

# Dairy review

Maryland cash receipts from milk marketings for 2009 totaled \$144.6 million, down from \$194.2 million in 2008. In 2009, Milk producers received an average of \$14.50 per hundredweight for milk sold, down from the \$19.00 received in 2008. Milk production for 2009 totaled 997 million pounds, which decreased three percent from 1.03 billion pounds in 2008. The annual average number of milk cows was 55,000, down 1,000 head from previous year. In 2009, milk per cow averaged 18,255 pounds, down 120 pounds per cow from a year earlier.

Dairy herds in Frederick County, the top milk producing county, produced 270 million pounds of milk in 2009, 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 250 and 110 million pounds of milk, respectively. These top three counties produced 63 percent of the state milk production during 2009. Statewide, annual average of milk fat was 3.79 percent, up slightly from 3.72 percent in 2008.



**AVERAGE ANNUAL PRODUCTION PER MILK COW**

