

# Dairy, 2007

By Jillayne K. Weaver

**Milk Production Down Slightly:** Pennsylvania's milk production for 2007 was 10.7 billion pounds, 60 million pounds less than 2006 production. The 2007 average milk production per cow was 19,422 pounds for the year, 32 pounds more than 2006 production of 19,390 pounds per cow.

Pennsylvania held steady at 5th place in the nation's ranking in milk production, producing 5.8 percent of the nation's milk. California was 1st with 21.9 percent of the U.S. production, followed by Wisconsin, New York, and Idaho respectively.

The number of milk cows in the State averaged 550,000 head in 2007, 4,000 less than in 2006. The number of commercial dairy farms for 2007 is estimated at 8,200, down 200 from 2006. Commercial dairy farms are defined as farms with 10 or more milk cows in operation during the year.

**Milk Disposition & Income:** Gross income from marketings of Pennsylvania milk during 2007 totaled 2.23 billion dollars, up 664.2 million dollars from 2006. Marketings totaled 10.6 billion pounds in 2007, down 71 million pounds from 2006. Returns from both wholesale and retail sales in 2007 averaged \$20.90 per hundred pounds of milk, compared with \$14.60 per hundred pounds in 2006.

An estimated 64 million pounds of milk were used on farms where produced. Calves in the Commonwealth were fed 44 million pounds of milk, while 20 million pounds were used by producer's households as fluid milk, cream and butter.

**Production Costs:** Monthly cost of production statistics were discontinued in July 2005. Statistics prior to this time may be obtained by contacting this office.

