

MILK PRODUCTION

September 11, 1968

August milk production 1 percent below a year earlier

U. S. milk production in August is estimated at 9,567 million pounds, 1 percent less than a year earlier and 5 percent below the 1962-66 August average. Average daily milk production for August was down 6 percent from July, same change as a year earlier. Total milk production in the first 8 months of 1968 was 1.6 percent less than a year earlier. August production provided 1.53 pounds of milk per person daily for all uses, compared with 1.64 pounds in July and 1.57 pounds a year earlier.

August milk production declined from a year earlier in the North and South Atlantic States, except in Georgia where it was unchanged. In the North Central States, production was down except in Wisconsin where it advanced 1 percent and in South Dakota, where it was up 2 percent. Milk production was less than a year earlier in all South Central States, except in Alabama, Louisiana, and Oklahoma where it was unchanged. Production increased in 5 Western States, was unchanged in 4, and was down in two States.

Table 1.--Milk per cow and milk production by months, United States, 1968, with comparisons

Month	Milk per cow			Milk production			
	Average 1962-66	1967	1968	Average 1962-66	1967	1968	Change from 1967
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
January	644	716	724	10,196	9,847	9,608	-2.4
February	611	671	699	9,636	9,203	9,249	+0.5
March	698	769	778	10,968	10,517	10,269	-2.4
April	713	788	795	11,175	10,734	10,460	-2.6
May	778	844	859	12,143	11,470	11,283	-1.6
June	750	820	837	11,658	11,095	10,937	-1.4
July	692	764	783	10,714	10,315	10,208	-1.0
August	651	722	736	10,047	9,709	9,567	-1.5
Jan.-Aug. Total ..	-	-	-	86,537	82,890	81,581	-1.6
September	614	680		9,446	9,124		
October	623	685		9,547	9,167		
November	603	661		9,208	8,814		
December	641	699		9,759	9,299		
Annual	8,021	8,821		124,497	119,294		

Output per cow 2 percent above a year earlier

Milk output per cow averaged 736 pounds during August, 2 percent above a year earlier and 13 percent above average. Daily August output per cow averaged 23.7 pounds, compared with 25.3 pounds a month earlier, and 23.3 pounds a year earlier. Production per cow set a record high for August in 44 States, highest in California at 995 pounds; followed by Alaska and Washington each at 890 pounds; Utah, 870 pounds; Nevada, 860 pounds and Arizona, 835 pounds.

Milk-feed price ratio 10 percent above a year earlier

The August milk-feed price ratio at 1.70 is 10 percent above a year earlier, 21 percent above average and the highest of record for August. Higher milk prices and lower ration values caused the increase from a year earlier. The milkfat-feed price ratio for farm separated cream was 25.8 in August, 6 percent above a year earlier and 7 percent above average.

Dairy pastures best in 10 years

Reported dairy pasture condition on September 1 was 82 percent of normal, the highest condition for the date in a decade. Current condition is 3 percentage points above a year earlier and 10 points above average. Decline in dairy pasture condition for August was 3 percentage points this year. The favorable pasture condition can be attributed to generally adequate rainfall in August and to temperatures, ranging from 2-4 degrees below normal in the West, to 1-4 degrees above normal in most areas of the East. However, precipitation was light in most Atlantic States, and in several areas of the Central States. In most of these areas, pasture condition deteriorated in August.

In the North Atlantic Region, moisture has been short and pasture condition ranges from poor to fair in most States. Pastures in the South Atlantic Region range from very poor in Delaware and South Carolina to good to excellent in Virginia, West Virginia, and Florida. In most areas of this region, weather has been warmer than usual. Where moisture has been short pastures have deteriorated rapidly. Pastures in the North Central Region are mostly in good to excellent condition except for parts of Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. States in the South Central Region reported good to excellent pastures except in Tennessee and Alabama. In the West, pastures are in good to excellent condition except Colorado and California, where they are fair. In most States of this region, rainfall was moderate to heavy and temperatures below normal -- particularly during the last half of the month.

Table 2.-Monthly milk per cow and milk production,
August 1968, with comparisons

State	Monthly milk per cow ^{1/}			Milk production			
	August av. 1962-66	August 1967	August 1968	August av. 1962-66	August 1967	August 1968	Change from 1967
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	717	775	770	58	56	55	-2
New Hampshire.....	698	750	755	32	32	30	-6
Vermont.....	658	715	730	157	154	153	-1
Massachusetts.....	780	810	815	64	59	56	-5
Rhode Island.....	786	810	815	8.6	7.2	6.6	-8
Connecticut.....	769	815	815	58	56	55	-2
New York.....	676	745	745	799	794	770	-3
New Jersey.....	783	800	820	85	68	63	-7
Pennsylvania.....	701	750	740	578	554	535	-3
Ohio.....	751	800	810	436	394	382	-3
Indiana.....	732	765	790	253	203	198	-2
Illinois.....	727	810	820	328	288	267	-7
Michigan.....	779	800	805	463	392	377	-4
Wisconsin.....	677	750	765	1,414	1,447	1,460	+1
Minnesota.....	546	640	650	673	696	689	-1
Iowa.....	671	760	780	500	467	442	-5
Missouri.....	613	725	740	306	285	280	-2
North Dakota.....	565	610	660	132	104	99	-5
South Dakota.....	544	630	660	125	132	135	+3
Nebraska.....	609	655	670	162	146	140	-4
Kansas.....	554	625	650	144	137	136	-1
Delaware.....	695	740	750	13.6	11.8	11.2	-5
Maryland.....	681	750	750	132	130	128	-2
Virginia.....	620	695	715	169	167	165	-1
West Virginia.....	466	540	545	44	39	37	-5
North Carolina.....	566	630	645	127	125	124	-1
South Carolina.....	496	585	590	43	43	42	-2
Georgia.....	490	600	625	82	86	86	0
Florida.....	603	675	670	107	122	121	-1
Kentucky.....	585	635	645	259	241	239	-1
Tennessee.....	529	580	590	214	201	196	-2
Alabama.....	378	445	465	68	66	66	0
Mississippi.....	376	445	460	104	97	95	-2
Arkansas.....	486	620	630	72	66	64	-3
Louisiana.....	378	445	465	80	83	83	0
Oklahoma.....	581	710	735	112	112	112	0
Texas.....	531	660	670	245	252	247	-2
Montana.....	579	640	665	35	31	31	0
Idaho.....	748	800	820	133	124	124	0
Wyoming.....	628	675	680	15.1	13.8	13.3	-4
Colorado.....	674	710	730	72	69	71	+3
New Mexico.....	603	685	700	23	26	27	+4
Arizona.....	796	825	835	41	42	43	+2
Utah.....	762	830	870	63	63	65	+3
Nevada.....	789	865	860	11.1	11.7	11.7	0
Washington.....	815	850	890	169	165	164	-1
Oregon.....	690	740	770	93	87	87	0
California.....	932	960	995	735	750	773	+3
Alaska.....	794	850	890	1.92	1.53	1.60	+5
Hawaii.....	781	840	820	11.2	12.1	10.9	-10
United States.....	651	722	736	10,047	9,709	9,567	-1.5

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

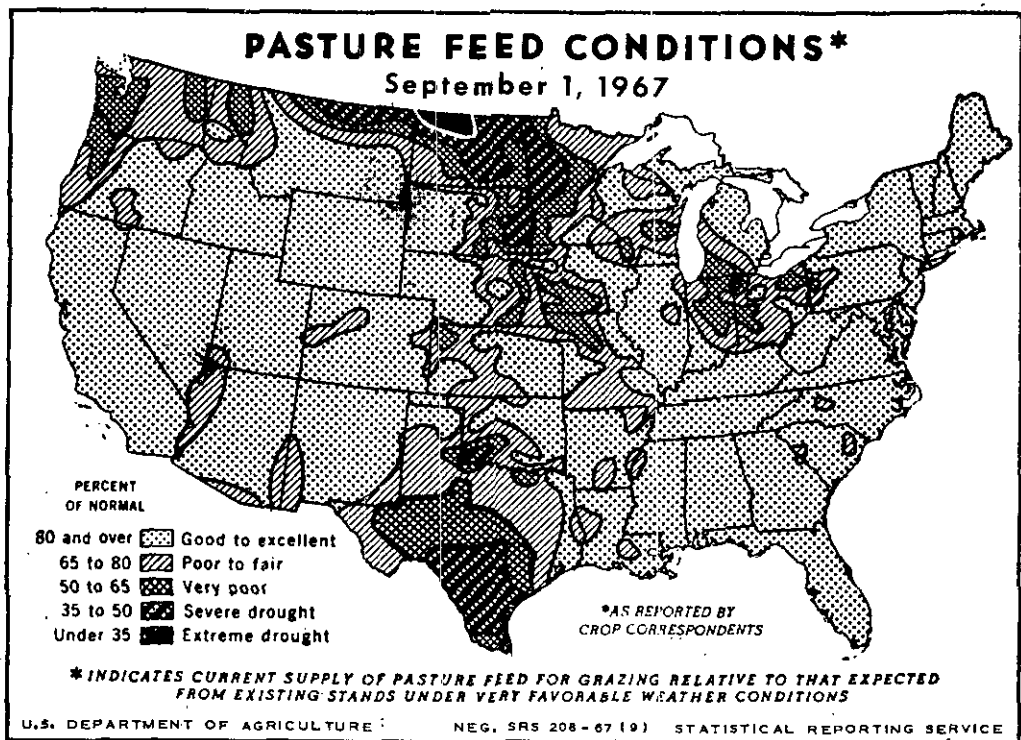
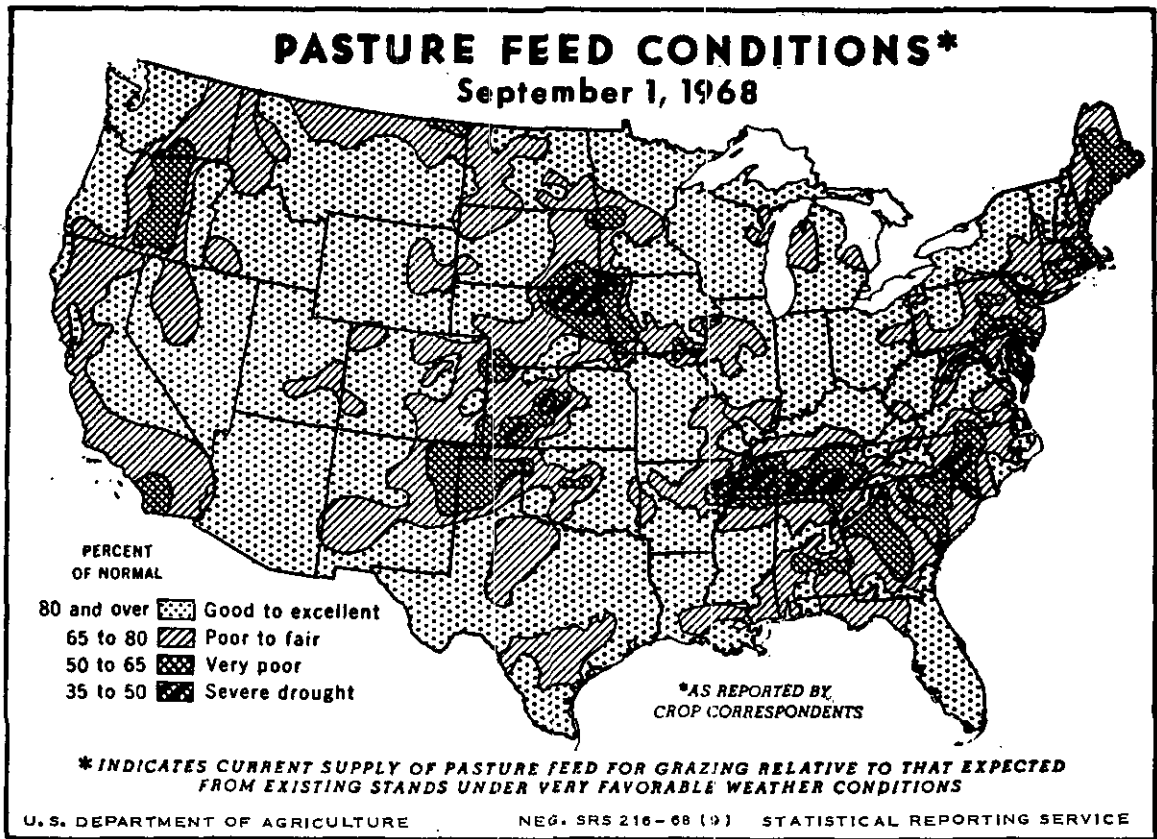


Table 3.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, September 1, 1968, with comparisons 1/

State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1962-66	Sept. 1 1967	Sept. 1, 1968	State and division	Sept. 1, av. 1962-66	Sept. 1, 1967	Sept. 1, 1968
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	77	94	65	N. C.	81	91	73
N. H.	69	94	75	S. C.	77	88	63
Vt.	77	91	82	Ga.	82	90	69
Mass.	61	92	64	Fla.	87	90	81
R. I.	63	89	66	S. Atl. ..	71	91	75
Conn.	63	89	68	Ky.	73	93	89
N. Y.	65	93	86	Tenn.	77	93	60
N. J.	48	90	63	Ala.	81	93	74
Pa.	54	88	74	Miss.	77	90	81
N. Atl.	63	91	78	Ark.	65	83	81
Ohio.....	69	71	94	La.	75	86	86
Ind.	76	70	94	Okla.	67	77	83
Ill.	71	93	85	Tex.	61	58	80
Mich.	74	79	87	S. Cent. .	70	80	79
Wis.	69	76	91	Mont.	86	76	83
E. N. Cent. .	71	78	90	Idaho.....	86	88	88
Minn.	77	60	83	Wyo.	82	97	85
Iowa.....	81	75	79	Colo.	76	87	78
Mo.	65	72	86	N. Mex.	72	83	80
N. Dak.	84	47	81	Ariz.	85	88	88
S. Dak.	75	59	71	Utah.....	82	93	90
Nebr.	78	80	68	Nev.	88	96	85
Kans.	73	80	77	Wash.	87	59	84
W. N. Cent. .	77	68	79	Oreg.	81	70	84
Del.	53	94	50	Calif.	80	88	76
Md.	50	94	73	West.	82	81	81
Va.	65	92	85	U. S.	72	79	82
W. Va.	66	89	87				

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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