1st Quarter Pa. Milk Output Was Up 3 pct.

sylvania during the first three months of 1975 was 1,698 million pounds, 3 percent more than in the equivalent period last year. Average production per cow during this period was 822 pounds, up 2 percent from the 808 pound average for the same period a year ago. The number of milk cows averaged 688,000 during the period, up 5,000 from the comparable period a year earlier.

Milk production in Penn- reported by dairymen for the, the uptrend in production first three months of 1975 averaged 7 percent less than in the equivalent period of 1974. The March blend price of \$8.45 per cwt. as reported by commercial dairymen marked the fourth con-secutive month of falling milk prices.

The average of indicated production costs for the year percent below the year ago ended March 31, 1975 was levels. Hay prices averaged \$8.31 per 100 pounds of milk. This was 7 percent above costs during the comparable Wholesale milk prices period of 1974 and continues

AGWA

costs. Grain values, hay prices, and wage rates all contributed toward the increase. Grain values on April 1 dropped 6 percent from their January 1 level, but were still 3 percent above the same period last year. The quantity of grain fed

as of April 1, 1975 was 7 4 percent more for the first three months of 1975 compared to the same period during 1974 and April 1 wage

rates were up 4 percent from year ago levels.

United States milk production during the first three months of 1975 was 0.2 percent above the same period last year. The average number of milk cows on farms for the first quarter of 1975 was 1 percent less than for the same period last year.

Nationally, grain and concentrates fed milk cows on April averaged 13.2 pounds per cow compared with 13.8 on the same date the past two years.

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