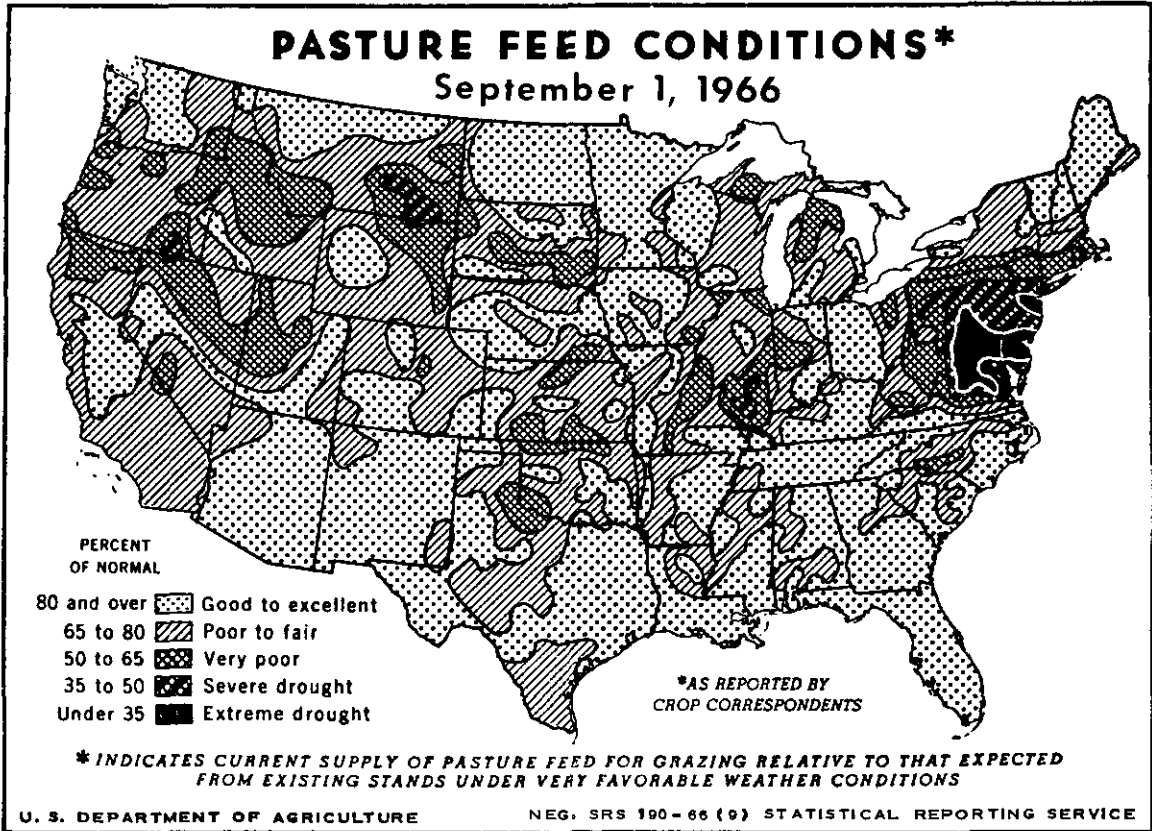
California was the leading State in August milk output per cow with 975 pounds. Other high rates were 860 pounds per cow in Arizona, 855 pounds in Nevada, 850 pounds in both Rhode Island and Connecticut, and 840 pounds in Hawaii.

Milk-feed price ratio up 11 percent

The August milk-feed price ratio at 1.53 was 11 percent above both a year earlier and the 1960-64 average for the month. The ratio was up 3 percent from July compared with the average rise of 5 percent. The year-to-year change in the ratio reflects a 17-percent gain in wholesale milk prices and a 5-percent increase in the value of concentrate rations. In cream-selling areas, the August milkfat-feed price ratio was 24.8. This compares with 23.0 for August last year and 24.4, the average.

Pastures improved sharply during August

Reported dairy pasture feed condition on September 1 for the United States averaged 75 percent of normal -- unchanged from a year ago and the 1960-64 average for the date. Pasture condition improved 8 percentage points during August in contrast to an average decrease of 2 points during the month. Below normal temperatures over most of the Nation in August coincided with above normal rainfall to revive pasture growth.



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During August, most areas of Vermont, New Hampshire, and parts of Maine received normal rainfall, but southern New England had below normal precipitation which resulted in relatively poor pastures. Although pastures improved from August 1 to September 1 in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, they deteriorated substantially from both a year earlier and average in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In these two States pastures were supplying a limited amount of forage in late August. Hay feeding was at winter-feeding level, while green feed supplies were limited.

Pasture feed condition improved in all of the North Central States except Iowa during August. Missouri pastures improved 24 points, followed by Kansas with 17 points. Prospects improved for fall pastures in Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, and Minnesota as near-normal August rainfall combined with below normal temperatures to revive and stimulate pasture growth. For most areas of Kansas, fall prospects for grazing of wheat were good on September 1 and some limited grazing of volunteer wheat had begun.

Droughty pasture feed condition continued in Delaware, Maryland, and northern areas of Virginia. However, conditions were much improved from a month earlier in southern Virginia, West Virginia, and the Carolinas, where drought conditions were relieved early in August and pastures responded to favorable temperatures and soil moisture.

Cooler temperatures and widespread rainfall during August brought rapid improvement in pasture feed condition in the South Central States. Gains in reported condition in this region ranged from 10 points in Mississippi to 28 points in Arkansas. Soil moisture was reported "best since last April" in Kentucky and generally adequate or better in Tennessee.

Above normal temperatures and less than usual rainfall caused pastures to mature and cure early in most Western States. Livestock on dryland pastures needed supplemental roughage, while most irrigated pastures provided normal amounts of roughage. In California, irrigated pastures suffered from extreme heat and dryland pastures dried up prematurely. Pastures in Colorado improved contra-seasonally during August and prospects improved for fall grazing -- following good rains and below normal temperatures. Pastures improved, 3 points in Wyoming from August 1 and 11 points in New Mexico.

Table 3.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, September 1, 1966, with comparisons 1/

State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1960-64	Sept. 1, 1965	Sept. 1, 1966	State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1960-64	Sept. 1, 1965	Sept. 1, 1966
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	80	64	82	N. C.	83	90	79
N. H.	76	59	78	S. C.	78	83	81
Vt.	79	71	84	Ga.	83	81	84
Mass.	71	55	65	Fla.	86	88	87
R. I.	73	52	60	S. Atl. . .	77	77	68
Conn.	77	54	57	Ky.	79	68	84
N. Y.	72	60	71	Tenn.	79	76	87
N. J.	66	51	33	Ala.	81	86	80
Pa.	66	58	49	Miss.	78	76	79
N. Atl.	71	60	64	Ark.	67	71	82
Ohio.	75	62	84	La.	76	79	85
Ind.	80	86	71	Okla.	73	76	74
Ill.	75	85	67	Tex.	65	67	81
Mich.	79	72	75	S. Cent. .	74	73	81
Wis.	69	81	76	Mont.	77	96	70
E. N. Cent. .	74	78	75	Idaho.	85	93	69
Minn.	74	77	83	Wyo.	76	92	65
Iowa.	86	76	82	Colo.	72	93	77
Mo.	66	82	75	N. Mex.	72	85	84
N. Dak.	70	89	87	Ariz.	83	85	86
S. Dak.	74	71	70	Utah.	74	95	70
Nebr.	76	85	79	Nev.	83	96	74
Kans.	76	85	73	Wash.	82	81	82
W. N. Cent. .	76	80	80	Oreg.	82	77	69
Del.	66	72	29	Calif.	78	86	74
Md.	64	64	34	West.	79	87	74
Va.	72	75	69	U. S.	75	75	75
W. Va.	79	58	60				

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.

Table 4.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, August 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	August av. 1960-64	August 1965	July 1966	August 1966	August av. 1960-64	August 1965	July 1966	August 1966
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl.	4.77	4.80	5.16	5.37	3.52	3.57	3.64	3.68
E. N. Cent. ..	3.67	3.77	4.42	4.73	2.76	2.86	3.00	3.06
W. N. Cent. ..	3.40	3.51	4.19	4.37	2.35	2.53	2.68	2.75
S. Atl.	5.21	5.30	5.69	5.84	3.37	3.38	3.52	3.55
S. Cent.	4.37	4.52	5.11	5.29	3.08	3.15	3.24	3.26
West.	4.16	4.29	4.58	4.78	3.17	3.18	3.23	3.24
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.10	4.20	4.70	4.91	2.97	3.05	3.17	3.21
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.46	2.60	2.75	2.81
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.95	3.03	3.15	3.20

Table 5.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, August 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	August av. 1960-64	August 1965	July 1966	August 1966	August av. 1960-64	August 1965	July 1966	August 1966
N. Atl.	1.36	1.34	1.42	1.46	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.33	1.32	1.47	1.55	20.3	19.9	20.9	21.2
W. N. Cent. ..	1.45	1.39	1.56	1.59	26.0	24.0	25.6	26.0
S. Atl.	1.55	1.57	1.62	1.65	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.42	1.43	1.58	1.62	16.8	17.0	16.8	17.0
West.	1.31	1.35	1.42	1.48	18.3	18.4	19.6	20.1
U. S.	1.38	1.38	1.48	1.53	24.4	23.0	24.4	24.8

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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