

Dairy and Livestock

The number of dairy farms decreased by 10 between 2002 and 2003 to 100 operations. The number of milk cows dropped to 8,300 in 2003 (down 700), while production per cow declined 281 pounds to 16,386. Total milk production was down 24 percent from 2002 to 136 million pounds in 2003. Cash receipts decreased 9 percent from 2002 to \$17.9 million. Dairymen received an average of \$13.30 per hundredweight, unchanged from 2002.

The January 1, 2004, inventory of all cattle and calves in Delaware increased from a year earlier to 25,000 head. Delaware beef production in 2003 was down 6 percent from 2002 to 7.1 million pounds. Cash receipts decreased 47 percent, to \$3.9 million. This decrease was due to much lower marketings.

Hog and pig inventory as of December 1, 2003, decreased 1,000 from a year earlier to 12,000 head. Pork production was 6.0 million pounds in 2003, unchanged from 2002, while the cash receipts from hogs and pigs at \$2.7 million was up 6 percent due to higher prices during the year.

Number of Livestock Operations by Type, Delaware, 1999 - 2003

Year	With Cattle	With Milk Cows	With Beef Cows	With Hogs & Pigs
1999	480	130	240	120
2000	480	120	240	100
2001	470	110	240	90
2002	440	110	230	80
2003	430	100	230	70

¹ An operation is any place having one or more head of the species on hand at any time during the year.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, Delaware, 1999 – 2003

Year	Milk Cows On Farms	Milk per Milk Cow	Milkfat per Milk Cow	Percentage of Fat In All Milk Produced	Total Milk
	Thousand	Pounds		Percent	Million Pounds
1999	10.0	14,500	541	3.73	145
2000	9.9	14,747	554	3.76	146
2001	9.0	16,667	610	3.66	150
2002	9.0	16,667	620	3.72	150
2003	8.3	16,386	614	3.75	136

Milk and Milkfat: Marketings and Income, Delaware, 1999 - 2003

Year	Milk Utilized (million lbs.)	Average returns		Cash Receipts from Marketings (1,000 dollars)
		Per Cwt. Milk (dollars)	Per Lb. Milkfat (dollars)	
1999	144.0	15.00	4.02	21,600
2000	144.9	13.50	3.59	19,562
2001	148.9	16.10	4.40	23,973
2002	148.9	13.30	3.58	19,804
2003	134.9	13.30	3.55	17,942