

Dairy review



Maryland cash receipts from milk marketings for 2008 totaled \$194.2 million, down from \$208.8 million in 2007. In 2008, Milk producers received an average of \$19.00 per hundredweight for milk sold, down from the \$20.00 received in 2007. Milk production for 2008 totaled 1.03 billion pounds, which decreased two percent from 1.05 billion pounds in 2007. The annual average number of milk cows was 56,000, down 2,000 head from previous year. In 2008, milk per cow averaged 18,375 pounds, up 254 pounds per cow from a year earlier.

Dairy herds in Frederick County, the top milk producing county, produced 276.0 million pounds of milk in 2008, down two percent from previous year. In addition, Frederick County accounts for 27 percent of Maryland's total milk production. Washington and Carroll counties produced 257.0 and 112.0 million pounds of milk, respectively. These top three counties produced 63 percent of the state milk production during 2008. Statewide, annual average of milk fat was 3.72 percent, up slightly from 3.70 percent in 2007.

