

# DAIRY

- Milk Cow Inventory
- Milk Cow Production
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## 2004 DAIRY HIGHLIGHTS

### MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION

The average number of milk cows on Kentucky farms continued to decline during 2004 and totaled 110,000 head, down 6,000 head from the 2003 average. This continues the steady decline in milk cow numbers that began in 1986.

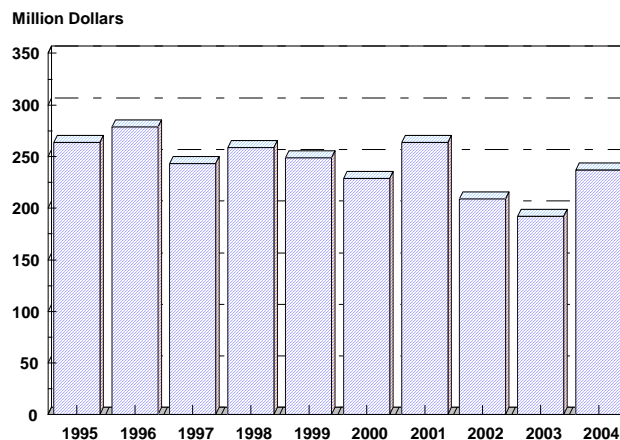
Total milk production in Kentucky was 1.42 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Average production per cow, at 12,936 pounds, was up from the 2003 average of 12,629. The number of farms with milk cows totaled 2,300, down from 2,500 in 2003.

### MILK DISPOSITION AND INCOME

Kentucky dairy producers sold 1.39 billion pounds of milk to plants and dealers during 2004 and used 31 million pounds on the farm. Farm use includes milk fed to calves and other livestock, and used for milk, cream and butter. Farm use of milk during 2004 was down 3 percent from 2003, and milk sold to plants and dealers decreased 3 percent from 2003.

The value of milk produced during 2004 came to \$241.9 million, up 23 percent from 2003. This includes the value of milk used on farms. The average price of all grades sold was \$17.00 per hundredweight, up from \$13.40 per hundredweight during 2003. Cash receipts from marketings totaled \$236.6 million, up 23 percent from the \$192.0 million reported in 2003.

### KENTUCKY CASH RECEIPTS FROM MILK MARKETED



### MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Kentucky plants produced 11.8 million pounds of cottage cheese curd in 2004, down 10 percent from 2003. Creamed cottage cheese production totaled 12.4 million pounds, down 15 percent from the previous year. Lowfat cottage cheese

production was 9.02 million pounds during 2004, up 3 percent from 2003. During 2004, 17 Kentucky plants produced one or more dairy products. Totals for most dairy products produced in Kentucky are not published to avoid disclosing individual plant production.