

Dairy and Livestock

The number of dairy farms remained unchanged for 2002, with milk production per cow increasing and cow numbers decreasing during the year. The average herd size for the year increased slightly bringing Delaware's total to 9,300 head, while production decreased to 16,559 pounds per cow. The increase in herd size more than offset the decline in milk per cow to bring total milk production up nearly 3 percent to 154 million pounds. Cash receipts decreased 15 percent, due to a significant decrease in average milk prices for the year. Dairymen received an average of \$13.30 per hundredweight, \$2.80 less than in 2001.

The January 1, 2003, inventory of all cattle and calves in Delaware decreased from a year earlier to 25,000 head. Delaware beef production was down 8 percent in 2002 to 6.8 million pounds. Cash receipts also decreased 8 percent, to \$6.1 million. This decrease was due to lower marketings and lower cattle and calf prices.

Hog and pig inventory as of December 1, 2002, decreased from a year earlier to 22,000 head. Pork production was 6.0 million pounds, down 27 percent, and the cash receipts from hogs and pigs also decreased, down 35 percent due to significantly lower production and prices during the year.

Number of Livestock Operations by Type, Delaware 1998 - 2002

Year	With Cattle	With Milk Cows	With Beef Cows	With Hogs & Pigs
1998	450	130	240	150
1999	480	130	240	120
2000	480	120	240	130
2001	480	120	240	130
2002	450	120	230	130

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 1998 – 2002

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
1998	11.0	14,827	547	3.69	163
1999	11.0	15,545	580	3.73	171
2000	10.0	15,000	564	3.76	150
2001	9.0	16,677	610	3.66	150
2002	9.3	16,559	616	3.72	154

Milk and Milkfat: Marketings and Income, Delaware 1998-2002

Year	Milk Utilized (million lbs.)	Average returns		Cash Receipts from Marketings (1,000 dollars)
		Per Cwt. Milk (dollars)	Per Lb. Milkfat (dollars)	
1998	162.0	15.70	4.25	25,434
1999	170.0	15.00	4.02	25,500
2000	148.9	13.50	3.59	20,102
2001	148.9	16.10	4.40	23,973
2002	152.9	13.30	3.58	20,336