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**New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service**

**FARM FACTS**  
"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

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**New Jersey milk production** decreased 8 percent in 2003 to 216 million pounds. The rate per cow, at 16,615 pounds, was 1,539 pounds below 2002. The annual average number of cows on farms, at 13,000 head, was the same as 2002.

Marketings of utilized milk totaled 213 million pounds, 9 percent below 2002. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers, as well as milk sold directly to consumers. Producer returns averaged \$12.80 per hundredweight, the same as 2002.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2003, at \$27.3 million, was 9 percent below 2002. Value of New Jersey milk produced in 2003 totaled \$27.6 million compared to \$30.2 million in 2002, down 8 percent from previous year.

**United States milk production** increased 0.1 percent in 2003 to 170.3 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 18,749 pounds, was 141 pounds above 2002. The annual average number of milk cows on farms, at 9.08 million head, was 55,000 head less than 2002.

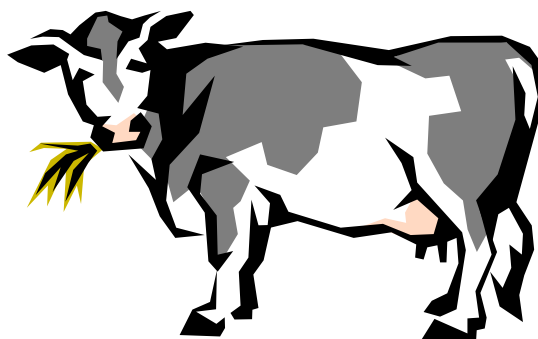
Marketings of utilized milk totaled 169 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2002. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers, as well as milk sold directly to consumers. Producer returns averaged \$12.55 per hundredweight, 3 percent above 2002.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2003, at \$21.2 billion, was 3 percent above 2002. Value of milk produced nationally, in 2003, totaled \$21.4 billion compared to \$20.7 billion produced the previous year, up 3 percent.

**Milk Cows, Production of Milk, Income, and Value of Production:  
By Selected States and United States, Revised 2002 and 2003**

State	Units	Maryland		New Jersey		New York		Pennsylvania		United States	
		2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
<b>Milk Cows 1/</b>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	81	78	13	13	675	671	585	575	9,139	9,084
<b>Milk per Cow 2/</b>	<i>Average Pounds</i>	16,062	15,795	18,154	16,615	18,101	17,812	18,419	17,979	18,608	18,749
<b>Total Production 2/</b>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	1,301	1,232	236	216	12,218	11,952	10,775	10,338	170,063	170,312
<b>Milk Utilized</b>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	1,291	1,222	233	213	12,171	11,905	10,742	10,327	168,944	169,198
<b>Average Returns 3/</b>	<i>Dollars Per Cwt</i>	13.20	13.30	12.80	12.80	12.80	13.10	13.80	14.00	12.18	12.55
<b>Cash Receipts</b>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	170,412	162,526	29,824	27,264	1,557,888	1,559,555	1,482,396	1,445,780	20,582,238	21,227,695
<b>Value 4/ 5/</b>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	171,732	163,856	30,208	27,648	1,563,904	1,565,712	1,486,950	1,447,320	20,720,480	21,369,706

1/ Averaged number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.  
 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.  
 3/ Cash receipts divided by milk or milkfat in combined marketings.  
 4/ Value at average returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.  
 5/ Includes value of milk fed to calves.



Plant Type	Units	Operations with \$100,000 + Sales					
		Growers		Quantity Sold		Wholesale Value of Sales 1/	
		2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
		<i>Number</i>		<i>1,000 Units</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
<b>Bedding/Garden Plants, Total 2/</b>		3/	3/	3/	3/	90,853	83,865
Hanging Baskets, Geraniums Cuttings	Baskets	84	75	213	234	1,446	1,446
Hanging Baskets, Impatiens	Baskets	60	57	131	130	738	742
Hanging Baskets, New Guinea	Baskets	84	85	331	281	2,046	1,717
Other Hanging Baskets, Flowering	Baskets	71	66	622	579	3,570	3,312
Impatiens	Flats	120	119	1,141	745	8,626	6,035
Petunias	Flats	114	115	372	351	2,943	2,783
Other Flowering and Foliage Type	Flats	105	108	1,351	1,330	9,646	9,589
Potted Geraniums (Cuttings)	Pots	113	108	2,599	2,272	4,557	4,260
Potted Hardy/Garden Mums	Pots	101	101	4,311	4,456	8,093	8,215
Potted New Guinea Impatiens	Pots	105	101	1,593	1,343	2,417	2,332
Other Potted Flowering and Foliar Type	Pots	70	65	1,810	1,879	3,542	3,286
<b>Flowering Potted Plants, Total</b>		3/	3/	3/	3/	33,293	31,979
Lilies, Easter	Pots	42	44	592	637	2,167	2,268
Poinsettias	Pots	92	90	2,573	2,404	10,321	10,257
<b>Foliage For Indoor</b>		3/	3/	3/	3/	4,399	4,331
Hanging Baskets, Foliage	Baskets	34	36	193	242	834	1,120
Potted Foliage	Pots	16	20	4/	4/	3,565	3,211
Growers with Gross Value of Sales		Number of Growers		Covered Area (1,000 Sq. Ft)		Expanded Wholesale Value of Sales (\$1,000) 5/	
		2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
\$100,000 and over		198	190	15,741	15,488	149,069	138,999
\$10,000 - \$99,999		275	234	3,290	2,775	10,748	10,433
Total		473	424	19,031	18,263	159,817	149,432

1/ Equivalent wholesale value of all sales.

2/ Includes annual bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

3/ Data not available.

4/ Data not collected.

5/ Wholesale value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated wholesale value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

### Northeast II Region Farm Labor

There were 31,000 hired workers on Northeast II Region farms and ranches the week of April 11, 2004 through April 17, 2004, up 3 percent from a year ago. States included in the Northeast Region II are Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Hours worked during the reference week averaged 39.3, unchanged from the previous year.

Farm operators in the Northeast Region II paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.25 per hour during the April 2004 reference week, down 43 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.68 per hour, down 7 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$8.87 per hour compared with \$8.20 a year earlier.

In New Jersey, during the reference week, temperatures were near normal in most areas of the state. There were measurable amounts of rainfall across most of the state with over an inch in many localities on April 13, 2004.

At the U.S. level, farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.22 per hour, 3 cents less than the Northeast Region II producers paid. There were 825,000 hired workers on farms across the nation. The average number of hours worked during the reference week was 40.7 compared to 39.3 in Northeast Region II.

#### Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Northeast II Region and United States

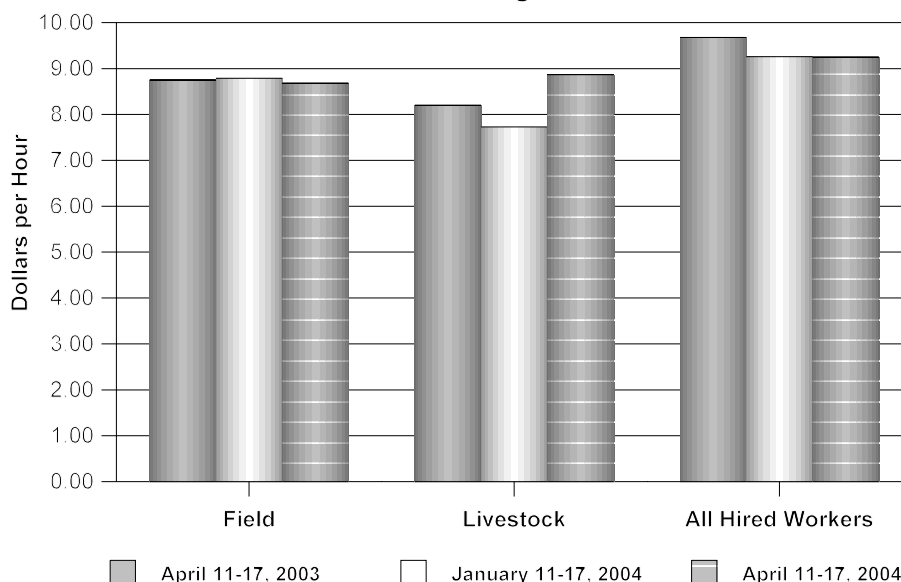
Items	Northeast II 1/			United States		
	April 2003 2/	January 2004 2/	April 2004 2/	April 2003 2/	January 2004 2/	April 2004 2/
	<i>Thousand workers</i>			<i>Thousand workers</i>		
<b>Hired Workers 3/</b>	30	19	31	781	662	825
150 Days or More	23	16	25	619	549	648
149 Days or Less	7	3	6	162	113	177
	<i>Per Week</i>			<i>Per Week</i>		
<b>Average Hours Worked</b> (Hired Farm Workers)	39.3	37.2	39.3	40.1	38.1	40.7
	<i>Per Hour</i>			<i>Per Hour</i>		
<b>Average Wage Rate</b> (All Hired Farm Workers)	\$9.68	\$9.26	\$9.25	\$9.16	\$9.41	\$9.22
<b>By Type of Workers</b>						
Field	\$8.75	\$8.79	\$8.68	\$8.40	\$8.39	\$8.46
Livestock	\$8.20	\$7.73	\$8.87	\$8.75	\$8.83	\$8.95

1/ Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

2/ Month refers to the week containing the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month.

3/ Excludes agricultural service workers.

#### North East Region II



### Agricultural Prices

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May 2004, at 132, based on 1990-92=100, is 5.6 percent above the April 2004 Index. This is the highest index level since records began in 1910. The Livestock Products Index, also at a record high, increased 7.1 percent from April 2004 while the All Crops Index increased 3.3 percent. Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, hogs, cattle, and broilers. Lower prices were received for lettuce, eggs, corn, and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cantaloups, grapes, sweet corn, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, apples, and asparagus. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 26 percent from May 2003.

The Food Commodities Index increased 7.1 percent from last month to 135. The index stands 30 percent above May 2003.

### Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The May 2004 Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 134 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1 point from April 2004 and 5.5 percent above May 2003. Higher prices in May for complete feeds, feeder cattle, hay and forages, and gasoline more than offset lower prices for feed concentrates, feed grains, feeder pigs, and nitrogen fertilizers.

### Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	May 2003	Apr 2004	May 2004
- - Dollars - -			
<b>Field Crops</b>			
Barley, per bushel	2.91	2.78	2.79
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	98.00	89.60	101.00
Soybeans, per bushel	6.07	9.62	9.60
<b>Fruit, fresh</b>			
Apples, per lb	.218	.299	.294
Strawberries, per cwt	64.20	52.40	62.30
<b>Vegetables, fresh</b>			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	16.60	19.80	20.60
Lettuce, per cwt	21.20	14.70	10.30
Tomatoes, per cwt	23.70	47.90	44.40
<b>Livestock and Livestock Products</b>			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	75.50	84.80	88.40
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	79.60	88.90	92.60
Cows, per cwt	42.40	50.50	52.40
Calves, per cwt	100.00	117.00	122.00
Broilers, live, per lb	.340	.480	.500
Eggs, all, per dozen	.587	.768	.645
Milk, all, per cwt 2/	11.00	18.20	20.30

1/ Mid-month

2/ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.



For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service website at [www.nass.usda.gov/nj/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nj/) or call 1-800-328-0179.

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