

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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STOCKS OF EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK
 HELD BY WHOLESALE GROCERS
 (December 31, 1944)

HD 9282
 U 44 USA

Stocks of canned evaporated milk held by wholesale grocers on December 31, 1944 showed a sharper drop from those reported three months earlier than was experienced the same period in 1943. On the basis of the then current rate of distribution December 31, 1944 stocks were the equivalent of 21 days' supply compared to 29 days' supply on September 30, 1944 and 45 days' supply on December 31, 1943.

During the closing quarter of 1944, wholesale stocks of canned evaporated milk decreased by the equivalent of 8 days' supply, while during the closing quarter of 1943 decrease was only 4 days' supply. Quite a few dealers, reporting for December 1944, stated they had no stocks on hand, while a larger number reported that their relative small stocks were being rationed on a day-to-day basis to their regular customers. Stocks of canned evaporated milk at the close of 1944, however, were still larger than those of two years earlier when they were the equivalent of 45 days' supply. Fortunately, the season of low production has already been passed and from now until next June production will be seasonally higher each month. That will give wholesalers an opportunity to replenish their depleted stocks. Also, this can be made much easier because the production of canned evaporated milk is now on a level much higher than that of a year ago this time.

Four hundred and ninety-one wholesale grocers reported 13,665,937 pounds of canned evaporated milk on hand as of December 31, 1944, and 32,217,149 pounds on the same date in 1943. This is a decrease of 57.6 percent. These same firms reported 649 pounds of canned condensed milk on hand at the close of 1944 compared to 3,071 pounds a year earlier. This is a decrease of 47.8 percent.

(Comments continued on page 2)

STOCKS REPORTED DECEMBER 31, 1944

	Number of firms reporting	Condensed Milk (pounds)	Evaporated Milk (pounds)
DEC. 31, 1944	589	476,694	19,715,416
DEC. 31, 1943	312	598,181	33,012,790
SEPT. 30, 1944*	608	664,764	29,899,159
SEPT. 30, 1943	315	790,829	43,148,548
NET TOTALS -		---pounds---	
DEC. 31, 1944	589	20,192,310	
DEC. 31, 1943	312	33,610,971	
SEPT. 30, 1944*	608	30,563,923	
SEPT. 30, 1943	315	43,939,377	

* Revised figures include late reports.

COMPARISON FOR SAME FIRMS REPORTING DIFFERENT PERIODS

(Pounds)

Firms	Evap. Milk	Dec. 31, 1944 - 13,665,937	578 Firms	Dec. 31, 1944 - 19,595,301
"	"	Dec. 31, 1943 - 32,217,149	"	" Sept. 30, 1944 - 29,657,144
"	Cond. Milk	Dec. 31, 1944 - 302,519	"	Dec. 31, 1944 - 476,578
"	"	Dec. 31, 1943 - 583,071	"	Sept. 30, 1944 - 649,489
437	firms reported an average of 21 days' supply -	Dec. 31, 1944		
265	"	"	"	Dec. 31, 1943 (Revised)
532	"	"	"	Sept. 30, 1944

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Five hundred and seventy-eight wholesalers reporting for both December 31 and September 30, 1944, had 19,595,301 pounds of canned evaporated milk in stock on the first date mentioned and 29,657,144 pounds on the second date. This is a decrease of 33.9 percent. Canned condensed milk held by the same concerns was down by 26.6 percent for the same period. Stocks of canned condensed and evaporated milk together, both quantitatively and on a "days' supply" basis, on December 31, 1944, were down from those of three months earlier in about the same ratio.

 TOTAL STOCKS ON DECEMBER 31, 1944 - 539 FIPMS

Class of Product	Net weight per can	Cans per case	Cases on hand Dec. 31, 1944
Evaporated Milk (Unsweetened)	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	48	413,272
" " "	6 oz.	96	10,098
" " "	6 oz.	48	50,662
" " "	8 lbs.	6	9,638
Condensed Milk (Sweetened)	15 oz.	24	9,858
" " "	14 oz.	24	10,865
" " "	14 oz.	48	633
" " "	11 oz.	48	10
