



HIGHLIGHTS:

Onion Acreage *U.S. Turkey Eggs*
U.S. Cattle on Feed *Manufactured Dairy*
March Milk Production

Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) in February 2004, at 5.35 million pounds, was up 10.2 percent from February 2003 and up 15.3 percent from January 2004. Hard ice cream production totaled 1.31 million gallons, up 10.8 percent from February 2003 and down 0.9 percent from January 2004.

UNITED STATES: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 701 million pounds, 7.2 percent above February 2003 but 4.8 percent below January 2004. American type cheese production totaled 299 million pounds, 4.6 percent above February 2003 but 7.0 percent below January 2004. Butter production was 106 million pounds in February, 17.6 percent below February 2003 and 19.8 percent below January 2004. Hard Ice cream production, at 65.7 million gallons, was down 7.0 percent from February 2003.

Manufactured Dairy Production -February 2004 with Comparisons

Product	Utah		United States			
	February 2003	January ¹ 2004	February 2004	February 2003	January ¹ 2004	February 2004
1,000 Pounds						
Total Cheese	4,856	4,641	5,351	653,516	735,851	700,696
1,000 Gallons						
Hard ice cream	1,181	1,321	1,309	70,615	59,132	65,693

¹ Revised.

Onion Acreage

UTAH: Summer storage onion acreage for 2004 is estimated at 1,800 planted acres, down 5 percent from a year ago. Drought conditions continue and the water situation is uncertain. The growers have begun planting and are expecting a good year as long as there is enough irrigation water.

UNITED STATES: Total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2004 is forecast at 177,270 acres, up 6 percent from last year. Spring Onions will be harvested from 37,100 acres in 2004, up 17 percent from 2003. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 6.93 million cwt, 21 percent above last year. Summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 23,200 acres, is up 2 percent. Total summer onion acreage, at 138,470 acres, is up 5 percent from the previous year. Summer storage onions planted acreage is 115,270 acres, up 6 percent from 2003.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.75 million head on April 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above April 1, 2003 and 7 percent below April 1, 2002. The inventory included 6.62 million steers and steer calves, down 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.06 million head, up 4 percent from 2003. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 8 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.74 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 347,000, 600-699 pounds were 346,000, 700-799 pounds were 641,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 470,000. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, 9 percent above 2003 and 8 percent above 2002. Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during March, 8 percent above 2003 and 3 percent below 2002.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000 + Capacity Feedlots, United States, April 1, 2002- 2004

Item	Number			2004 as % of	
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003
..... 1,000 Head Percent					
On Feed Mar 1 ¹	11,518	10,546	10,977	95	104
Placed on Feed during Mar	1,953	2,032	1,804	92	89
Fed Cattle Marketed during Mar	1,825	1,803	1,966	108	109
Other Disappearance during Mar ²	69	62	67	97	108
On Feed Apr 1 ¹	11,577	10,713	10,748	93	100

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

March Milk Production Down 1.8 Percent

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 Cows and Production: By State, March 2003-2004

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
AZ	155	155	2,085	2,095	323	325	0.6
CA	1,681	1,708	1,850	1,810	3,110	3,091	-0.6
FL	145	139	1,435	1,540	208	214	2.9
ID	395	413	1,850	1,810	731	748	2.3
IL	113	108	1,670	1,650	189	178	-5.8
IN	147	145	1,720	1,730	253	251	-0.8
IA	203	194	1,640	1,630	333	316	-5.1
KY	120	109	1,135	1,175	136	128	-5.9
MI	302	298	1,800	1,790	544	533	-2.0
MN	480	465	1,540	1,510	739	702	-5.0
MO	131	123	1,340	1,345	176	165	-6.3
NM	315	327	1,835	1,765	578	577	-0.2
NY	680	660	1,540	1,510	1,047	997	-4.8
OH	260	260	1,500	1,520	390	395	1.3
PA	585	564	1,600	1,570	936	885	-5.4
TX	320	317	1,610	1,735	515	550	6.8
VT	151	144	1,535	1,540	232	222	-4.3
VA	116	101	1,360	1,450	158	146	-7.6
WA	248	240	1,950	1,925	484	462	-4.5
WI	1,263	1,244	1,530	1,520	1,932	1,891	-2.1
20-State Total	7,810	7,714	1,666	1,656	13,014	12,776	-1.8

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

U.S. Turkey Eggs in Incubators & Poult Placement

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2004, in the United States totaled 30.3 million, down 5 percent from April 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 4 percent above the March 2004 total of 29.1 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, down 2 percent; West North Central, down 7 percent; North and South Atlantic, up 1 percent; South Central, down 10 percent; and West, down 18 percent. The 23.9 million poult placements during March 2004 in the United States were

down 4 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 4 percent from the February 2004 total of 22.9 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, down 2 percent; West North Central, down 5 percent; North and South Atlantic, down slightly; South Central, down 8 percent; and West, down 14 percent.

Eggs in Incubators: First of Month by Region and United States, April 2004 with Comparisons

Geographic Division	Apr 1 2003	Mar 1 2004	Apr 1 2004	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Percent	Percent
E N Central	4,869	4,559	4,772	98	105
W N Central	11,921	11,131	11,102	93	100
N & S Atlantic	9,551	*8,747	9,644	101	110
S Central	2,764	*2,504	2,475	90	99
West	2,846	2,172	2,345	82	108
US	31,951	*29,113	30,338	95	104

*Revised.

Poults Placements: Entire Month by Region and United States, March 2004 with Comparisons ¹

Geographic Division	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Percent	Percent
E N Central	3,773	3,118	3,708	98	119
W N Central	9,319	9,119	8,854	95	97
N & S Atlantic	7,642	6,826	7,621	100	112
S Central	2,230	1,836	2,056	92	112
West	1,938	2,006	1,669	86	83
US	24,902	22,905	23,908	96	104

¹Regional placements refer to poult placements from hatcheries located in that region, and not the actual location of the birds after placement.

North Atlantic: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

South Atlantic: DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.

South Central: AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.

West: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.