

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 31, 1953

EVAPORATED, CONDENSED, AND DRY MILK REPORT
(JUNE 1953)

DRY MILK

Both production and stocks of total nonfat dry milk solids were the highest for June in 19 years of record, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

June output of total nonfat dry milk solids, at 142,350,000 pounds, was 23 percent over a year earlier and 33 percent above the June 5-year average. Cumulative production for the first half of 1953 totaled 682,650,000 pounds, up 42 percent from the first half of 1952. Spray-dried nonfat milk production, at 104,700,000 pounds, was the highest for the month in 11 years of record, up 24 percent from a year earlier and 53 percent from the 1947-51 June average. During the first half of 1953, production totaled 524,900,000 pounds, 44 percent above the same period in 1952. Production of roller-dried nonfat milk solids in June totaled 37,650,000 pounds, highest for the month since 1950. This total was 21 percent above a year earlier but 2 percent below the 5-year June average. Production for the first half of 1953 totaled 157,750,000 pounds, a gain of 34 percent from the first half of 1952.

Dry whole milk production for June was 9,390,000 pounds, lowest for the month since 1942, a decline of 31 percent from a year earlier and 38 percent from the 1947-51 June average. Totalling 49,490,000 pounds for the first half of 1953, dry whole milk production was down 12 percent from the first half of the preceding year. Spray-dried whole milk production, at 8,700,000 pounds, was down 32 percent from a year earlier, and 38 percent from the 5-year average. Production for the first half of 1953 totaled 46,000,000 pounds, a 13 percent decline from the same period a year earlier. Roller-dried whole milk equalled 690,000 pounds in June, down 16 percent from a year earlier and 39 percent from the 5-year average. During the first half of the year, production totaled 3,490,000 pounds, a decline of 1 percent from the same period in 1952.

Production of dry skim milk for animal feed in June, at 2,700,000 pounds, was the highest for the month since 1949, a gain of 9 percent from a year earlier and 3 percent from the 5-year average. Totalling 12,125,000 pounds for the first six months of the year, production was 19 percent higher than in the same period last year. Dry buttermilk production equalled 6,100,000 pounds for June, highest for the month since 1945, a gain of 20 percent from a year earlier and 14 percent from the June 1947-51 average. Output for the first half of the year totaled 30,750,000 pounds, a gain of 11 percent from the first half of 1952.

Manufacturers' stocks of total nonfat dry milk solids totaled 159,895,000 pounds on June 30, highest for the date in 19 years of record, a gain of 6 percent from a year earlier and 60 percent from the 5-year average for the date. Stocks of spray-dried nonfat milk solids totaled 104,238,000 pounds, a decline of 7 percent from a year earlier but still 62 percent higher than the 5-year average for the date. This was the first time in 15 months that stocks of spray-dried nonfat milk have been lower than a year earlier. Roller-dried nonfat milk solids stocks, at 55,657,000 pounds, were the highest for the date in 11 years of record, a gain of 45 percent from a year earlier and 55 percent from the 5-year June 30 average. Stocks of dry

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MANUFACTURERS' SELLING PRICES OF DRY MILK SOLIDS DURING JUNE 1953
Reported shipments (F.O.B. Plant)

| NON-FAT DRY MILK SOLIDS (Bulk goods) | | | DRY SKIM | DRY BUTTERMILK (Bulk goods) | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Price 1/ | Spray process | Roller process | Animal feed | Price 1/ | Human food | Animal feed |
| Cents | Pounds | | | Cents | Pounds | |
| 5 - 5½ | | | 82,240 | 4 - 4½ | | 30,400 |
| 6 - 6½ | | | 231,573 | 5 - 5½ | | 287,784 |
| 6½ - 7 | | | 13,187 | 5½ - 6 | | 33,200 |
| 7 - 7½ | | | 43,590 | 6 - 6½ | | 248,050 |
| 7½ - 8 | | 69,290 | 326,621 | 6½ - 7 | | 142,500 |
| 8 - 8½ | | 123,000 | 243,374 | 7 - 7½ | 18,680 | 120,268 |
| 8½ - 9 | | 336,946 | 111,369 | 7½ - 8 | - | 116,135 |
| 9 - 9½ | | - | 31,409 | 8 - 8½ | - | 87,683 |
| 9½ - 10 | | 176,460 | 26,330 | 8½ - 9 | 34,400 | 61,750 |
| 10 - 10½ | 159,300 | 1,583,414 | 150,505 | 9 - 9½ | 25,000 | 34,955 |
| 10½ - 11 | - | 1,022,674 | 14,630 | 9½ - 10 | 2,700 | 14,455 |
| 11 - 11½ | - | 1,972,987 | 26,210 | 10 - 10½ | 33,997 | 44,094 |
| 11½ - 12 | - | 1,403,300 | - | 11 - 11½ | 331,300 | - |
| 12 - 12½ | - | 5,287,171 | 36,687 | 11½ - 12 | 69,700 | - |
| 12½ - 13 | 347,334 | 2,644,984 | 3,000 | 12 - 12½ | 29,335 | - |
| 13 - 13½ | 746,113 | 5,714,970 | 11,888 | 13½ - 14 | 111,400 | - |
| 13½ - 14 | 2,992,225 | 4,647,252 | - | 14 - 14½ | 156,225 | - |
| 14 - 14½ | 3,329,002 | 3,082,852 | 3,900 | 14½ - 15 | 812,730 | - |
| 14½ - 15 | 8,505,879 | - | - | 15 - 15½ | 4,275 | - |
| 15 - 15½ | 35,810,796 | - | - | 16 - 16½ | 29,425 | - |
| 15½ - 16 | 22,024,301 | - | - | 16½ - 17 | 3,500 | - |
| 16 - 16½ | 9,807,709 | 15,600 | - | 17 - 17½ | 34,750 | - |
| 17 - 17½ | 5,119,796 | - | - | 18 - 18½ | 22,225 | - |
| TOTAL | 88,842,455 | 28,080,900 | 1,356,513 | | 1,719,642 | 1,221,274 |
| TOTAL HUMAN | 116,923,355 | | | | | |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 118,279,868 | | | 2,940,916 | |

MANUFACTURERS' SELLING PRICES OF DRY WHOLE MILK DURING JUNE 1953 2/ (F.O.B. Plant)

| Price 1/ | 1-2½ lb. packages | 5 lb. packages | All other pkgs. including bbls. & drums | Total reported shipments |
|----------|-------------------|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Cents | Pounds | | | |
| 26 - 27 | | | 67,873 | 67,873 |
| 27 - 28 | | | 113,100 | 113,100 |
| 29 - 30 | | | 581,470 | 581,470 |
| 30 - 31 | | | 69,600 | 69,600 |
| 31 - 32 | | | 38,802 | 38,802 |
| 32 - 33 | | | 520,916 | 520,916 |
| 33 - 34 | | 23,070 | 143,719 | 166,789 |
| 34 - 35 | 6,375 | 162,900 | 192,515 | 361,790 |
| 35 - 36 | 565,825 | - | - | 565,825 |
| 36 - 37 | - | 109,830 | 533,692 | 643,522 |
| 37 - 38 | - | 133,530 | - | 133,530 |
| 38 - 39 | - | 2,441,960 | 327,723 | 2,769,683 |
| 40 - 41 | 451,993 | 7,500 | - | 459,493 |
| 42 - 43 | - | 4,410 | - | 4,410 |
| 44 - 45 | 9,500 | 7,205 | - | 16,705 |
| 46 - 47 | 2,714 | 73,180 | - | 80,894 |
| 48 - 49 | 2,042,210 | - | - | 2,042,210 |
| 52 - 53 | 7,063 | - | - | 7,063 |
| TOTAL | 3,085,680 | 2,968,585 | 2,589,410 | 8,643,675 |

1/ Classified according to average monthly prices reported by firms.
2/ Includes some dry whole in special packages for export.

CONDENSING PRICES OF DRY MILK SOLIDS - JUNE 1953

| | Nonfat Dry Milk Solids | | | Dry Skim An. Feed | N. F. Solids & Dry Skim | Dry Buttermilk | | | Dry Whole Milk | | | Total shipments |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | Spray | Roller | Spray & Roller | | | Human Food | Animal Feed | Human and Animal | 1-2 1/2 lb. pkgs. | 5-lb. pkgs. | Other pkgs. incl. bbls. & drums. | |
| | C e n t s p e r p o u n d | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June 1953 | 15.37 | 12.50 | 14.68 | 7.88 | 14.60 | 13.42 | 6.62 | 10.60 | 45.61 | 38.92 | 33.71 | 39.74 |
| May 1953 | 15.46 | 12.66 | 14.91 | 8.99 | 14.89 | 14.29 | 7.21 | 11.85 | 48.41 | 41.95 | 35.34 | 42.63 |
| June 1952 | 16.69 | 15.12 | 16.33 | 12.46 | 16.27 | 15.12 | 11.28 | 12.93 | 49.32 | 44.23 | 39.34 | 43.68 |
| June 1947-51 | 12.93 | 11.51 | 12.45 | 9.07 | 12.39 | 11.79 | 8.88 | 10.16 | 48.89 | 44.27 | 35.45 | 41.55 |

MANUFACTURERS' AVERAGE CARLOT SELLING PRICES OF EVAPORATED WHOLE MILK IN CASES OF 48 14 1/2-OZ. CANS, BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS, JUNE 1953 WITH COMPARISONS 1/.

| Geographic Division | June 1952 | May 1953 | June 1953 |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
| | D o l l a r s | | |
| New England | 6.29 | 5.88 | 5.75 |
| Middle Atlantic | 6.29 | 5.87 | 5.73 |
| South Atlantic | 6.32 | 5.93 | 5.78 |
| East North Central | 6.21 | 5.78 | 5.67 |
| West North Central | 6.28 | 5.90 | 5.78 |
| South Central | 6.33 | 5.99 | 5.84 |
| North Western | 6.44 | 6.10 | 6.00 |
| South Western | 6.41 | 6.14 | 6.01 |
| United States | 6.30 | 5.92 | 5.79 |

1/ Manufacturers' prices are based upon the reports made by manufacturers covering actual sales of goods delivered at manufacturers' distributing points on the basis of cash or short-time credit.

Prices paid in June at 17 Midwest condenseries used in determining class prices under the Chicago Milk Marketing Order

Chicago \$3.109

Prices received f.o.b. plants for nonfat dry milk solids in the Chicago area covering the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin for the period May 26, 1953 through June 25, 1953 averaged for:

Spray 15.46 cents per pound
Roller 12.91 cents per pound

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skim milk for animal feed at the end of June totaled 3,417,000 pounds, highest for the date since 1947, up 51 percent from a year earlier and 55 percent from the 5-year average for the date. Stocks of dry buttermilk, at 16,036,000 pounds at the end of June, were the highest for any date in 24 years of record, 25 percent above a year earlier and 141 percent above the 5-year average for the date.

Manufacturers' stocks of dry whole milk totaled 14,443,000 pounds at the end of June, lowest for the date since 1950, down 25 percent from a year earlier and 28 percent from the 5-year average for June 30. Spray-dried whole milk stocks, at 14,359,000 pounds, were 25 percent lower than a year earlier and 28 percent down from the 5-year average. Roller-dried stocks totaled 84,000 pounds, a gain of 58 percent from a year earlier but a decline of 62 percent from the 5-year average for the date.

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| State and Division | June 1952 | | | May 1953 | | | June 1953 | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|--|
| | Price paid per 100 lbs milk Dollars | Butter-fat test Pct. | Price per lb of butter-fat Dollars | Price paid per 100 lbs milk Dollars | Butter-fat test Pct. | Price per lb. of butter-fat Dollars | Price paid per 100 lbs. milk Dollars | Butter-fat test Pct. | Price per lb. of butter-fat Dollars |
| N. Y. | 3.77 | 3.59 | 1.05 | 3.22 | 3.62 | .89 | 3.00 | 3.61 | .83 |
| M. Atl. 2/ | 3.76 | 3.62 | 1.04 | 3.32 | 3.72 | .89 | 3.21 | 3.66 | .88 |
| Va. | 4.14 | 4.21 | .98 | 3.31 | 4.16 | .80 | 3.33 | 4.22 | .79 |
| S. Atl. 2/ | 4.15 | 4.19 | .99 | 3.35 | 4.13 | .81 | 3.34 | 4.17 | .80 |
| Ohio | 3.89 | 3.88 | 1.00 | 3.21 | 3.94 | .81 | 3.18 | 3.87 | .82 |
| Ind. | 4.03 | 3.93 | 1.03 | 3.37 | 4.00 | .84 | 3.31 | 3.89 | .85 |
| Ill. | 3.69 | 3.56 | 1.04 | 3.12 | 3.63 | .86 | 3.05 | 3.54 | .86 |
| Mich. | 3.89 | 3.82 | 1.02 | 3.25 | 3.85 | .85 | 3.21 | 3.79 | .85 |
| Wis. | 3.82 | 3.65 | 1.05 | 3.35 | 3.67 | .92 | 3.34 | 3.65 | .92 |
| E. N. C. | 3.85 | 3.74 | 1.03 | 3.28 | 3.78 | .87 | 3.25 | 3.73 | .87 |
| Iowa | 3.60 | 3.51 | 1.02 | 3.19 | 3.64 | .88 | 3.11 | 3.55 | .88 |
| Mo. | 4.22 | 4.10 | 1.03 | 3.45 | 4.17 | .83 | 3.37 | 4.04 | .83 |
| Kans. | 3.93 | 3.80 | 1.04 | 3.25 | 3.91 | .83 | 3.19 | 3.80 | .84 |
| W. N. C. 2/ | 3.94 | 3.84 | 1.03 | 3.35 | 3.95 | .85 | 3.27 | 3.85 | .85 |
| Ky. | 4.02 | 4.20 | .96 | 3.34 | 4.26 | .78 | 3.24 | 4.23 | .77 |
| Tenn. | 4.10 | 4.22 | .97 | 3.39 | 4.30 | .79 | 3.32 | 4.23 | .78 |
| Ala. | 4.08 | 4.23 | .96 | 3.34 | 4.26 | .78 | 3.07 | 3.91 | .79 |
| Miss. | 3.94 | 4.15 | .95 | 3.34 | 4.26 | .79 | 3.23 | 4.13 | .78 |
| S. Cen. 2/ | 4.06 | 4.20 | .97 | 3.37 | 4.27 | .79 | 3.28 | 4.19 | .78 |
| Idaho | 4.09 | 3.81 | 1.08 | 3.51 | 3.83 | .92 | 3.49 | 3.86 | .91 |
| Wash. | 4.27 | 4.18 | 1.02 | 3.64 | 4.00 | .91 | 3.69 | 4.11 | .90 |
| Oregon | 4.36 | 4.44 | .98 | 3.98 | 4.37 | .91 | 3.90 | 4.39 | .89 |
| N. W. | 4.19 | 4.02 | 1.04 | 3.61 | 3.96 | .91 | 3.61 | 4.01 | .90 |
| Colo. | 3.94 | 3.71 | 1.06 | 3.23 | 3.74 | .86 | 3.04 | 3.68 | .83 |
| Utah | 3.78 | 3.36 | 1.12 | 3.01 | 3.45 | .87 | 2.92 | 3.42 | .85 |
| Calif. | 4.30 | 3.80 | 1.13 | 3.73 | 3.76 | .99 | 3.64 | 3.77 | .96 |
| S. W. 2/ | 4.20 | 3.73 | 1.13 | 3.61 | 3.71 | .97 | 3.51 | 3.71 | .94 |
| U. S. 2/ | 3.96 | 3.86 | 1.03 | 3.37 | 3.91 | .86 | 3.31 | 3.87 | .86 |

1/ Preliminary; subject to revision. Prices are for milk of actual butterfat test as reported.
 All prices are reported as f.o.b. plant.
 2/ Includes prices for some States not shown separately.

MILK PURCHASED BY CONDENSERIES, JUNE 1953, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

| | Unit | Average 1947-51 | 1952 | 1953 |
|---|---------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Purchases, reported total | Pounds | 736,022,000 | 701,237,000 | 741,614,000 |
| Producers | Number | 150,000 | 153,000 | 157,000 |
| Average daily purchases per producer | Pounds | 153.8 | 152.8 | 157.5- |
| Change in purchases per producer 1953 from 1952 | Percent | xxxxx | xxxxx | +3.1 |
| 1953 from 5-year average | Percent | xxxxx | xxxxx | +2.4 |

1/ Milk purchases at plants (or their receiving stations) which have canning equipment. In some periods a part or all of the milk received at such plants may be used for purposes other than the manufacture of canned milk.

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The United States Department of Agriculture purchased 204,978,000 pounds for the period of April 1 through June 30, 1953. Purchases for July through the 28th of the month totaled 59,368,000 pounds. All these purchases were made for the purposes of price support. In addition, during April, 1,500,000 pounds of nonfat dry milk solids were purchased for use in school lunch under Section 32 funds.

Manufacturers' sales of total nonfat dry milk solids during June totaled 116,923,000 pounds, a gain of 12 percent from the preceding month and 56 percent from a year earlier. These sales are the highest reported for the month in 24 years

| COMMODITY | June 1952 1/ | June 1953 1/ | Change in June 1953 from | | Cumulative total | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | 1947-51 average | 1952 | Jan.-June 1953 | Change from Jan.-June 1952 |
| | Thousand pounds | | Percent | | Thous.lb. | Percent |
| Evaporated and Condensed Milk | | | | | | |
| Evaporated whole (case goods) | 349,000 | 327,600 | -15 | -6 | 1,426,050 | -5 |
| Condensed whole (case goods) | 4,750 | 3,775 | -59 | -21 | 27,505 | -19 |
| Dry Milk | | | | | | |
| Dry Whole | | | | | | |
| Spray process | 12,750 | 8,700 | -38 | -32 | 46,000 | -13 |
| Roller process | 820 | 690 | -39 | -16 | 3,490 | -1 |
| Total | 13,570 | 9,390 | -38 | -31 | 49,490 | -12 |
| Dry nonfat solids | | | | | | |
| Human food - Spray process | 84,750 | 104,700 | +53 | +24 | 524,900 | +44 |
| Human food - Roller process | 31,125 | 37,650 | -2 | +21 | 157,750 | +34 |
| Total (human food) | 115,875 | 142,350 | +33 | +23 | 682,650 | +42 |
| Dry skim milk (animal feed) | 2,475 | 2,700 | +3 | +9 | 12,125 | +19 |
| Dry buttermilk | 5,100 | 6,100 | +14 | +20 | 30,750 | +11 |

1/ Estimates. Subject to revision when enumerations are available for 1952.

MANUFACTURERS' STOCKS OF EVAPORATED, CONDENSED, AND DRY MILK, JUNE 30 1/

| COMMODITY | Average 1947-51 | 1952 2/ | 1953 | Change in 1953 from | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|
| | | | | 1947-51 | 1952 |
| | Thousand pounds | | | Percent | |
| Evaporated and Condensed Milk | | | | | |
| Evaporated whole (case goods) | 385,249 | 392,212 | 475,333 | +23 | +21 |
| Condensed whole (case goods) | 9,673 | 9,540 | 9,579 | -1 | 0 |
| Dry Milk | | | | | |
| Dry Whole | | | | | |
| Spray process | 19,884 | 19,234 | 14,359 | -28 | -25 |
| Roller process | 220 | 53 | 84 | -62 | +58 |
| Total | 20,104 | 19,287 | 14,443 | -28 | -25 |
| Dry nonfat solids | | | | | |
| Human food - Spray process | 64,192 | 112,295 | 104,238 | +62 | -7 |
| Human food - Roller process | 35,965 | 38,298 | 55,657 | +55 | +45 |
| Total (human food) | 100,157 | 150,593 | 159,895 | +60 | +6 |
| Dry skim milk (animal feed) | 2,206 | 2,267 | 3,417 | +55 | +51 |
| Dry buttermilk | 6,645 | 12,784 | 16,036 | +141 | +25 |

1/ Stocks held by manufacturers at all points, also those in transit, and those contracted for sale but not delivered.

2/ Revised to include late reports.

of record. Sales of dry whole milk during June totaled 8,644,000 pounds, a gain of 19 percent from the preceding month but a decline of 7 percent from a year earlier. Dry buttermilk sales totaled 2,941,000 pounds for June, a decline of 5 percent from the previous month and 1 percent from a year ago.

Selling prices of total nonfat dry milk solids averaged 14.68 cents for June, approximately 1/4 cent less than that of the preceding month and 1 2/3 cents from a year earlier and 2 1/4 cents higher than the 5-year average for the month. Spray-dried nonfat milk solids averaged 15.37 cents per pound during June compared with 15.46 cents in May, 16.69 cents a year earlier, and 12.93 cents for the 5-year average for the month. Roller-dried nonfat milk prices averaged 12.50 cents per pound, only slightly lower than in the preceding month but 2.6 cents lower than a year earlier and 1 cent higher than the 5-year average.

Selling prices of dry skim milk for animal feed averaged 7.88 cents for June, a decline of 1.1 cents from the preceding month and 4.6 cents from a year earlier.

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Combining both human food and animal feed, dry buttermilk prices averaged 10.60 cents per pound for June, a decline of 1 1/4 cents from the preceding month, 2 1/3 cents from a year earlier but only a fraction of a cent higher than the 5-year June average.

Manufacturers' selling prices of dry whole milk in all sizes of packages averaged 39.7 1/2 cents per pound for June, a decline of almost 3 cents from the preceding month, 2 cents from a year earlier and almost 2 cents from the 5-year average for the month. In 1-2 1/2 pound packages, prices averaged 45.61 cents for June, a decline of 2.8 cents from the preceding month, 3.7 cents from a year earlier and 3.3 cents from the 5-year average. In 5-pound packages prices averaged 38.92 cents, a decline of 3 cents from the preceding month and 5 1/4 cents from a year earlier. In miscellaneous large packages, mostly barrels and drums, prices averaged 33.71 cents per pound, 1.6 cents less than in the preceding month, 5.6 cents down from a year earlier and 1.7 cents lower than the 5-year average for the month.

EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK

Evaporated whole milk production for June was the smallest for the month since 1940. However, manufacturers' stocks at the end of June were the highest for the date in 34 years of record, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

June output of evaporated milk totaled 327,600,000 pounds, a decline of 6 percent from a year earlier and 15 percent from the 5-year June average. Accumulative production for the first half of 1953 totaled 1,426,050,000 pounds, a decline of 5 percent from the same period of 1952.

Canned condensed whole milk production for June was 3,775,000 pounds, smallest for the month since 1939, down 21 percent from a year earlier and 59 percent from the 1947-51 June average. Production for the first half of 1952 totaled 27,505,000 pounds, a decline of 19 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Manufacturers' stocks of evaporated milk on June 30 equalled 475,333,000 pounds, highest of record for the date, a gain of 21 percent from a year earlier and 23 percent from the June 5-year average.

Holdings of canned condensed whole milk by manufacturers at the end of June totaled 9,579,000 pounds, practically unchanged from a year earlier but down 1 percent from the 5-year average for the date.

Selling prices of evaporated whole milk during June averaged \$5.79 per case of 48 1-1/2-ounce cans. This is the lowest price for the month since 1950, down 13 cents from the preceding month and 51 cents from a year earlier. By geographic regions, declines ranged from 10 cents in the Northwestern area to as much as 15 cents in the South Atlantic and South Central areas.

Condenseries paid \$5.31 per hundred-weight for milk testing 3.8 percent butterfat during June or an average of 86 cents per pound of butterfat. The price per pound butterfat in milk was unchanged from the preceding month but was 17 cents less than that of a year earlier. By States, the price per pound of butterfat ranged from 77 cents in Kentucky to as high as 96 cents per pound in California.

Milk purchased by reporting condenseries from approximately 157,000 producers during June totaled 741,614,000 pounds. Daily purchases per producer averaged 157.5 pounds, a gain of 3 percent from a year earlier and 2 percent from the 5-year average for the month.