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A special "Thank you" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, Internet, telephone, or personal interviews.

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## FIELD CROPS

Maine's 2009 **oat** production is expected to total 2.0 million bushels with an associated yield of 65 bushels per acre, no change from the previous year. Harvested oat acreage is expected to remain at previous year's 31,000 acres.

Maine's 2009 **barley** production is expected to total 0.8 million bushels, a 21 percent decrease from a year earlier. Barley acreage harvested is estimated at 15,000 acres, a decrease of 4,000 acres from last year. Based on grower assessments in early September, grain yields are expected to average 55 bushels per acre in the state of Maine, no change from the previous year.

Daily rain showers during April delayed planting for many Maine oat and barley growers. Once planting began around

the beginning of May, cool, dry conditions during the month allowed farmers to make significant progress. Rain at the start of June slowed planting but growers were able to get their entire crop in the ground by the week ending June 7, ahead of last year and normal. Prolonged rains affected much of Maine during June and July, but skies cleared up by August 24 allowing the small grain harvest to get underway. Barley harvest began slightly behind schedule while oat harvest began ahead of schedule. Growers were able to harvest non-stop due to continuous dry conditions. Harvest of both crops was complete by September 20, ahead of last year and normal. Crop weather specialists rated Maine's oat and barley crops in good to fair condition for the entire harvesting season.

**MAINE OATS and BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2008 – 2009**

Crop and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres				Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
<b>Oats</b>								
Maine	32	32	31	31	65.0	65.0	2,015	2,015
UNITED STATES	3,247	3,404	1,400	1,379	63.7	67.6	89,135	93,276
<b>Barley</b>								
Maine	20	16	19	15	55.0	55.0	1,045	825
UNITED STATES	4,246	3,567	3,779	3,123	63.6	72.8	240,193	227,383

SOURCE: *Small Grains 2009 Summary*, September 30, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## TOBACCO

Hail, heavy rains, and high winds during the growing season decimated tobacco fields in both Massachusetts and Connecticut leaving many growers with total crop losses. Broadleaf was the hardest hit with nearly half of the planted acreage in Connecticut lost and up to 70 percent of the Massachusetts planted acreage harrowed under. Broadleaf harvest lagged behind normal and was complete by the beginning of October, three weeks later than last year. Shade harvest was completed on schedule by mid-September.

The October 1, 2009 tobacco forecast placed **broadleaf** production at 2.0 million pounds in the Connecticut

River Valley, 35 percent lower than 2008 due to the drop in acreage harvested. Early October assessments were made as the broadleaf crop hung in the sheds to cure. Growers placed expected marketed yield at 1,535 pounds per acre, 137 pounds per acre more than the previous year. **Shade** production is expected to total 999,000 pounds in Connecticut and Massachusetts, 29 percent below the previous year due to fewer acres harvested and reduced yields. Growers placed expected marketed yield at 1,189 pounds per acre, 103 pounds per acres lower than the previous year.

## TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2007 – 2008 and 2009 October 1 Forecast

Crop and State	Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2007	2008	2009 Forecast as of October 1	2007	2008	2009 Forecast as of October 1	2007	2008	2009 Forecast as of October 1
	Acres			Pounds			1,000 Pounds		
Broadleaf (Type 51):									
Connecticut	1,900	1,700	1,000	1,850	1,380	1,500	3,515	2,346	1,500
Massachusetts	1,100	500	300	1,780	1,460	1,650	1,958	730	495
CT and MA Total	3,000	2,200	1,300	1,824	1,398	1,535	5,473	3,076	1,995
Shade (Type 61):									
Connecticut	1,000	900	750	1,510	1,300	1,200	1,510	1,170	900
Massachusetts	220	190	90	1,450	1,250	1,100	319	238	99
CT and MA Total	1,220	1,090	840	1,499	1,292	1,189	1,829	1,408	999
<b>UNITED STATES (All Cigar Types)</b>	<b>6,020</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>4,140</b>	<b>1,901</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>1,858</b>	<b>11,442</b>	<b>8,444</b>	<b>7,694</b>

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, October 9, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## POTATOES

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 2004 – 2008 Crop Years  
Prices Received by Farmers for Fall Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average <sup>1</sup>

Crop Year	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Market Year Average
Dollars per Cwt												
2004	5.90	5.15	5.65	6.15	6.35	5.90	6.55	6.60	6.95	7.30	7.40	6.50
2005	*	5.85	6.30	7.85	8.20	8.20	8.40	8.75	9.45	9.30	8.50	8.25
2006	*	6.25	6.50	8.15	8.25	8.35	7.90	7.60	8.15	8.20	8.05	7.80
2007	*	6.20	6.40	7.25	7.55	7.60	8.00	8.55	8.65	9.15	8.75	7.90
2008	*	7.80	8.65	10.20	9.95	9.95	10.40	11.20	10.60	9.70	9.15	9.75

<sup>1</sup> Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.

\* Missing data indicates too few potatoes being marketed to set price.

SOURCE: *Potatoes 2008 Summary*, September 24, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in **Vermont** during September 2009 totaled 199 million pounds, a decrease of five million pounds from September 2008. There were an estimated 134,000 milk cows on Vermont farms in September, a decrease of 1,000 head from the previous month and 5,000 head from the same month the previous year. Milk production per cow averaged 1,485 pounds, an increase of 15 pounds per cow from September 2008.

Milk production in New England totaled 988.8 million pounds for the third quarter (July - September) of 2009, down 3.5 percent from the same quarter in 2008. Third quarter milk cows averaged 215,600 head, a decrease of 7,000 head

from a year earlier. Quarterly milk production in New England averaged 4,586 pounds per cow, a decrease of 19 pounds per cow from the same quarter the previous year.

Milk production in the United States during the third quarter of this year totaled 46.8 billion pounds, down fractionally from the third quarter of 2008. Nationwide, the number of milk cows averaged 9.2 million head from July – September 2009, compared with 9.3 million a year earlier. The United States' average quarterly rate was 5,105 pounds per cow, an increase of 80 pounds per cow from the same quarter the previous year.

## QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, July – September 2009 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>			Production per Cow <sup>2</sup>			Production		
	Jul – Sep 2008	Apr – Jun 2009	Jul – Sep 2009	Jul – Sep 2008	Apr – Jun 2009	Jul – Sep 2009	Jul – Sep 2008	Apr – Jun 2009	Jul – Sep 2009
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Connecticut	19.0	18.0	18.0	4,650	4,980	4,780	88.0	90.0	86.0
Maine	33.0	33.0	33.0	4,670	4,620	4,600	154.0	152.0	152.0
Massachusetts	14.5	14.0	13.5	4,350	4,360	4,250	63.0	61.0	57.0
New Hampshire	15.0	15.0	15.0	4,910	5,050	4,870	74.0	76.0	73.0
Rhode Island	1.1	1.1	1.1	4,530	4,550	4,360	5.0	5.0	4.8
Vermont	140.0	136.0	135.0	4,579	4,654	4,563	641.0	633.0	616.0
New England	222.6	217.1	215.6	4,605	4,684	4,586	1,025.0	1,017.0	988.8
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>9,330.0</b>	<b>9,260.0</b>	<b>9,159.0</b>	<b>5,025</b>	<b>5,278</b>	<b>5,105</b>	<b>46,881.0</b>	<b>48,874.0</b>	<b>46,758.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Average number for quarter including dry cows.<sup>2</sup> In Vermont, New England, and the United States, quarterly production per cow equals milk production for the quarter divided by the average number of milk cows for the same quarter.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, October 20, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, September 2009 with Comparisons**

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>			Production per Cow			Production		
	September 2008	August 2009	September 2009	September 2008	August 2009	September 2009	September 2008	August 2009	September 2009
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	139	135	134	1,470	1,520	1,485	204	205	199
New York	626	618	617	1,590	1,690	1,590	995	1,044	981
Pennsylvania	548	545	542	1,530	1,610	1,560	838	877	846
<b>UNITED STATES <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>8,510</b>	<b>8,374</b>	<b>8,342</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,746</b>	<b>1,672</b>	<b>14,041</b>	<b>14,617</b>	<b>13,949</b>

<sup>1</sup> Average number for month, includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> United States includes 23 major States: AZ, CA, CO, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, October 20, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**VERMONT MILK: Prices Received by Farmers for Milk Sold 2004 – 2009 <sup>1</sup>**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
	Price per Cwt												
2004	14.00	14.40	16.20	17.80	20.10	19.80	17.60	15.50	16.30	16.60	17.00	17.20	16.90
2005	16.90	16.00	16.60	15.80	15.50	15.10	15.80	15.70	16.10	16.50	16.10	15.50	16.00
2006	15.30	14.60	13.80	12.80	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.90	13.60	14.50	14.70	14.80	13.70
2007	15.70	15.90	16.80	17.70	19.20	21.20	23.20	23.50	23.80	23.30	23.80	23.30	20.60
2008	22.20	20.40	18.90	19.30	18.80	19.90	20.80	19.90	19.70	18.80	18.40	16.50	19.50
2009 <sup>2</sup>	15.10	12.60	12.40	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.40	12.70	13.30				

<sup>1</sup> Prices include quality, quantity, and other premiums; excludes deductions for hauling and hauling subsidies.

<sup>2</sup> Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, September 29, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS****MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, August 2009 with Comparisons**

Product	August 2008 <sup>1</sup>	July 2009 <sup>1</sup>	August 2009	August 2009 as percent of:	
				August 2008	July 2009
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	641	2,199	1,564	244	71
American Type Cheese <sup>2</sup>	6,608	7,522	7,095	107	94
Mozzarella Cheese	6,395	3,737	3,815	60	102
Other Italian Cheese <sup>3</sup>	3,055	2,217	2,429	80	110
Cottage Cheese <sup>4</sup>	532	554	510	96	92
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	7,668	8,631	6,096	79	71
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	659	652	749	114	115
Milk Sherbet, Hard	150	152	172	115	113

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

<sup>2</sup> American Type Cheese includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all Italian Cheese except Mozzarella.

<sup>4</sup> Creamed and Low Fat.

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, October 2, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**LAYERS and EGG**

Connecticut and Maine **layer** inventories in September 2009 totaled 6.1 million birds, down 7.3 percent from the combined total in September 2008. Maine is the leading producer of eggs in New England, laying 77 million eggs in September 2009. Connecticut layers produced 63 million eggs.

The **United States** layer inventory during September 2009 totaled nearly 334 million, down 0.3 percent from a year earlier. United States egg production totaled 7.37 billion eggs during September 2009, an increase of 0.4 percent from September 2008.

**MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, September 2008 – 2009**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers <sup>1</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers <sup>1</sup>		Egg Production from All Layers <sup>1</sup>	
	September 2008	September 2009	September 2008	September 2009	September 2008	September 2009	September 2008	September 2009
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,866	2,580	2,927	2,639	2,187	2,387	64	63
Maine	3,602	3,395	3,678	3,487	2,202	2,208	81	77
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>273,118</b>	<b>273,691</b>	<b>334,489</b>	<b>333,613</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>2,209</b>	<b>7,339</b>	<b>7,371</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regard less of size.

SOURCE: *Chickens and Eggs*, October 23, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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*Photo courtesy of Ridge Hill Cranberry Company, East Freetown, MA*

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