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MINNESOTA'S MARCH MILK OUTPUT DOWN 5 PERCENT

March 2004 milk production totaled 702 million pounds in Minnesota, down 5 percent from the 739 million pounds produced in March 2003, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. Revised February milk output was 658 million pounds.

Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,510 pounds in March 2004, down 30 pounds from last March. The revised February rate was 1,415 pounds per cow. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during March 2004 was 465,000 head, the same as February, but 15,000 below a year ago.

Accumulated Minnesota milk production for the first 3 months of 2004 was 2.06 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the same period a year ago.

MARCH MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT IN MAJOR STATES

Milk production during March 2004 totaled 12.78 billion pounds, down 2 percent from March 2003 in the 20 major states. Revised February production for the 20 states was 11.79 billion pounds. Production per cow in the 20 states averaged 1,656 pounds during March 2004, down 10 pounds from March 2003. Revised February output per cow was 1,528 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 20 major states during March averaged 7.71 million head, down 96,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated milk production in the 20 major states for the first 3 months of 2004 was 37.05 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the same period a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Mar 2003	Feb 2004 Rev.	Mar 2004	Mar 2003	Feb 2004 Rev.	Mar 2004	Mar 2003	Feb 2004 Rev.	Mar 2004	2004 as % of 2003
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,681	1,705	1,708	1,850	1,670	1,810	3,110	2,847	3,091	99
ID	395	412	413	1,850	1,660	1,810	731	684	748	102
MN	480	465	465	1,540	1,415	1,510	739	658	702	95
NY	680	660	660	1,540	1,400	1,510	1,047	924	997	95
PA	585	564	564	1,600	1,425	1,570	936	804	885	95
WI	1,263	1,245	1,244	1,530	1,405	1,520	1,932	1,749	1,891	98
20 States	7,810	7,716	7,714	1,666	1,528	1,656	13,014	11,787	12,776	98