

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JESSE H. JONES, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

J. C. CAPT, Director (Appointed May 22, 1941)

WILLIAM LANE AUSTIN, Director (Retired January 31, 1941)

PHILIP M. HAUSER, Assistant Director

HOWARD H. McCLURE, Assistant Director



SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES : 1940

AGRICULTURE

COWS MILKED

and

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Number of Cows Milked, Milk Produced, Disposition of Dairy Products,
and Number of Cows Kept Mainly for Milk Production, Classified by
Number of Cows Milked, by Counties; With Related Data for Other Classes
of Livestock and Livestock Products, for the States and for the United States

Prepared under the supervision of

ZELLMER R. PETTET

Chief Statistician for Agriculture

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Agriculture—ZELLMER R. PETTET, *Chief Statistician.*

SHERMAN S. SLICK, *Assistant Chief Statistician.*

Technical Staff—Warder B. Jenkins, *Chief.*

Farm Information—Hilton E. Robison, *Principal Statistician.*

Field Crops—Hubert L. Collins, *Principal Statistician.*

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Washington, D. C., October 30, 1942

SIR:

I transmit herewith for publication a special compilation from the Census of Agriculture Returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census entitled "Cows Milked and Dairy Products." This report gives information by size of herd, and by counties, for all of the items relating to cows milked, milk production, and sales of dairy products.

Added interest in dairy production during this war period has prompted numerous requests for this type of presentation from producers, distributors, and manufacturers of dairy products and from others who have need of a statistical compendium on this subject. In addition, formal request was received from The Honorable Secretary of Agriculture who stressed that Department's need of county statistics in the establishment of local goals for increased milk production.

Provision for the Sixteenth Decennial Census was made in the Act providing for the Fifteenth and subsequent Decennial Censuses which was approved June 18, 1929. The information contained in this report was secured from farm operators by census enumerators in a personal canvass of the individual farms.

The collection and compilation of these statistics and the preparation of this volume were under the supervision of Z. R. Pettet, Chief Statistician for Agriculture, assisted by Sherman S. Slick, Assistant Chief Statistician, and members of the staff. Special acknowledgment is given to Warder B. Jenkins, Chief of Technical Staff, for the general form of presentation of tables, maps, and charts. The graphic material was prepared under the supervision of Clarence E. Batschelet, Geographer of the Census.

Respectfully,

J. C. CAPT,
Director of the Census

Hon. JESSE H. JONES,
Secretary of Commerce

SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

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3.—South Atlantic States

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Part 2.—Southern States

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IV.—Farm Mortgages and Farm
Taxes
V.—Work Off Farm, Age, and
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Chapter VI.—Cooperation, Labor, Expenditures,
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Cows Milked and Dairy Products.—Number of Cows Milked, Milk Produced, Disposition of Dairy Products, and Number of Cows Kept Mainly for Milk Production, Classified by Number of Cows Milked, by Counties; with Related Data for Other Classes of Livestock and Livestock Products for the States and also for the United States.

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A Separate Composite Map Showing Irrigation by Drainage Basins.

Drainage of Agricultural Lands.—Statistics for 38 Drainage States with County Data for 36 States and a Summary for the United States—(one volume).

A Separate Map of the United States Showing Location of Land in Drainage Enterprises for 38 States.

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	1
Definitions and explanations.....	1
Farms reporting.....	1
Livestock and livestock products.....	1
Values and income.....	2
Conversion factors.....	12

CHARTS

	Page	Page
Whole milk sold—Number of gallons, by States: 1939 and 1929.....	6	
Butter churned on farms—Number of pounds, by States: 1939 and 1929.....	6	
Cattle—Number in the United States: 1840-1940.....	7	
Cows kept mainly for milk production—Number in the United States: 1850-1940.....	7	
Classification by number of cows milked—Farms reporting and number of cows milked, 1939, with number of cows kept for milk, April 1, 1940; for the United States.....	7	7
		7
		7
		15

MAPS

	Page	Page
Cattle—Increase and decrease.....	15	
Cows milked: Census of 1940.....	16	
Cows milked: Census of 1930.....	16	
Cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1940, on farms with no cows milked in 1939.....	16	
Cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1940, in relation to cows milked in 1939, on farms reporting cows milked.....	16	
Cows milked—Increase and decrease.....	16	
Cows kept mainly for milk production:		
1920.....	17	
1910.....	17	
1900.....	17	
1890.....	17	
1880.....	17	
1870.....	17	
1860.....	17	
1850.....	17	
Dairy products farms, 1939.....	18	
Dairy farms, 1929.....	18	
Milk produced, number of gallons, 1939.....	18	
Value of all dairy products sold or traded, 1939.....	18	
Whole milk sold, number of gallons, 1939.....	18	
Cream sold, number of pounds of butterfat, 1939.....	18	
Butter churned, number of pounds churned on farms, 1939.....	18	
Butter sold, number of pounds sold from farms, 1939.....	18	
Cows milked, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Any dairy products sold, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Whole milk sold, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Cream sold, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Butter churned, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Butter sold, number of farms reporting for 1939.....	19	
Farms with no cows milked in 1939: Census of 1940.....	19	
Farms reporting cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1940, with no cows milked in 1939.....	19	
Number of farms reporting for 1939:		
One cow milked.....	20	
Two cows milked.....	20	
One cow milked and milk sold.....	20	
Two cows milked and milk sold.....	20	
One cow milked and cream sold.....	20	
Two cows milked and cream sold.....	20	
One cow milked and butter churned.....	20	
Number of farms reporting for 1939:—Continued.....		20
Two cows milked and butter churned.....		21
Three or four cows milked.....		21
Five to nine cows milked.....		21
Three or four cows milked and milk sold.....		21
Five to nine cows milked and milk sold.....		21
Three or four cows milked and cream sold.....		21
Five to nine cows milked and cream sold.....		21
Three or four cows milked and butter churned.....		21
Five to nine cows milked and butter churned.....		21
Ten to fourteen cows milked.....		22
Fifteen to nineteen cows milked.....		22
Ten to fourteen cows milked and milk sold.....		22
Fifteen to nineteen cows milked and milk sold.....		22
Ten to fourteen cows milked and cream sold.....		22
Fifteen to nineteen cows milked and cream sold.....		22
Ten to fourteen cows milked and butter churned.....		22
Fifteen to nineteen cows milked and butter churned.....		22
Twenty to twenty-nine cows milked.....		23
Thirty or more cows milked.....		23
Twenty to twenty-nine cows milked and milk sold.....		23
Thirty or more cows milked and milk sold.....		23
Twenty to twenty-nine cows milked and cream sold.....		23
Thirty or more cows milked and cream sold.....		23
Twenty to twenty-nine cows milked and butter churned.....		23
Thirty or more cows milked and butter churned.....		23
Cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1940, in relation to cows milked in 1939, in all herds.....		24
Cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1930, in relation to cows milked in 1929, in all herds.....		24
Cows kept mainly for milk production, April 1, 1940, in relation to cows milked in 1939, on farms reporting—		
one cow milked.....		25
two cows milked.....		25
three or four cows milked.....		25
five to nine cows milked.....		25
ten to fourteen cows milked.....		25
fifteen to nineteen cows milked.....		25
twenty to twenty-nine cows milked.....		25
thirty or more cows milked.....		25
Farms with no cows milked in 1939 as a percent of all farms: Census of 1940.....		26

SUMMARY TABLES FOR THE UNITED STATES

	Page
History of enumeration of cattle and dairy products—Facsimile copies of portions of schedules devoted to these items: Censuses of 1840 to 1940.....	2
Classification by number of cows milked—Farms reporting, number of cows milked, and milk production, 1939 and 1929; butter churned and dairy products sold, 1939; and number of cows kept mainly for milk production, 1940; with specified averages and percentages; for the United States.....	5
Value of farm products sold, traded, or used by farm households on all classified farms and on dairy products farms, for the United States: 1939.....	12
Farms classified by major source of income—Value of all farm products sold, traded, or used by farm households and value of major source; with farms reporting and income from dairy products sold or traded; for the United States: 1939.....	12
Livestock and livestock products—Farms reporting, number, and value of all cattle and cows kept for milk and for beef, and farms reporting, quantity, and value of dairy products, 1840 to 1940; with similar data for other specified classes of livestock and livestock products, 1940 and 1930; for the United States.....	14

TABLES FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS AND STATES

	Page
Farms reporting cows and heifers milked classified by number milked, 1939 and 1929, with total farms reporting for 1934; average number milked per farm reporting, 1939, 1934, and 1929; and ratio of cows kept for milk to cows milked, Censuses of 1940 and 1930; by divisions and States.....	28
Cows milked, milk produced, and butter churned—Farms reporting, number of cows milked, production of milk, and quantity and value of butter churned, by divisions and States: 1939, 1934, and 1929.....	30
Cows kept for milk, cows milked, and milk produced—Farms reporting cows kept for milk, 1900 to 1940, and number, 1850 to 1940; farms reporting cows milked, 1919 to 1939, and number milked, 1924 to 1939; and milk produced, 1889 to 1939; by divisions and States.....	32
Butter churned on farms—Farms reporting, 1919, 1909, and 1899; and quantity, 1869 to 1939; by divisions and States.....	35
Dairy products sold—Farms reporting, quantity, and value of whole milk, cream, and butter sold, by divisions and States: 1939 and 1929.....	36
Dairy products sold—Quantity of whole milk sold, 1869 to 1939; quantity of cream sold, 1899 to 1929; and quantity of butter sold, 1899 to 1939; by divisions and States.....	38
Classification by number of cows milked—Farms reporting, number of cows milked, and milk production, 1939 and 1929; butter churned and dairy products sold, 1939; with number of cows kept mainly for milk production, 1940; by divisions and States.....	40
Classification by number of cows milked—Ratio of cows kept for milk to cows milked; average milk production per cow; percent of milk sold as whole milk and as cream; and other specified averages and percentages; by divisions and States: 1939.....	62
Cattle—Farms reporting and number of cattle and of cows and heifers, with value of cattle, by divisions and States: 1940, 1935, and 1930.....	74
Cows and heifers kept for milk and for beef—Farms reporting, number, and value, 1940 and 1930; and value of cows and heifers and of other cattle, 1940, 1935, and 1930; by divisions and States.....	76
Value of all farm products sold, traded, or used by farm households and income from dairy products sold or traded on all classified farms with similar data for dairy products farms, and selected averages and percentages per farm classified by major source of income, by divisions and States: 1939.....	78
Dairy products farms—Percent of farms reporting and of income from specified sources, by divisions and States: 1939.....	80
Percent of all classified farms reporting income sales of dairy products and percent of total value of farm products sold, traded, or used by farm households represented by income from dairy products sold or traded, by major source of income groups, by divisions and States: 1939.....	81

CONTENTS—Continued

COUNTY TABLE, BY STATES

Cows milked and milk produced, 1939 and 1929; dairy products sold and butter churned, 1939; and cows kept for milk Apr. 1, 1940; by number of cows milked, by Counties

STATE	Page	STATE—Continued	Page
Alabama-----	84	Nebraska-----	332
Arizona-----	94	Nevada-----	346
Arkansas-----	96	New Hampshire-----	348
California-----	107	New Jersey-----	350
Colorado-----	118	New Mexico-----	354
Connecticut-----	128	New York-----	358
Delaware-----	129	North Carolina-----	369
District of Columbia-----	130	North Dakota-----	388
Florida-----	130	Ohio-----	391
Georgia-----	140	Oklahoma-----	405
Idaho-----	163	Oregon-----	417
Illinois-----	169	Pennsylvania-----	423
Indiana-----	185	Rhode Island-----	434
Iowa-----	201	South Carolina-----	435
Kansas-----	216	South Dakota-----	442
Kentucky-----	232	Tennessee-----	452
Louisiana-----	249	Texas-----	466
Maine-----	259	Utah-----	504
Maryland-----	262	Vermont-----	509
Massachusetts-----	266	Virginia-----	511
Michigan-----	269	Washington-----	526
Minnesota-----	281	West Virginia-----	533
Mississippi-----	295	Wisconsin-----	541
Missouri-----	307	Wyoming-----	553
Montana-----	324		

COWS MILKED AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

INTRODUCTION

Increased interest in dairy production during this war period has arisen through the impetus of producing not only for domestic use, but also for lend-lease requirements. This interest, coupled with the need of various governmental agencies, producers, distributors, and manufacturers, prompted this presentation. Formal request for such a publication was received from the Secretary of Agriculture who stated, in part:

"* * * This information is in constant demand by governmental agencies on a county unit (basis) and is necessary to the establishment of accurate local goals for increased milk production. * * * These county data will * * * bring home to county organizations of farmers the reasonableness of their production goals and their personal responsibility for the accomplishment of the goals.

"* * * many employees in the Department of Agriculture, who are working on the problem of production goals for dairy products to meet our war needs, have expressed a lack of basic information on numbers of cows milked and production of milk, by counties, and by size of herd milked.* * *

"Need for these data on a county basis has recently been expressed, also, by operators of factories manufacturing machines designed to reduce the amount of hand work necessary in milk production. Inquiries have also been made by companies who are interested in establishing factories for processing milk in various ways for export to our allies.

"* * * these tabulations by counties are needed for effectual planning and successful accomplishment of the farmer's part in production for victory."

The primary purpose in presenting this report entitled "Cows Milked and Dairy Products" is to make available, by counties, much of the data collected by the 1940 Federal Census of Agriculture relating to cows milked. These statistics relate to milk produced, and quantity of and income from specified dairy products sold, particularly, when these items are arrayed by size of milking herd, or more precisely by the number of cows and heifers milked during all or any part of the 1939 calendar year.

To portray more effectively the geographic distribution of the production of dairy products and the form in which the producer disposes of his products, the presentation of the numerical data has been supplemented by the use of visual aids in the form of maps and diagrams. A historical series of dot maps is also given to show the growth of dairying, since data relative to the number of "milk cows" were first collected in 1850.

A classification by number of cows milked was first made in the Census of 1930, but not as many items were included, nor was the number of class units as numerous as in 1940. In the earlier Census, the classification was made only for the number of herds, the total number of cows milked with the number which was of beef or dual-purpose breeding, and milk production. In the 1940 classification, information was secured for the number of herds, the total number of cows milked, the number of cows kept for milk, milk production, butter churned on farms, farms reporting any dairy products sold, and the quantities of whole milk, cream, and butter sold. However, in the later Census, information was not secured as to the proportion of cows milked which was of beef or dual-purpose breeding. In 1930, data were tabulated for 9 class units; whereas, in 1940, data were tabulated for 13 class units, the additional groups representing a further breakdown of the smaller herds.

Additional tables are presented to show, by States, the relationship of—

- (1) The number of cows kept mainly for milk production to the total number of mature cows.
- (2) Total number of cows to total number of cattle
- (3) The value of cattle to the total value of all livestock.
- (4) Total value of dairy products to the total value of all livestock products.
- (5) The income from sales of dairy products to the total gross farm income for all farms and also for specified groups of farms.

(6) The income from various specified sources for dairy products farms to the income for all classified farms.

Derived figures are given to bring out all of the relationships more clearly, and comparative figures for earlier censuses are given when available.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Only those items are discussed which need clarification or for which explanatory remarks affecting comparability are required. Other publications give, in considerable detail, a description of the method of canvass, the definition of a farm, a discussion of the comparability of livestock numbers and livestock production, the method of classifying farms as to income, etc.

In the definition of a farm carried on the general farm schedule, the enumerator was cautioned to "Include dry-lot or barn dairies,* * *" and "* * * not report as a farm any tract of land of less than 3 acres, unless its agricultural products in 1939 were valued at \$250 or more." Thus, the numbers of cows and the production of milk shown in this report are not quite all-inclusive of all cows or of total milk production.

Farms reporting.—The term "farms reporting" indicates the number of farms for which the specified items shown in a particular table were reported. If there were 1,922 farms in a county and sale of dairy products were made from 1,465 of these farms in the calendar year 1939, and the enumeration of that item was complete, the number of farms reporting dairy products sold would be given in the table as 1,465.

Livestock and livestock products.—For convenience, the term "livestock" in the Census reports is made to include not only domestic animals, such as horses, mules, cattle, sheep, and goats, but also fur-bearing animals kept in captivity, poultry, and bees. It follows, then, that the term "livestock products" should include production from the above classes. This general usage is followed throughout with one exception, viz, the term "livestock sold or traded" excludes poultry, bees, and fur animals in tables 3, 4, 16, 17, and 18. Income from sales of poultry and poultry products is shown in a separate total; while income from bees, honey, wax, goat milk, and fur animals, together with income from wool, mohair, meat, hides, etc., is included in the figure for "other livestock products."

In theory, a change in the date of enumeration should have little effect on the volume of milk production reported for the previous calendar year. However, experience indicates that, when accurate records of production are not kept, daily production of milk at the time of the enumeration does affect the total volume reported for a calendar year. This means that a census of milk production taken as of April 1, or near peak production, for the previous calendar year, would tend to give somewhat higher figures than a census taken in January which is near the low point of production.

The nature and form of the inquiries for recording inventories of cattle, number of cows milked, quantity of milk produced, quantity of butter churned, and sales of specified dairy products are given in table 1 along with numerical totals for the United States. These are given for each Census beginning with the first Census of Agriculture in 1840. As may be noted by an inspection of these inquiries, the terminology for determining the number of milk cows and the number of cows milked has not been constant. Most of these differences are brought out also in the historical tables. No separation of milk cows was made in 1840. The first recording of the number of cows milked was made in the Census of 1925 and has been repeated for each succeeding census. A slight improvement in the wording of the question for this item was attempted in the 1940 Census in that the number was to relate to cows milked during any part of the previous year; whereas, in the previous censuses the inquiry mentioned the number milked during all or any part of the previous year. In presenting the data for the number of cows and heifers on hand and the number of cows and heifers milked, the word "heifers" is sometimes omitted for brevity.

Attention is directed to the relationship of the figures for the number of cows kept for milk and the number of cows milked for the three censuses where these contrasts can be made. In 1940, the number of cows kept mainly for milk production exceeds the number of cows milked by 2,137,868. For the other two years, the number of cows milked exceeds the number kept for milk, the differences being 625,266 for 1930, and 3,254,780 for 1925. It should be remembered that the totals for the number of cows milked include some cows which were of dual-purpose type and some which were kept mainly for beef production. As stated previously, this total was secured in the 1930 Census only, and for that Census the number of beef and of dual-purpose cows milked was 3,371,597. A comparison of all these data indicates that dairy herds were expanding rapidly at the time of the 1940 census, or that farmers had been replacing beef with dairy-type cows, or that they were possibly keeping cows of identical type conformation, but for a different purpose. The interpretation placed upon each question, by the enumerators, in each of the censuses, if known, would throw additional light on which of these indications prevailed. To indicate more clearly in which size herds the potential increases in milk production would come, and in which geographic areas such increases would occur, reference should be made to tables 12 and 13 and to the series of maps presented.

In chapter VII of volume III of the 1940 Reports for the Census of Agriculture, it is stated that some enumerators erroneously distributed "all cattle" into the two classes, viz. cows kept for milk and cows kept for beef, but that replies to correspondence indicated the enumerators reported the true number of cows kept for milk. This reference also states that making the necessary adjustments on numbers "kept for beef" offered considerable difficulty, but was accomplished in a fairly satisfactory manner.

Values and income.—The 1940 values for livestock and livestock products are calculated figures derived by multiplying numbers or production by unit prices. The latter were obtained jointly by the Bureau of the Census and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The figures for farm income for the calendar year 1939, shown in this report, were enumerated, i. e., they were secured by enumerators from the operators in response to 10 separate questions. These questions, in the order of their appearance on the schedule, were as follows:

- Value of all dairy products sold or traded in 1939.
- Value of all livestock sold or traded in 1939, except poultry, bees, and fur animals.
- Value of all poultry, eggs, baby chicks, poult, etc., sold or traded in 1939.
- Value of wool, mohair, meat, hides, etc., bees, honey, wax, and fur animals and pelts sold or traded in 1939.
- Value of the crops reported under Questions 87-142 (including landlord's share) which were or are to be sold or traded. (Crops used in this question refer to field crops harvested in 1939.)
- Value of vegetables harvested in 1939 FOR SALE.
- Horticultural specialties, sales in 1939.
- Value of all fruits and nuts, including small fruits, produced in 1939, that were or are to be sold or traded.
- Value (estimated) of products of this farm in 1939 that were used by your family and by all households on this farm.
- Value of forest products sold in 1939.

The first of the questions which related to the value of dairy products called for the value of all dairy products (other than goat milk and goat cheese) sold or traded in 1939. The question specified milk, cream, butter, and cheese, and the enumerator was instructed to include the sale of by-products, such as buttermilk or skim milk.

Dairy animals sold alive were included under the second income question, although the proceeds could reasonably be considered as dairy income.

The 10 questions given above relating to sales of farm products and the value of products used on the farms by farm households furnished the basis for classifying the farms by major source of income. The basis for this classification was the largest value reported for any of the individual questions. This method of classification, although not wholly satisfactory, points out areas of intensive production.

TABLE 1.—HISTORY OF ENUMERATION OF CATTLE AND DAIRY PRODUCTS—
FACSIMILE COPIES OF PORTIONS OF SCHEDULES DEVOTED TO THESE
ITEMS: CENSUSES OF 1940 TO 1940

(Figures in italics are United States totals)

CENSUS OF 1940 (APR. 1)		
53. Cattle and calves over 3 months old, Apr. 1, 1940..... Number..60,674,796		
Of this number, how many were--		
54. Cows and heifers that were 2 years old and over on January 1, 1940, and are--		
(a) Kept mainly for milk production?.....		Number..24,074,424
(b) Kept mainly for beef production?.....		Number..9,446,764
Cows milked and dairy products, 1939:		
55. Total cows milked during any part of 1939 (include heifers milked).....		
Number..21,996,556		
56. Milk produced in 1939 (report in gallons: 8.6 pounds = 1 gallon).....		
Gallons..11,508,245,769		
Report all milk produced, whether consumed, sold, fed to stock, or otherwise disposed of.		
57. Butter churned on farm in 1939.....		Pounds..428,692,359
58. Whole milk sold in 1939	59. Cream sold in 1939 (Butterfat content)	60. Butter sold in 1939
Gallons ..9,379,407,904	Pounds of butterfat...1,090,261,486	Pounds 76,558,256
61. Value of all dairy products sold or traded in 1939-- milk, cream, butter, cheese, etc. (Omit cents).....		
		\$..1,118,192,799
CENSUS OF 1935 (JAN. 1)		
61. Total cattle and calves, of all ages, Jan. 1, 1935.....		
Number..68,284,409		
Of the total number, how many are:		
62. Calves under 1 year of age?.....		Number..16,116,819
63. Heifers 1 year old and under 2 years?.....		Number..8,298,915
64. Steers and bulls 1 year old and over?.....		Number..6,998,095
65. Cows and heifers 2 years old and over?.....		Number..36,950,584
Cows milked and milk and butter produced on farm in 1934:		
66. Total cows and heifers of all kinds milked during all or any part of 1934.....		
Number..24,581,669		
67. Milk produced in 1934 (report in gallons: 8.6 pounds equal 1 gallon).....		
Gallons..10,666,066,473		
Report all milk produced, whether consumed, sold, fed to stock, or otherwise disposed of.		
68. Butter churned on this farm in 1934.....		Pounds..558,648,652
CENSUS OF 1930 (APR. 1)		
Cattle, April 1, 1930:		
74. Calves born since January 1, 1930.....		
Number..9,645,526		
75. Steers and bulls born in 1929 (yearlings).....		
Number..6,512,891		
76. Heifers born in 1929 (yearlings).....		
Number..8,744,021		
77. Bulls born before 1929.....		
Number..1,262,516		
78. Steers born in 1928 (2-year olds).....		
Number..2,610,249		
79. Steers born before 1928.....		
Number..1,155,762		
80. Heifers born in 1928, being kept mainly for milk cows (2-year olds).....		
Number..5,759,401		
81. Heifers born in 1928, being kept mainly for beef cows or beef production (2-year olds).....		
Number..2,085,911		
82. Cows and heifers born before 1928, kept mainly for milk production.....		
Number..20,498,965		
83. Cows and heifers born before 1928, kept mainly for beef production.....		
Number..7,856,994		
Cows milked and milk and butter produced on this farm in 1929:		
84. Total number of cows and heifers (both beef and dairy) milked during all or any part of 1929.....		
Number..21,124,221		
85. Of the cows and heifers milked, how many were mainly of beef or of dual-purpose breeding?.....		
Number..3,371,597		
86. Milk produced in 1929 (8.6 lbs. equal 1 gal.).....		
Gallons..11,052,025,367		
Report all milk produced, whether consumed, sold, fed to stock, or otherwise disposed of. This quantity must be sufficient to cover products reported under Questions 87 to 90.		
87. Butter churned in 1929.....		Pounds..542,064,289
Dairy products sold in 1929:		
	Quantity sold in 1929	Received from sales in 1929
88. Milk sold as whole milk.....	Gals..4,455,650,767	\$..... ⁽¹⁾ (Omit cents)
89. Cream sold as butterfat.....	Lbs..1,179,908,874 (Butterfat)	\$..... ⁽¹⁾ (Omit cents)
90. Cream sold not as butterfat.....	Gals..15,846,164	\$..... ⁽¹⁾ (Omit cents)
91. Butter sold (churned on this farm)....	Lbs..155,045,368	\$..... ⁽¹⁾ (Omit cents)
92. Number of cows and heifers that are being milked daily at present time.....		
Number..16,696,699		
93. Daily production of milk at present time.....		
Gallons..36,528,207		

¹Not available.