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**Quarterly Milk Production**  
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**Louisiana Milk Production**

Louisiana dairies produced an estimated 140 million pounds of milk during the January-March 2004 quarter, down 6 percent from the same period in 2003. The number of milk cows averaged 40,000 head during the quarter, down 9 percent from last year.

**United States Milk Production**

Milk production in the 20 major states during March totaled 12.8 billion pounds, down 1.8 percent from March 2003. February revised production, at 11.8 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from February 2003. However, adjusting for leap year, February milk production was down 2.1 percent on a per day basis from last year. The February revision represented a decrease of 35 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major states averaged 1,656 pounds for March, 10 pounds below March 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major states was 7.71 million head, 96,000 head less than March 2003, and 2,000 head less than February 2004.

Milk production in the United States during the January-March quarter totaled 42.7 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from the January-March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 8.99 million head, 153,000 head less than the same period last year.

**Milk Production: Selected States, January-March 2003-2004**

Selected States	January - March Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		January - March Milk Production <sup>2</sup>	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	-----Thousands-----		-----Million Pounds-----	
Alabama	18	17	70	70
Arkansas	30	27	96	87
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>140</b>
Mississippi	32	28	122	109
Oklahoma	83	80	336	330
Tennessee	82	77	325	310
Texas	320	317	1,448	1,578
20 Major States <sup>3</sup>	7,810	7,714	13,014	12,776
<b>United States</b>	<b>9,144</b>	<b>8,991</b>	<b>43,069</b>	<b>42,688</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup>Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup>Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin.

## Biotechnology Varieties

The National Agricultural Statistics Service conducts the March Agricultural Survey in all states each year. Randomly selected farmers across the United States were asked what they intend to plant during the upcoming growing season. Questions include whether or not farmers intend to plant corn, soybean, or upland cotton seed that, through biotechnology, is resistant to herbicides, insects, or both. The biotechnology (biotech) questions were asked for the first time in March 2000. The states published individually in the following table represent 81 percent of all upland cotton planted acres.

### Upland Cotton: Biotechnology Varieties by State and United States, Percent of Upland Cotton Planted, 2003-2004

State	Insect Resistant (Bt)		Herbicide Resistant	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Arkansas	24	32	25	26
California	9	5	27	36
Georgia	14	13	32	19
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>
Mississippi	15	13	16	13
North Carolina	16	14	29	29
Texas	8	18	39	34
Other States <sup>1</sup>	18	17	32	28
<b>United States</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>
	Stacked Gene Varieties		All Biotech Varieties	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Arkansas	46	37	95	95
California	3	3	39	44
Georgia	47	61	93	93
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>92</b>
Mississippi	61	69	92	95
North Carolina	48	49	93	92
Texas	6	6	53	58
Other States <sup>1</sup>	38	44	88	89
<b>United States</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>

<sup>1</sup>Other states includes all other states in the Upland cotton estimating program.

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