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**MINNESOTA'S MARCH MILK OUTPUT UP 3 PERCENT**

March 2006 milk production totaled 734 million pounds in Minnesota, up 3 percent from the 714 million pounds produced in March 2005, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. Revised February milk output was 662 million pounds.

Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,630 pounds in March 2006, up 60 pounds from last March. The revised February rate was 1,470 pounds per cow. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during March 2006 was 450,000 head, the same as February, but down 5,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated Minnesota milk production for the first 3 months of 2006 was 2.11 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the same period a year ago.

**MARCH MILK PRODUCTION UP 5 PERCENT IN MAJOR STATES**

Milk production during March 2006 totaled 14.58 billion pounds, up 5 percent from March 2005 in the 23 major states. Revised February production for the 23 states was 13.02 billion pounds. Production per cow in the 23 states averaged 1,773 pounds during March 2006, up 66 pounds from March 2005. Revised February output per cow was 1,587 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 23 major states during March averaged 8.22 million head, up 124,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated milk production in the 23 major states for the first 3 months of 2006 was 41.6 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the same period a year ago.

**MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES**

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Mar 2005	Feb 2006 Rev.	Mar 2006	Mar 2005	Feb 2006 Rev.	Mar 2006	Mar 2005	Feb 2006 Rev.	Mar 2006	2006 as % of 2005
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,744	1,782	1,785	1,850	1,705	1,920	3,226	3,038	3,427	106
ID	441	473	475	1,880	1,670	1,880	829	790	893	108
<b>MN</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>103</b>
NY	648	649	649	1,570	1,485	1,630	1,017	964	1,058	104
PA	560	555	555	1,600	1,550	1,700	896	860	944	105
WI	1,233	1,240	1,241	1,560	1,455	1,620	1,923	1,804	2,010	105
23 States	8,099	8,206	8,223	1,707	1,587	1,773	13,825	13,022	14,579	105