

MILK PRODUCTION

October 11, 1968

September milk production 1 percent below a year earlier

U. S. milk production in September is estimated at 9,058 million pounds, 1 percent less than a year earlier and 4 percent below the 1962-66 September average. Daily average milk production for September was down 2 percent from August, compared with a 3 percent decline during the same period a year earlier. Total milk production in the first 9 months of 1968 was 1.5 percent less than a year earlier. September production provided 1.50 pounds of milk per person daily for all uses, compared with 1.53 pounds in August and 1.52 pounds a year earlier.

September milk production was unchanged from a year earlier in 4 North Atlantic States and down in the remaining States of the Region. Decreases ranged from 1 percent in New York to 8 percent in New Jersey. In the North Central Region production was up in South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, unchanged in Nebraska and Kansas, and down elsewhere. All of the South Atlantic States produced less milk during September than a year earlier. Decreases ranged from 1 percent in Maryland and Florida to 6 percent in Delaware. In the South Central States, production was up 1 percent in Louisiana and Oklahoma, unchanged in Kentucky and Alabama, and down elsewhere. September milk production was up in most States of the West, including an important 4-percent gain in California.

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
September	614	680	698	9,446	9,124	9,058	-0.7
Jan.-Sept. total	---	---	---	95,983	92,014	90,639	-1.5
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 3 percent above a year earlier

Milk output per cow averaged 698 pounds during September, 3 percent more than a year earlier and 11 percent above the average. The September gain over a year earlier was the largest since October 1967. Daily September output per cow averaged 23.3 pounds, compared with 23.7 pounds a month earlier and 22.7 pounds a year earlier. September production per cow was at record-high levels in 47 States. Highest output per cow was in California, at 955 pounds; followed by Washington, 890 pounds; Arizona, 860 pounds; Nevada, 835 pounds and Alaska and Connecticut each with 825 pounds.

Grain and concentrate feeding rates gain 6 percent

Grain and concentrates fed on October 1 averaged 9.5 pounds per milk cow, up 6 percent from a year earlier and 23 percent above the 1962-66 average. Feeding rates exceeded a year earlier in 33 States and amounted to 11 or more pounds in 10 States. A year earlier, 9 States were feeding 11 or more pounds.

Milk-feed price ratio 9 percent above a year earlier

The September milk-feed price ratio at 1.78 is 9 percent above a year earlier and 21 percent above the 1962-66 average. Higher milk prices and lower ration values caused the increase over a year earlier. The milkfat-feed price ratio for farm separated cream was 25.9 in September, 1 percent above a year earlier and 7 percent above average.

Dairy pastures in good condition

Dairy pasture feed condition on October 1 was 83 percent of normal, 6 percentage points above a year earlier and 7 points above average for the date. The increase in pasture condition during September was 1 point this year, while the usual increase is 4 points.

Pastures deteriorated along the Atlantic Coast, where September rainfall was much below normal. New Jersey, at 40 percent of normal, reported the second lowest pasture condition for October 1 in almost a half century. Virginia pasture condition declined 19 points to 66 percent on October 1. Drought conditions developed in large areas of North and South Carolina, with October 1 pasture condition reported at 55 and 53 percent, respectively. This was the lowest for the date since 1954 in both States. Florida, after reporting very poor condition early in the season, showed 80 percent of normal on October 1.

Fall pastures in the North Central States have benefited from September rains and are generally in good condition. Most States in the group showed improvement during September and others continued in excellent condition. South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas were the only North Central States with condition below 80 percent on October 1.

Recent rains have improved pastures in some States of the South Central Region. Kentucky continues to lead the group with a reported condition of 89 percent of normal. Tennessee and Alabama need more rain and reported poor to fair condition.

September rainfall was below normal in the West, except for northwestern coastal areas and the Northern Rockies. Oregon showed a 5 point gain in pasture condition during September, Washington gained 8 and Montana 9 points. Colorado with 71 percent and New Mexico with 72 were the only States in the Western Region reporting condition less than 80 percent of normal.

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

State	Monthly milk per cow 1/			Milk production			
	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Sept. 1968	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Sept. 1968	Change from 1967
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	689	735	735	56	53	52	- 2
New Hampshire.....	708	765	775	32	31	30	- 3
Vermont.....	651	705	725	155	152	152	0
Massachusetts.....	757	785	820	62	57	57	0
Rhode Island.....	751	780	805	8.2	6.9	6.5	- 6
Connecticut.....	759	815	825	57	55	55	0
New York.....	678	730	745	799	776	767	- 1
New Jersey.....	760	770	795	82	65	60	- 8
Pennsylvania.....	675	715	730	555	527	527	0
Ohio.....	721	755	760	418	371	357	- 4
Indiana.....	705	725	760	242	191	189	- 1
Illinois.....	665	725	750	298	256	243	- 5
Michigan.....	760	795	800	450	387	374	- 3
Wisconsin.....	622	692	705	1,299	1,334	1,344	+ 1
Minnesota.....	474	570	585	583	618	620	0
Iowa.....	616	690	710	456	422	399	- 5
Missouri.....	551	640	650	273	251	245	- 2
North Dakota.....	459	510	555	106	86	82	- 5
South Dakota.....	468	580	605	107	121	123	+ 2
Nebraska.....	553	590	625	146	131	131	0
Kansas.....	554	625	655	143	136	136	0
Delaware.....	671	720	720	13.1	11.5	10.8	- 6
Maryland.....	666	735	740	129	127	126	- 1
Virginia.....	590	660	670	160	158	155	- 2
West Virginia.....	458	520	530	43	37	36	- 3
North Carolina.....	568	630	630	128	125	121	- 3
South Carolina.....	498	570	575	43	42	41	- 2
Georgia.....	482	605	610	80	86	83	- 3
Florida.....	602	665	655	107	120	119	- 1
Kentucky.....	529	585	595	233	221	221	0
Tennessee.....	486	535	540	195	184	179	- 3
Alabama.....	401	455	475	72	67	67	0
Mississippi.....	362	425	440	99	93	91	- 2
Arkansas.....	460	560	575	67	59	58	- 2
Louisiana.....	395	440	465	83	82	83	+ 1
Oklahoma.....	575	690	720	110	109	110	+ 1
Texas.....	524	645	645	240	246	236	- 4
Montana.....	515	590	620	31	29	29	0
Idaho.....	688	755	785	122	116	119	+ 3
Wyoming.....	572	625	630	13.7	12.8	12.3	- 4
Colorado.....	638	690	700	67	67	68	+ 1
New Mexico.....	583	685	700	23	26	27	+ 4
Arizona.....	797	825	860	41	42	44	+ 5
Utah.....	729	800	820	60	60	62	+ 3
Nevada.....	760	815	835	10.6	11.0	11.4	+ 4
Washington.....	777	830	890	161	160	164	+ 2
Oregon.....	618	660	690	83	77	78	+ 1
California.....	880	915	955	694	716	745	+ 4
Alaska.....	765	840	825	1.81	1.51	1.48	- 2
Hawaii.....	763	800	780	11.0	11.6	10.4	-10
United States.....	614	680	698	9,446	9,124	9,058	- 0.7

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

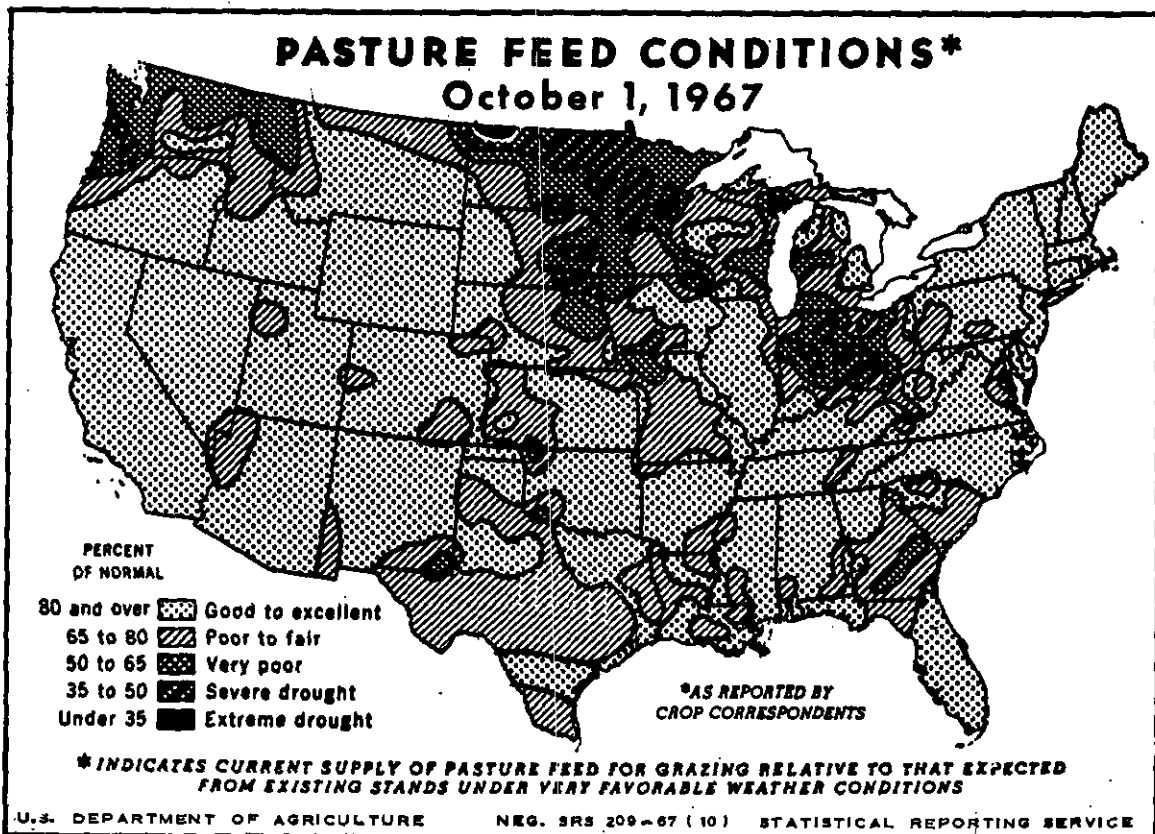
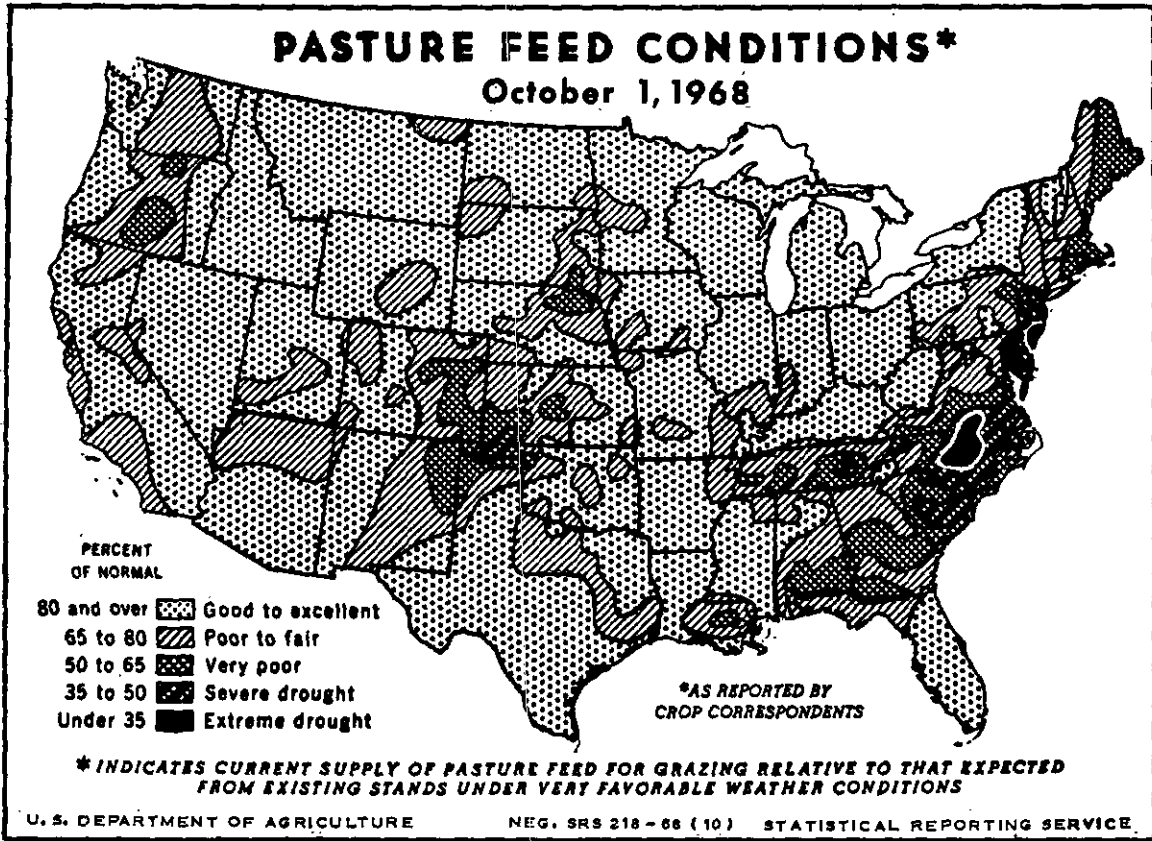


Table 3.-Grain and other concentrates fed daily per milk cow in herds kept by reporters, October 1, 1968, with comparisons

State	Oct. 1, av. 1962-66	Oct. 1, 1967	Oct. 1, 1968	State	Oct. 1, av. 1962-66	Oct. 1, 1967	Oct. 1, 1968
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Maine	9.1	10.6	10.7	West Virginia ...	5.4	6.9	6.7
New Hampshire ...	8.7	9.6	10.3	North Carolina ..	8.3	9.0	10.0
Vermont	7.7	8.9	9.3	South Carolina ..	6.4	9.0	9.7
Massachusetts ...	9.9	11.6	11.7	Georgia	8.8	11.0	11.1
Rhode Island	10.3	12.0	11.7	Florida	6.3	10.0	10.0
Connecticut	10.4	12.1	12.7				
New York	8.9	9.5	10.1	Kentucky	6.4	8.0	8.3
New Jersey	10.4	10.6	10.8	Tennessee	6.1	6.1	7.6
Pennsylvania	10.7	11.8	12.4	Alabama	7.0	10.0	8.5
				Mississippi	4.7	7.5	8.5
Ohio	9.4	10.5	11.2	Arkansas	6.4	8.2	9.0
Indiana	8.8	10.3	10.6	Louisiana	6.4	9.0	9.0
Illinois	8.0	9.2	10.1	Oklahoma	8.1	10.0	11.1
Michigan	9.4	9.9	9.8	Texas	5.4	6.7	8.3
Wisconsin	7.1	7.7	8.3				
				Montana	4.5	6.5	6.4
Minnesota	7.0	8.2	8.3	Idaho	5.9	7.3	7.5
Iowa	7.8	8.9	9.2	Wyoming	4.0	5.3	6.0
Missouri	7.3	8.3	8.3	Colorado	6.9	9.9	8.8
North Dakota	6.4	7.5	7.8	New Mexico	6.7	7.5	10.0
South Dakota	4.8	6.6	7.8	Arizona	7.0	9.0	9.0
Nebraska	6.5	8.1	7.7	Utah	7.9	9.2	8.8
Kansas	7.6	9.7	10.1	Nevada	8.0	11.0	10.0
				Washington	7.1	7.2	8.1
Delaware	10.2	11.9	11.2	Oregon	5.9	7.8	8.7
Maryland	10.4	11.2	11.2	California	9.2	11.0	12.0
Virginia	8.5	9.3	9.6				
				United States ...	7.7	9.0	9.5

Table 4.-Dairy pasture feed condition, as percentage of normal, October 1, 1968, with comparisons 1/

State and division	Oct. 1, av. 1962-66	Oct. 1, 1967	Oct. 1, 1968	State and division	Oct. 1, av. 1962-66	Oct. 1, 1967	Oct. 1, 1968
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	76	92	63	N. C.	79	89	55
N. H.	71	91	77	S. C.	75	78	53
Vt.	79	91	75	Ga.	78	77	67
Mass.	63	84	60	Fla.	84	82	80
R. I.	75	90	64	S. Atl.	70	85	65
Conn.	62	88	65				
N. Y.	69	90	88	Ky.	80	85	89
N. J.	52	81	40	Tenn.	78	88	67
Pa.	58	84	75	Ala.	75	86	72
N. Atl.	63	86	75	Miss.	78	84	83
				Ark.	76	86	84
Ohio	71	62	92	La.	81	80	85
Ind.	74	65	92	Okla.	77	87	83
Ill.	74	89	86	Tex.	71	76	84
Mich.	77	73	92	S. Cent.	76	83	81
Wis.	81	73	92				
E. N. Cent. ...	77	73	91	Mont.	85	79	92
				Idaho	85	83	91
Minn.	83	60	87	Wyo.	81	97	87
Iowa	87	76	86	Colo.	77	89	71
Mb.	73	75	85	N. Mex.	76	82	72
N. Dak.	81	53	86	Ariz.	83	90	84
S. Dak.	78	63	77	Utah	82	92	86
Nebr.	85	75	76	Nev.	86	93	85
Kans.	79	83	78	Wash.	86	56	92
W. N. Cent. ...	81	70	83	Oreg.	79	67	89
				Calif.	78	87	80
Del.	54	90	46	West.	80	79	84
Mi.	53	86	70				
Va.	68	90	66	U. S.	76	77	83
W. Va.	65	82	82				

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 5.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, September 1968, with comparisons

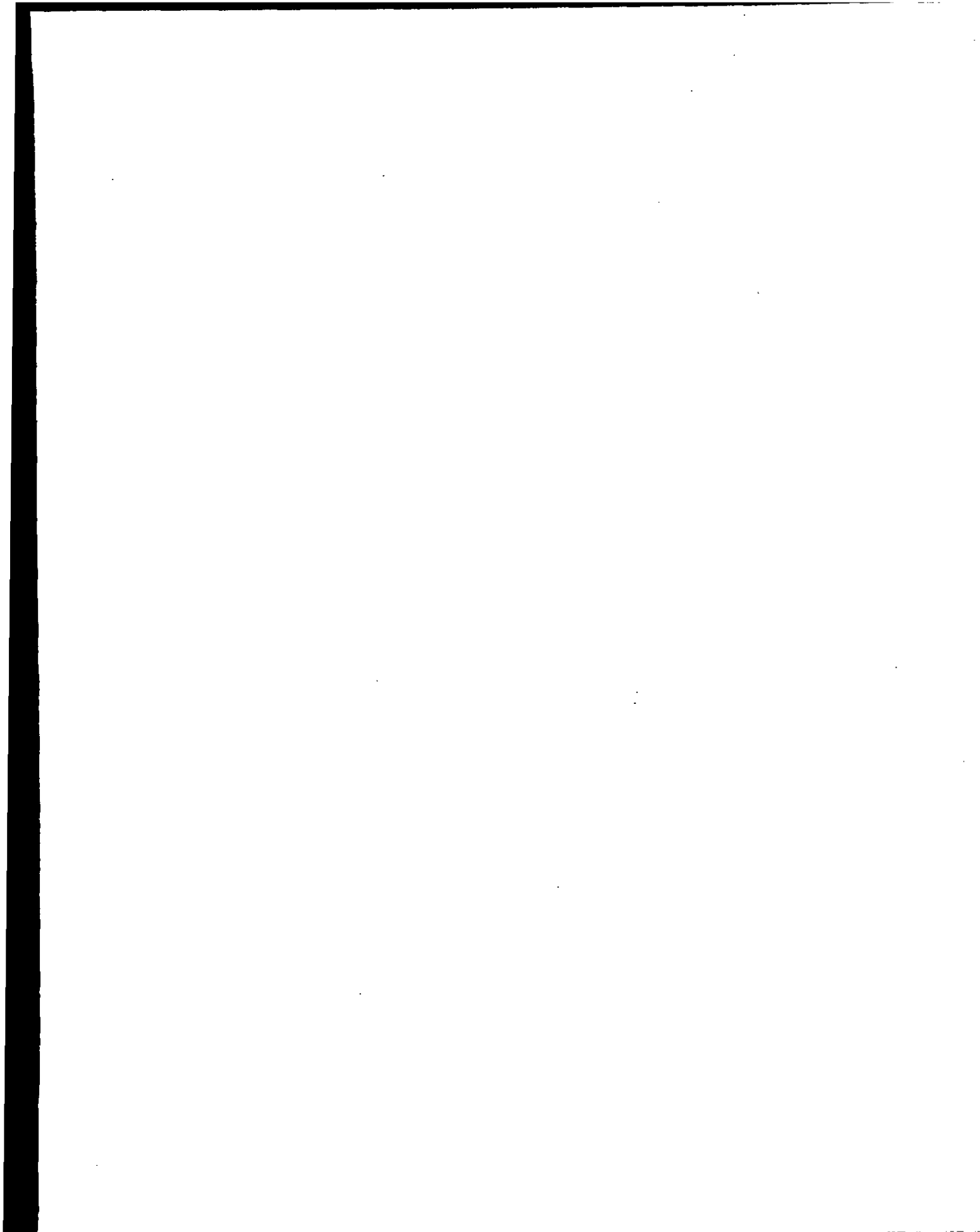
Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1968	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1968
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl.	5.08	5.90	6.06	6.26	3.60	3.70	3.53	3.55
E. N. Cent. ...	4.08	4.85	4.88	5.08	2.86	3.00	2.87	2.89
W. N. Cent. ...	3.78	4.35	4.47	4.64	2.51	2.58	2.51	2.53
S. Atl.	5.64	6.30	6.25	6.50	3.40	3.58	3.39	3.36
S. Cent.	4.92	5.76	5.70	5.98	3.15	3.36	3.23	3.20
West.	4.51	4.96	5.03	5.15	3.19	3.28	3.23	3.20
U. S.								
Milk areas	4.50	5.20	5.24	5.46	3.06	3.18	3.05	3.06
Cream areas ...	---	---	---	---	2.59	2.66	2.60	2.61
Milk and cream areas	---	---	---	---	3.04	3.17	3.05	3.05

Table 6.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, September 1968, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1968	Sept. av. 1962-66	Sept. 1967	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1968
N. Atl.	1.41	1.59	1.72	1.76	---	---	---	---
E. N. Cent. ...	1.42	1.62	1.70	1.76	20.4	20.3	20.6	20.5
W. N. Cent. ...	1.50	1.69	1.78	1.83	25.6	27.2	27.4	27.4
S. Atl.	1.66	1.76	1.84	1.93	---	---	---	---
S. Cent.	1.56	1.71	1.76	1.87	17.7	16.9	16.8	16.9
West.	1.41	1.51	1.56	1.61	18.9	19.8	19.9	20.5
U. S.	1.47	1.64	1.72	1.78	24.3	25.7	25.8	25.9

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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