



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

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A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone, or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly and quarterly surveys.

IN THIS ISSUE

Chickens: Layers and Eggs
Dairy Products
Field Crops: Oats and Barley
Milk: Monthly Production and Price
Potato Prices
Tobacco

FIELD CROPS: Maine **oat** production is expected to total 2.4 million bushels in 2004, up 18 percent from the previous year's output. Grain acreage harvested is estimated at 32,000 acres, up 6,000 acres from the previous year. Harvest was slowed this year due to wet fields and high moisture content of grains. As of the first week in September, only 30 percent of the oats had been combined, compared with normal of 50 percent. Early September grower assessments placed average oats for grain yields at 75 bushels per acre, compared with 78 bushels per acre a year earlier.

Maine's 2004 **barley** production is estimated at 1.4 million bushels, 19 percent below 2003 output due to fewer acres harvested. Grain acreage harvested totaled 22,000 acres, 5,000 acres less than a year earlier. Grain yields are expected to average 65 bushels per acre, unchanged from the 2003 barley yield average.

TOBACCO: The October 1, 2004 tobacco forecast placed **broadleaf** production at 4.35 million pounds in the Connecticut River Valley. Increased acreage and above average yields would place 2004 production 28 percent above last year's output and eight percent above 2002 crop sales. Although blue mold was confirmed in the Connecticut River Valley in early August, growers were on an intensive spray schedule to keep ahead of the disease, and damage appears to be minimal. Broadleaf harvest finished up by September 19, on schedule with normal, and excellent curing conditions prevailed through the end of that month. Growers provided early October assessments with the crop still hanging in the sheds, and placed broadleaf yields at 1,811 pounds per acre.

Producers intend to harvest 1.8 million pounds of **shade** tobacco in Connecticut and Massachusetts, a 35 percent increase in production from last year's disease-reduced

crop. Based on early October assessments, yields were expected to average 1,563 pounds per acre, compared with the 1,253 pounds per acre average a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in Vermont totaled 207 million pounds for September 2004, down one percent from September 2003. There were an estimated 145,000 milk cows on Vermont farms in September, unchanged from the previous month, but a decrease of 2,000 cows from September 2003.

Milk production in New England during the third quarter (July-September) of 2004 totaled 1.05 billion pounds, down one percent from the same quarter the previous year. There were an estimated 234,100 milk cows on hand from July through September 2004, a decrease of 900 cows from the previous quarter. Milk production per cow averaged 4,484 pounds for the third quarter of 2004, an increase of 41 pounds per cow from the same quarter in 2003.

Milk production in the United States during the third quarter of this year totaled 42.2 billion pounds, an increase of one percent from the third quarter of 2003. There were 9.0 million milk cows in the United States during the third quarter of the year, slightly above the previous quarter's total. The United States average quarterly milk production rate was 4,671 pounds per cow for the third quarter of 2004, a nearly two percent increase from the third quarter of 2003.

LAYERS and EGGS: During September 2004, all **layers** in **Connecticut** and **Maine** averaged 5.5 million birds, a decrease of nearly 21 percent from the combined total in September 2003. Maine was the largest egg-producing State in New England during September 2004, with an output of 68 million **eggs**. Connecticut was next with a production of 64 million eggs, up three percent from September 2003 production.

The total number of layers in the **United States** during September 2004 averaged 343 million, up nearly three percent from a year earlier. United States egg production totaled 7.32 billion during September 2004, up three percent from last year. Production included 6.26 billion table eggs and 1.06 billion hatching eggs.

MAINE OATS and BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2003 - 2004

Crop and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Acres				Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Oats								
Maine	27	34	26	32	78.0	75.0	2,028	2,400
United States	4,597	4,085	2,220	1,807	65.0	64.5	144,383	116,505
Barley								
Maine	28	23	27	22	65.0	65.0	1,755	1,430
United States	5,348	4,527	4,727	4,031	58.9	69.5	278,283	280,103

SOURCE: *Small Grains Summary*, 8:30 a.m., September 30, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2002 - 2004

Crop and State	Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2002	2003	2004 Forecast as of October 1	2002	2003	2004 Forecast as of October 1	2002	2003	2004 Forecast as of October 1
	Acres			Pounds			1,000 Pounds		
Tobacco									
Broadleaf (Type 51):									
Connecticut	1,350	1,400	1,450	1,820	1,400	1,850	2,457	1,960	2,683
Massachusetts	850	970	950	1,840	1,470	1,750	1,564	1,426	1,663
CT and MA Total	2,200	2,370	2,400	1,828	1,429	1,811	4,021	3,386	4,346
Shade (Type 61):									
Connecticut	650	780	850	1,320	1,290	1,550	858	1,006	1,318
Massachusetts	310	280	300	950	1,150	1,600	295	322	480
CT and MA Total	960	1,060	1,150	1,201	1,253	1,563	1,153	1,328	1,798
United States (All Types)	427,310	411,150	409,610	2,039	1,952	2,156	871,122	802,654	883,168

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., October 12, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1999 - 2004 Crop Years

Crop Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average											
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Market Year Average
	Dollars per Cwt											
1999	5.80	5.30	5.45	6.35	6.45	6.30	6.35	6.40	6.80	6.60	6.75	6.35
2000	5.80	5.45	5.50	5.55	5.60	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.80	7.30	7.00	6.15
2001	6.20	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.75	8.30	8.65	9.45	8.05	7.80	7.65
2002	5.75	5.45	5.60	6.65	6.95	7.10	7.10	7.45	8.10	8.15	7.40	7.05
2003	6.15	5.25	5.45	5.90	5.75	5.85	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.70	6.90	6.05
2004 ^{2/}	5.95	5.45										

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., September 29, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, September 2004 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	147	145	145	1,430	1,495	1,430	210	217	207
New York	668	654	654	1,430	1,500	1,420	955	981	929
Pennsylvania	566	560	562	1,415	1,475	1,415	801	826	795
United States ^{2/}	7,764	7,766	7,770	1,511	1,594	1,529	11,731	12,376	11,879

^{1/} Average number for the month, including dry cows

^{2/} United States includes only 20 major States: Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 15, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, July - September 2004 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	Jul - Sep 2003	Apr - Jun 2004	Jul - Sep 2004	Jul - Sep 2003	Apr - Jun 2004	Jul - Sep 2004	Jul - Sep 2003	Apr - Jun 2004	Jul - Sep 2004
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Connecticut	22.0	21.0	21.0	4,520	4,830	4,540	99.0	101.0	95.0
Maine	35.0	34.0	34.0	4,490	4,610	4,580	157.0	157.0	156.0
Massachusetts	18.0	17.0	17.0	4,400	4,490	4,380	79.0	76.0	74.0
New Hampshire	16.0	16.0	16.0	4,650	4,850	4,670	74.0	78.0	75.0
Rhode Island	1.3	1.2	1.1	4,100	4,350	4,150	5.3	5.2	4.6
Vermont	147.0	144.0	145.0	4,415	4,563	4,448	649.0	657.0	645.0
New England	239.3	233.2	234.1	4,443	4,606	4,484	1,063.3	1,074.2	1,049.6
United States	9,073.0	8,998.0	9,033.0	4,601	4,858	4,671	41,746.0	43,712.0	42,194.0

^{1/} Average number for quarter including dry cows.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 15, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

VERMONT MILK: Prices Received, 1999 - 2004

Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Milk Sold												Annual Average
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Dollars per Cwt												
1999	18.20	16.60	16.50	13.90	13.90	14.10	14.50	14.90	16.20	16.30	16.30	13.90	15.40
2000	13.40	13.40	13.50	13.40	13.50	13.80	13.50	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.30	14.60	13.80
2001	13.70	14.30	15.00	15.40	16.20	16.80	17.00	17.30	17.90	16.40	15.80	14.10	15.80
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.40	11.50	11.50	12.10	13.40	15.00	15.80	15.50	14.80	13.00
2004 ^{2/}	13.90	14.20	15.60	17.50	19.70	19.50	17.40	15.40	15.00				^{3/}

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

^{3/} 2004 Annual average price will be available in May 2005.

SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., September 29, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, August 2004 with Comparisons

PRODUCT	August 2003	July 2004	August 2004	August 2004 as percent of:	
				August 2003	July 2004
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	1,670	2,094	2,396	144	115
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	5,982	5,515	5,850	98	106
Mozzarella Cheese	5,950	5,758	6,134	103	107
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	731	1,001	937	128	94
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	613	667	616	101	92
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	8,199	7,210	6,141	75	85
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	613	1,155	778	127	67
Milk Sherbet, Hard	225	263	274	122	104

^{1/} American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, Monterey and Jack.

^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.

^{3/} Creamed and lowfat.

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., October 4, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, September, 2003 - 2004

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	September 2003	September 2004	September 2003	September 2004	September 2003	September 2004	September 2003	September 2004
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,744	2,668	2,806	2,717	2,210	2,356	62	64
Maine	4,135	2,770	4,181	2,821	2,344	2,410	98	68
United States	270,803	287,592	334,198	343,120	2,128	2,133	7,112	7,319

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.
SOURCE: *Chickens and Eggs*, 3:00 p.m., October 22, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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