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MINNESOTA'S FEBRUARY MILK OUTPUT DOWN SLIGHTLY

February 2004 milk production totaled 663 million pounds in Minnesota, down slightly from the 665 million pounds produced in February 2003, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. Revised January milk output was 700 million pounds.

Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,425 pounds in February 2004, up 40 pounds from last February. A portion of this gain can be attributed to leap year, with February 2004 having one more day than February 2003. The revised January rate was 1,505 pounds per cow. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during February 2004 was 465,000 head, the same as January, but 15,000 below a year ago.

Accumulated Minnesota milk production for the first 2 months of 2004 was 1.36 billion pounds, down 2% from the same period a year ago.

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION UP 2% IN MAJOR STATES

Milk production during February 2004 totaled 11.82 billion pounds, up 2% from February 2003 in the 20 major states. Revised January production for the 20 states was 12.49 billion pounds. Production per cow in the 20 states averaged 1,531 pounds during February 2004, up 42 pounds from February 2003. Revised January output per cow was 1,619 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 20 major states during February averaged 7.72 million head, down 91,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated milk production in the 20 major states for the first 2 months of 2004 was 24.31 billion pounds, up less than half of 1% from the same period a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Feb 2003	Jan 2004 Rev.	Feb 2004	Feb 2003	Jan 2004 Rev.	Feb 2004	Feb 2003	Jan 2004 Rev.	Feb 2004	2004 as % of 2003
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,676	1,701	1,705	1,655	1,755	1,680	2,774	2,985	2,864	103
ID	394	412	412	1,650	1,800	1,700	650	742	700	108
MN	480	465	465	1,385	1,505	1,425	665	700	663	100
NY	677	658	660	1,400	1,490	1,400	948	980	924	97
PA	588	563	564	1,430	1,500	1,425	841	845	804	96
WI	1,265	1,245	1,245	1,370	1,510	1,415	1,733	1,880	1,762	102
20 States	7,811	7,716	7,720	1,489	1,619	1,531	11,628	12,491	11,822	102