

MILK PRODUCTION

October 12, 1966

SUMMARY

September milk production in the United States is estimated at 9,328 million pounds, 1 percent less than a year earlier and 2 percent below the 1960-64 average for the month. Relative to population, September milk output provided 1.57 pounds per person daily, 2 percent less than production per capita a year earlier. For the first three-quarters of 1966, milk production totaled 4 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1965. Milk output averaged 646 pounds per cow for the month of September, up 5 percent from a year earlier.

Reported dairy pasture feed condition averaged 76 percent of normal on October 1, compared with 75 percent on September 1 and 84 percent a year ago. Dairy pastures improved less than usual during September although temperatures were below normal for the eastern two-thirds of the Nation and heavy September rainfall brought relief to many droughty areas. Reported grain and concentrates fed on October 1 averaged 8.7 pounds per cow, up 7 percent from a year earlier. The September milk-feed price ratio at 1.62 was 5 percent above August and 11 percent above the ratio of a year ago.

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
September.....	567	615	646	9,555	9,404	9,328	-0.8
Jan.-Sept. total	-	-	-	96,611	96,953	93,375	-3.7
October.....	573	621		9,634	9,446		
November.....	551	602		9,252	9,106		
December.....	584	635		9,788	9,555		
Annual.....	7,407	8,080		125,285	125,061		

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

State	Monthly milk per cow ^{1/}			Milk production			
	Sept. av. 1960-64 ^{2/}	Sept. 1965	Sept. 1966	Sept. av. 1960-64 ^{2/}	Sept. 1965	Sept. 1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	760	775	-	62	60	- 3
New Hampshire.....	-	695	725	-	30	29	- 3
Vermont.....	-	670	695	-	156	150	- 4
Massachusetts.....	-	810	835	-	62	61	- 2
Rhode Island.....	-	780	800	-	8.0	7.4	- 8
Connecticut.....	-	800	825	-	57	57	0
New York.....	643	692	700	791	805	766	- 5
New Jersey.....	733	790	820	89	83	80	- 4
Pennsylvania.....	636	690	710	545	538	527	- 2
Ohio.....	665	735	745	426	412	396	- 4
Indiana.....	665	760	760	270	271	249	- 8
Illinois.....	624	690	700	326	303	281	- 7
Michigan.....	709	770	780	447	459	431	- 6
Wisconsin.....	601	640	675	1,279	1,318	1,345	+ 2
Minnesota.....	443	455	495	562	553	557	+ 1
Iowa.....	542	550	610	441	395	395	0
Missouri.....	479	490	540	298	263	264	0
North Dakota.....	449	455	505	117	101	99	- 2
South Dakota.....	431	455	500	103	100	103	+ 3
Nebraska.....	486	505	545	146	134	136	+ 1
Kansas.....	481	510	575	149	134	136	+ 1
Delaware.....	-	645	645	-	14.2	13.5	- 5
Maryland.....	618	665	680	132	134	134	0
Virginia.....	551	595	615	174	165	165	0
West Virginia.....	431	450	475	50	45	44	- 2
North Carolina.....	526	590	610	135	136	137	+ 1
South Carolina.....	436	485	510	44	42	41	- 2
Georgia.....	422	500	540	84	84	84	0
Florida.....	562	615	635	102	109	114	+ 5
Kentucky.....	487	545	580	235	232	233	0
Tennessee.....	437	445	480	209	195	201	+ 3
Alabama.....	360	420	440	80	80	80	0
Mississippi.....	332	380	415	107	101	102	+ 1
Arkansas.....	387	440	470	77	70	68	- 3
Louisiana.....	-	415	440	-	83	85	+ 2
Oklahoma.....	506	580	615	113	108	109	+ 1
Texas.....	456	531	590	241	241	252	+ 5
Montana.....	468	485	490	34	31	30	- 3
Idaho.....	654	660	680	127	117	113	- 3
Wyoming.....	535	590	590	14.9	14.9	14.5	- 3
Colorado.....	579	630	652	66	66	67	+ 2
New Mexico.....	-	580	595	-	23	24	+ 4
Arizona.....	-	865	860	-	44	45	+ 2
Utah.....	654	690	720	60	59	58	- 2
Nevada.....	669	790	820	9.9	10.9	11.0	+ 1
Washington.....	716	785	810	163	168	168	0
Oregon.....	586	615	640	87	78	78	0
California.....	842	890	930	677	695	714	+ 3
Alaska.....	716	775	820	1.91	1.78	1.56	-12
Hawaii.....	760	825	825	10.8	12.1	12.1	0
United States.....	567	615	646	9,555	9,404	9,328	- 0.8

^{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.

September milk output within 1 percent of year earlier

September milk production in the United States is estimated at 9,328 million pounds, 1 percent less than a year earlier. This is the smallest year-to-year decline since July 1965. For the first three-quarters of 1966, milk production totaled 4 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1965. On a daily average basis, milk production declined 2 percent from August to September this year, compared with a decline of 3 percent between these months in 1965. Relative to population, September milk output provided 1.57 pounds per person daily, 2 percent less than production per capita a year earlier.

Milk production moved ahead of a year earlier for the first time in more than a year in several important North Central States, including Wisconsin and Minnesota. In Iowa, September output was equal to a year earlier, following many months of year-to-year decline. September production was 6 to 8 percent below 1965 in Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan.

September output per cow up sharply from last year

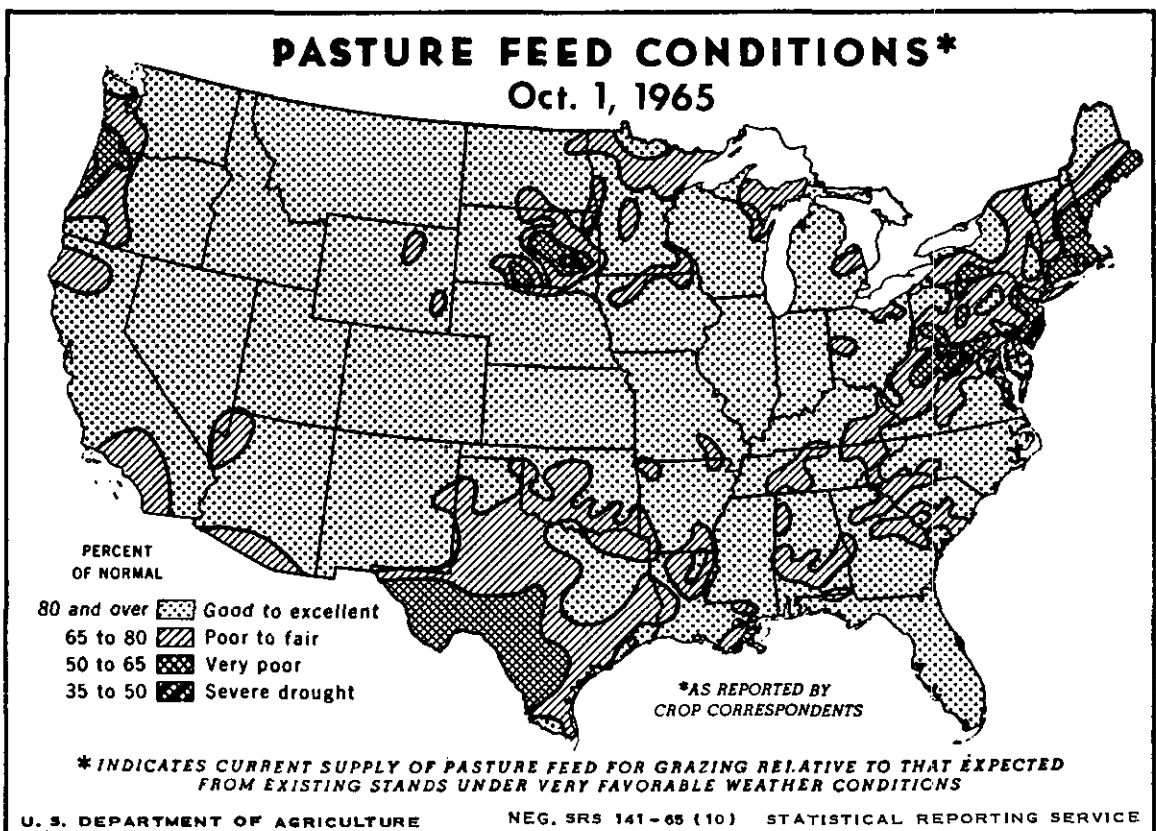
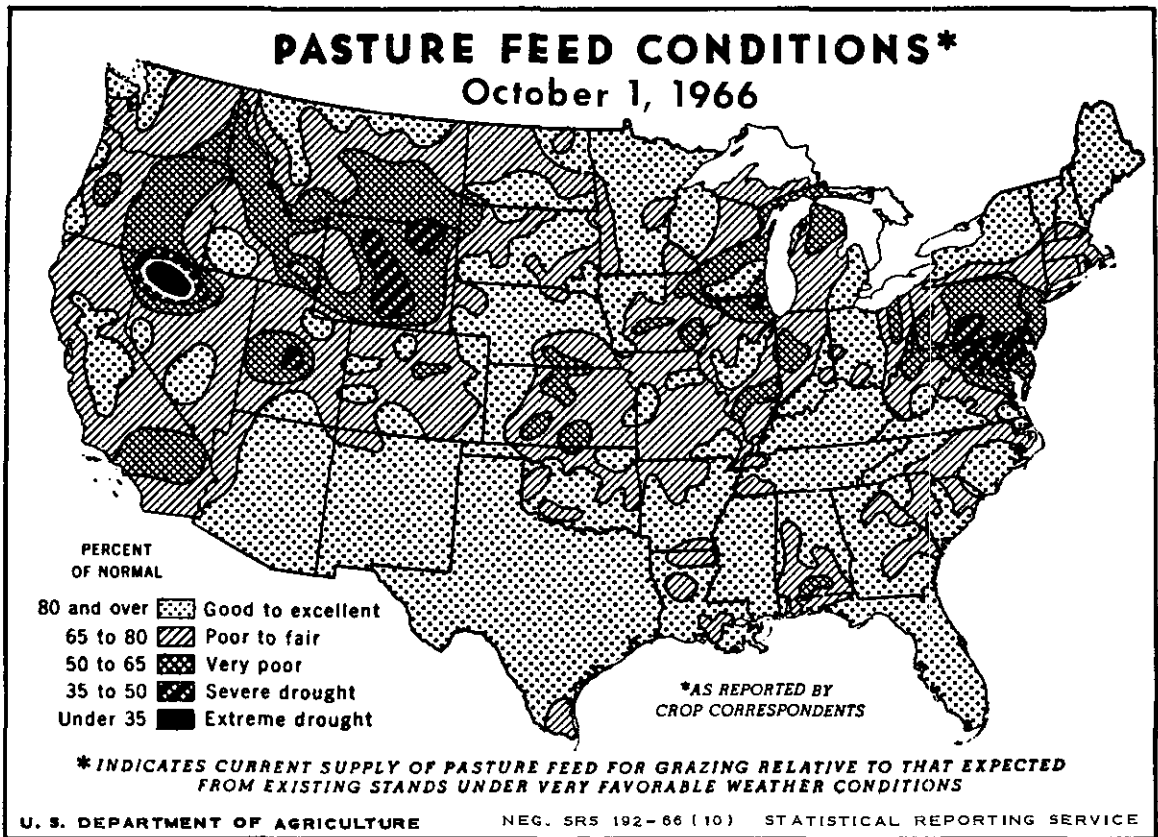
Milk output averaged 646 pounds per cow for the month of September, 5 percent above a year earlier. Based on relatively low rates in September 1965, output per cow gained 8 to 13 percent in each of the West North Central States. September rates per cow equaled or exceeded a year earlier in all States except Arizona. The average daily rate of 21.5 pounds per cow in September was down 1 percent from August, compared with a 3-percent drop between these months in 1965.

Grain and concentrates fed up 7 percent

Reported grain and concentrates fed on October 1 averaged 8.7 pounds, per cow, up 7 percent from the 8.1 pounds fed a year earlier and 30 percent above the 1960-64 average of 6.7 pounds. Feeding rates averaged 10 or more pounds per cow in 14 States on October 1, compared with only 9 States feeding at that rate a year earlier. Five years earlier, 1961, no State average was above 10 pounds per cow.

Milk-feed price ratio up 11 percent from year earlier

The September milk-feed price ratio at 1.62 was up 5 percent from August and 11 percent above the ratio of a year ago. The ratio was the highest of record for the month and eclipsed the old record of 1.59 for September 1931. In September, wholesale milk prices averaged \$5.24 per hundredweight compared with \$4.43 a year earlier, while the value of concentrate ration averaged \$3.24 per hundredweight compared with \$3.03 a year earlier. In cream-selling areas the milkfat feed price ratio was 25.1 compared with 24.8 a month earlier and 23.2 for September 1965.



Pastures improve less than usual during September

On October 1 reported dairy pasture feed condition for the United States averaged 76 percent of normal, compared with 75 percent on September 1 and 84 percent a year earlier. The October 1, 1960-64 average is 77 percent. Dairy pastures improved less than usual during September although temperatures were below normal for the eastern two-thirds of the Nation, and heavy September rainfall brought relief to many droughty areas.

Pasture condition in the North Atlantic States improved rapidly during September because of cool temperatures and generally heavy rainfall. The sharpest increase was in New Jersey, up 23 percentage points, followed by Rhode Island with a 19-point gain. Except for Pennsylvania, pastures in this region were rated better than a year earlier.

Rainfall averaged below normal during September in most of the North Central States. Pastures in most of these States deteriorated in September except in Indiana, Illinois, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, and conditions were below a year earlier in all States except South Dakota. Heavy rainfall in South Dakota revived grasses to an "early spring-like appearance". Pastures improved near the end of September in Missouri, but hay was being fed because pastures were quite short. By October 1, pastures in Kansas had begun to cure and were providing sufficient feed for livestock grazing. Prospects remain good for wheat pastures, although they were little used by October 1.

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Table 3.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, October 1, 1966, with comparisons ^{1/}

State and division	Oct. 1, av. 1960-64	Oct. 1, 1965	Oct. 1, 1966	State and division	Oct. 1, av. 1960-64	Oct. 1, 1965	Oct. 1, 1966
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	79	68	80	N. C.	79	86	82
N. H.	77	67	82	S. C.	74	77	78
Vt.	80	83	85	Ga.	78	82	80
Mass.	71	67	71	Fla.	83	86	85
R. I.	80	60	79	S. Atl. ..	73	78	74
Conn.	73	56	65	Ky.	77	89	90
N. Y.	68	79	82	Tenn.	77	81	86
N. J.	63	55	56	Ala.	74	83	81
Pa.	62	74	60	Miss.	76	86	83
N. Atl.	67	74	69	Ark.	73	86	82
Ohio.....	68	89	82	La.	80	83	84
Ind.	72	95	73	Okla.	79	81	82
Ill.	73	94	72	Tex.	71	71	91
Mich.	80	84	74	S. Cent. .	75	81	86
Wis.	83	89	71	Mont.	78	95	69
E. N. Cent. .	77	90	74	Idaho.....	84	89	73
Minn.	84	82	79	Wyo.	78	89	70
Iowa.....	91	90	75	Colo.	74	93	77
Mo.	69	91	73	N. Mex.	76	83	91
N. Dak.	73	87	77	Ariz.	80	82	86
S. Dak.	77	73	78	Utah.....	76	90	73
Nebr.	83	91	84	Nev.	81	93	73
Kans.	81	90	73	Wash.	82	83	80
W. N. Cent. .	82	86	77	Oreg.	82	71	70
Del.	63	72	44	Calif.	75	83	73
Md.	59	70	52	West.	77	84	75
Va.	71	82	80	U. S.	77	84	76
W. Va.	73	64	69				

^{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.-Grain and other concentrates fed daily per milk cow in herds kept by reporters, October 1, 1966, with comparisons

State	Oct. 1, av. 1960-64	Oct. 1, 1965	Oct. 1, 1966	State	Oct. 1, av. 1960-64	Oct. 1, 1965	Oct. 1, 1966
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Maine.....	8.0	9.8	10.2	West Virginia.....	4.5	6.2	6.4
New Hampshire...	7.7	9.0	10.3	North Carolina....	7.3	8.5	9.4
Vermont.....	6.8	8.2	8.3	South Carolina....	5.5	7.2	8.0
Massachusetts...	8.5	10.4	11.4	Georgia.....	7.2	10.0	10.4
Rhode Island....	9.1	11.4	11.6	Florida.....	4.9	7.0	7.0
Connecticut.....	9.2	11.4	11.0				
New York.....	8.1	9.0	9.3	Kentucky.....	5.6	6.5	7.0
New Jersey.....	9.2	10.4	11.6	Tennessee.....	5.6	6.4	6.6
Pennsylvania....	9.3	11.2	11.9	Alabama.....	6.0	7.0	8.0
				Mississippi.....	3.8	5.5	6.5
Ohio.....	8.3	9.8	10.4	Arkansas.....	5.4	7.7	7.8
Indiana.....	7.8	8.7	9.9	Louisiana.....	4.9	7.6	8.5
Illinois.....	7.3	8.0	8.9	Oklahoma.....	7.2	8.0	9.5
Michigan.....	8.5	9.6	10.0	Texas.....	5.0	5.5	6.0
Wisconsin.....	6.3	7.4	7.6				
				Montana.....	4.1	4.3	5.4
Minnesota.....	6.0	7.5	7.9	Idaho.....	5.1	6.2	7.3
Iowa.....	6.9	8.3	8.7	Wyoming.....	3.8	4.1	4.3
Missouri.....	6.6	7.5	8.3	Colorado.....	6.1	7.1	8.7
North Dakota....	5.6	6.6	7.7	New Mexico.....	5.9	7.0	8.4
South Dakota....	4.4	5.3	5.3	Arizona.....	6.4	7.4	8.0
Nebraska.....	5.9	6.7	7.4	Utah.....	6.7	8.5	8.9
Kansas.....	6.8	7.6	9.2	Nevada.....	6.3	9.5	10.2
				Washington.....	6.7	7.3	8.1
Delaware.....	9.1	10.0	11.2	Oregon.....	5.5	6.0	6.6
Maryland.....	9.2	11.3	11.0	California.....	7.7	11.0	11.0
Virginia.....	7.8	8.8	9.0	United States.....	6.7	8.1	8.7

Table 5.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, September 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	Sept. av. 1960-64	Sept. 1965	Aug. 1966	Sept. 1966	Sept. av. 1960-64	Sept. 1965	Aug. 1966	Sept. 1966
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl.	4.95	5.01	5.43	5.66	3.53	3.56	3.68	3.74
E. N. Cent. ..	3.86	3.97	4.78	4.98	2.75	2.85	3.06	3.08
W. N. Cent. ..	3.56	3.69	4.42	4.65	2.36	2.53	2.75	2.78
S. Atl.	5.44	5.56	5.88	6.14	3.34	3.34	3.55	3.59
S. Cent.	4.67	4.86	5.33	5.67	3.07	3.12	3.26	3.29
West.	4.38	4.47	4.80	4.99	3.16	3.16	3.24	3.23
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.32	4.43	4.99	5.24	2.97	3.03	3.21	3.24
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.47	2.60	2.81	2.84
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.95	3.02	3.20	3.23

Table 6.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, September 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	Sept. av. 1960-64	Sept. 1965	Aug. 1966	Sept. 1966	Sept. av. 1960-64	Sept. 1965	Aug. 1966	Sept. 1966
N. Atl.	1.40	1.41	1.48	1.51	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.41	1.39	1.56	1.62	20.5	20.2	21.2	21.5
W. N. Cent. ..	1.51	1.46	1.61	1.67	26.1	24.2	26.0	26.3
S. Atl.	1.63	1.66	1.66	1.71	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.52	1.56	1.63	1.72	17.1	17.5	17.0	17.0
West.	1.39	1.41	1.48	1.54	18.5	18.7	20.1	20.6
U. S.	1.45	1.46	1.55	1.62	24.5	23.2	24.8	25.1

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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Seasonally, pasture feed condition generally improved in the South Atlantic and South Central States, except for South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Maryland's pasture condition improved 18 points; followed by Delaware, 15 points; and Virginia, 11 points. Except in Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia, pastures were reported better than the 5-year average for October 1. Texas pastures were rated the best for the date since 1950.

In the West, October 1 pasture feed condition generally was below a year earlier, except for New Mexico, and Arizona. Montana's pasture condition was 26 points below a year earlier, Nevada was down 20 points, and Wyoming, 9 points. Some grasses were reported "not yet cured" in Colorado, because of September rainfall, the best since May. In Washington, dryland pastures east of the Cascades are mostly brown, providing little feed. However, west of the mountains, because of September rainfall, grasses are green and growing. Cattle are being moved from dryland pastures earlier than normal in California because continued dry weather, after a dry spring, resulted in less feed.

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