

dairy review

Maryland cash receipts from milk marketings for 2006 totaled \$152.8 million, down 19 percent from \$182.40 million for 2005. Milk producers received an average of \$14.10 per hundredweight for milk sold in 2006, down from the \$16.20 received per hundredweight in 2005.

Milk production for 2006 totaled 1.09 billion pounds which is down 4 percent from 1.14 billion in 2005. The annual average number of milk cows was 64,000, down 7,000 from a year earlier. Milk per cow averaged 17,078 pounds, 1,092 pounds per cow more than in 2005. Dairy herds in Frederick County, the top milk producing county, produced 310.0 million pounds of milk in 2006, down 5.0 million pounds from the previous year, and accounting for 28 percent of Maryland's total milk production.

Washington and Carroll counties produced 198.0 and 150.0 million pounds of milk, respectively. These top three counties produced 60 percent of Maryland's milk during 2006. Statewide, annual average milk fat was 3.65 percent, up slightly from 3.59 percent in 2005. Monthly fat tests in 2006 ranged from 3.57 percent in August to 3.68 percent in December.

Milk Production and Total Cows

