

## **2003 DAIRY HIGHLIGHTS**

### **MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION**

The average number of milk cows on Kentucky farms continued to decline during 2003 and totaled 116,000 head, down 6,000 head from the 2002 average. This continues the steady decline in milk cow numbers that began in 1986.

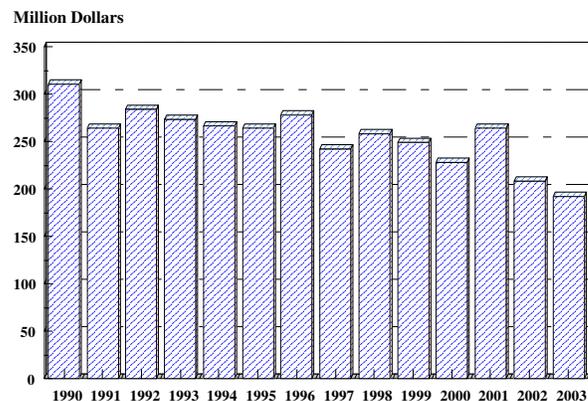
Total milk production in Kentucky was 1.46 billion pounds, down 9 percent from 2002. Average production per cow, at 12,621 pounds, was down from the 2002 average of 13,230. The number of farms with milk cows totaled 2,500, down from 2,600 in 2002.

### **MILK DISPOSITION AND INCOME**

Kentucky dairy producers sold 1.43 billion pounds of milk to plants and dealers during 2003 and used 31 million pounds on the farm. Farm use includes milk fed to calves and other livestock, and used for milk, cream and butter. Farm use of milk during 2003 was down 9 percent from 2002, and milk sold to plants and dealers decreased 9 percent from 2002.

The value of milk produced during 2003 came to \$196.2 million, down 8 percent from 2002. This includes the value of milk used on farms. The average price of all grades sold was \$13.40 per hundredweight, up from \$13.20 per hundredweight during 2002. Cash receipts from marketings totaled \$192.0 million, down 8 percent from the \$208.6 million reported in 2002.

### **KENTUCKY CASH RECEIPTS FROM MILK MARKETED**



### **MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS**

Kentucky plants produced 13.0 million pounds of cottage cheese curd in 2003, up 3 percent from 2002. Creamed cottage cheese production totaled 14.6 million pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Lowfat cottage

cheese production was 8.77 million pounds during 2003, up 16 percent from 2002. During 2003, 19 Kentucky plants produced one or more dairy products. Totals for most dairy products produced in Kentucky are not published to avoid disclosing individual plant production.