

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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April 21, 1950

STOCKS OF EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK
HELD BY WHOLESALE GROCERS

(March 31, 1950)

STOCKS OF CANNED MILK REPORTED QUARTERLY BY WHOLESALE GROCERS

Quarter ending	Number of firms	Evaporated Milk		Condensed milk	Total evaporated and condensed milk
		Thousand pounds	Days' supply 1/		
Mar. 31, 1950	542	29,918	23	438	30,356
Dec. 31, 1949 2/	511	25,583	21	419	26,002
Sept. 30, 1949	528	31,162	27	504	31,666
June 30, 1949	524	32,083	26	435	32,518
March 31, 1949	541	31,828	24	555	32,883

1/ Approximately 90 percent of the firms reporting estimated the number of days their stocks would last at prevailing rate of sales. The number of "days' supply" represent the weighted average of those estimates.

2/ Revised to include late reports.

STOCKS OF CANNED MILK HELD BY SAME FIRMS ON CORRESPONDING DATES

	Number of firms	March 31		Change in 1950 from 1949	Number of firms	Mar. 31 1950	Dec. 31 1949	Change in Mar. 1950 from Dec. 1949
		1950	1949					
Evap. milk	530	29,507	30,354	- 3	518	29,038	24,482	+19
Cond. milk	530	435	536	-19	518	427	397	+ 8

Stocks of evaporated milk held by wholesale grocers on March 31, 1950 have risen seasonally during the past three months but they are still below a year earlier, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

Wholesale grocers' holdings of evaporated milk were 29,918,000 pounds as reported by 542 firms compared with 31,828,000 pounds held by 541 firms a year earlier. The seasonal gain from December 31 to March 31, based on returns from 518 firms which reported for both dates, was up 19 percent. Stocks were 3 percent less than a year earlier based on reports from 530 firms for both dates. Estimates from approximately 90 percent of the firms reporting indicated that the stocks on hand at the end of March represented an average of 23 days supply based on current rates of consumption compared with 21 days at the end of December and 24 days a year earlier.

Stocks of canned condensed milk by 542 firms on March 31, 1950 totaled 438,000 pounds compared with 541 firms reporting 555,000 pounds a year earlier. Comparison of holdings of 518 firms which reported both for the end of last December and the end of March showed a gain of 8 percent. A decline of 19 percent was shown in stocks reported by 530 firms which reported for March 31 both this year and last.