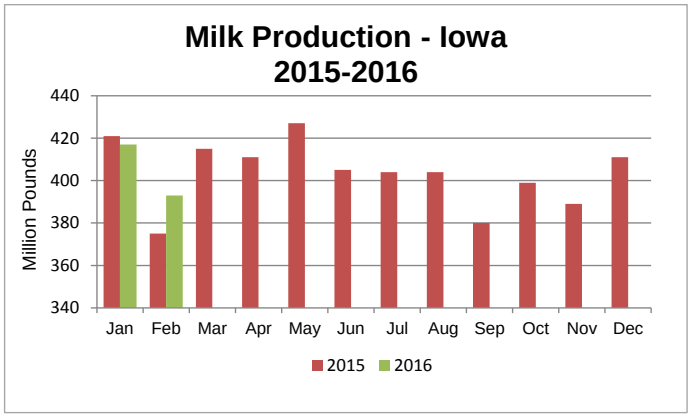
United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

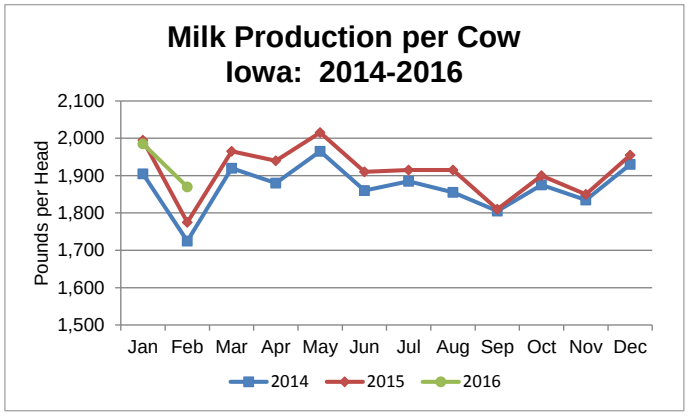
Iowa Ag News – Milk Production

Upper Midwest Region - Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 284-4340 · (800) 772-0825
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/ia
Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

March 18, 2016 *Media Contact: Greg Thessen*

Milk production in Iowa during February 2016 totaled 393 million pounds, up 5 percent from the previous February according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Milk Production* report. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to the leap year causes February milk production to be up 1 percent on a per day basis. The average number of milk cows during February, at 210,000 head, was the same as last month but 1,000 fewer than a year ago. Monthly production per cow averaged 1,870 pounds, up 95 pounds from last February.





Milk Cows and Production – Selected States: February 2015 and 2016

State	Milk Cows [1]		Milk Per Cow [2]		Milk Production [2]		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	Change from 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	195	195	1,990	2,070	388	404	4.1
California	1,779	1,774	1,845	1,860	3,282	3,300	0.5
Colorado	145	148	1,970	2,050	286	303	5.9
Florida	124	126	1,780	1,785	221	225	1.8
Idaho	581	588	1,810	1,890	1,052	1,111	5.6
Illinois	95	94	1,590	1,660	151	156	3.3
Indiana	181	184	1,705	1,815	309	334	8.1
Iowa	**211**	**210**	**1,775**	**1,870**	**375**	**393**	**4.8**
Kansas	143	142	1,740	1,825	249	259	4.0
Michigan	403	414	1,900	2,065	766	855	11.6
Minnesota	460	460	1,590	1,670	731	768	5.1
New Mexico	323	311	1,880	1,900	607	591	-2.6
New York	616	620	1,715	1,845	1,056	1,144	8.3
Ohio	268	266	1,570	1,655	421	440	4.5
Oregon	125	126	1,570	1,645	196	207	5.6
Pennsylvania	530	530	1,585	1,640	840	869	3.5
South Dakota	101	112	1,700	1,760	172	197	14.5
Texas	468	455	1,740	1,815	814	826	1.5
Utah	96	95	1,770	1,820	170	173	1.8
Vermont	132	131	1,545	1,650	204	216	5.9
Virginia	93	91	1,500	1,570	140	143	2.1
Washington	277	277	1,830	1,895	507	525	3.6
Wisconsin	1,275	1,280	1,715	1,860	2,187	2,381	8.9
23-State Total	8,621	8,629	1,754	1,833	15,124	15,820	4.6

[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves

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United States Milk Production

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 15.8 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from February 2015. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to leap year causes February milk production to be up 1.0 percent on a per day basis. January revised production, at 16.6 billion pounds, was up 0.2 percent from January 2015. The January revision represented a decrease of 13 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

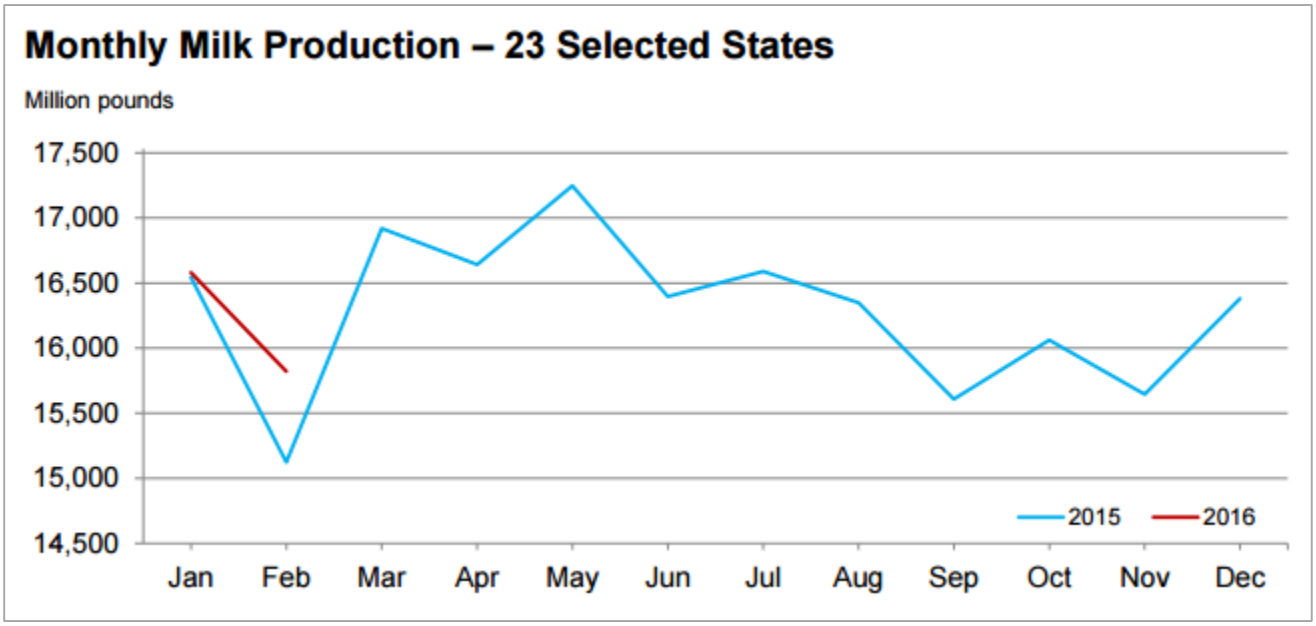
Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,833 pounds for February, 79 pounds above February 2015. This is the highest production per cow for the month of February since the 23 State series began in 2003. When production is adjusted for the additional day due to leap year, February production per cow is 16 pounds above February 2015 on a per day basis.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.63 million head, 8,000 head more than February 2015, and 2,000 head more than January 2016.

Milk production in the United States during February totaled 16.9 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from February 2015.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,815 pounds for February, 78 pounds above February 2015.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.31 million head, 4,000 head more than February 2015, and 2,000 head more than January 2016.



The complete report can be found under Publications on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov