

The Milk Check

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County Agent



SEEING DOUBLE

The average producer might think he is seeing double when he gets his milk check for June deliveries to Order 2 handlers. The uniform price was the same for June as it was for May - \$12.83 for 3.5 milk at the 201-210 mile zone. However, the price was the only thing that stayed the same. Everything else changed.

Production dropped from May's peak of 1.03 billion pounds to 965 million. That was three per cent less than last month on a daily basis but still the highest for June in 10 years.

Fluid sales dropped two per cent or 250,000 pounds a day to make a Class 1 utilization of 37.2 per cent the lowest for June in 25 years. Your class prices changed very little - down three cents on Class 1

and one cent on Class 11 - reflecting the recent drops in the Minnesota-Wisconsin Series.

However, there's comfort in knowing that price-wise you've hit the bottom for this year and there's nowhere to go but up. In June you put 40 cents a hundred into the Louisville Plan fund - the same as May - but you won't do that in July so you'll gain that much.

On the other hand, don't expect any improvement in your Class prices either and with schools closed for vacation you'll be losing Class 1 sales. If the hot, humid weather that cut your production three percent in June can continue into July you still may get all of that 40 cents in your milk check and perhaps a little more.

HARD WORK

No one is criticizing the Commodity Credit Corporation for not buying enough butter, powder and cheese to get the manufacturing grade milk price up to the support price of \$12.80 for 3.5 milk.

In June they were still 22 cents short of the support price even though they were buying over 500 million pounds of milk equivalent a week. No one complained because the more they spend now the more they'll have to cut back when the new price support program starts in October.

However, you have to give them credit for working hard and moving the manufacturing milk price up 13 cents since February right through the biggest Spring flush you ever produced. It took a lot of dollars to get it from \$12.45 in February to \$12.58 in June even though it's still not up to the \$12.80 you expected.

In the meantime, the Minnesota-Wisconsin Series, which determines your Class prices, did what it usually does in the Spring and dropped eight cents from March to June. Back in February the M-W was 21 cents higher than the average manufacturing grade price but because of the seasonal decline in the M-W and the large CCC purchases they are now only a penny apart - \$12.58 for manufacturing grade milk and \$12.58 for manufacturing grade

milk and \$12.59 for the M-W in June. Another indication of the unusual marketing situation brought on by record high production of milk and CCC purchases.

Nat'l Corn Growers elect officers

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The farmer members of the National Corn Growers Association concluded their business meetings with the election of officers at the twenty-third national convention of the association held here recently.

These officers will serve on the NCGA Board of Directors of the organization during the 1981/82 season, and will assume their respective offices on October 1, 1981: William R. Mullins, Shabbona, Illinois, president; Jack Parsons, Wapello, Iowa, first vice president; John Stevenson, Circleville, Ohio, vice president - legislation; Fred Duncan, Broadrun, Virginia, vice president - research & education; Jim Andrew, Jefferson, Iowa, vice president - membership; Ray Schaub, Ithaca, Michigan, vice president - public relations; Bill Griffin, New Bern, North Carolina, vice president - market development; Elwin Poe, Holyoke, Colorado, secretary; and Drew Stabler, Gaithersburg, Maryland, treasurer.

The NCGA Board of Directors adopted a proposal whereby the past presidents of the Association would serve as a policy and advisory committee to the Board of Directors. They are: Russell Arndt, Indiana; John Curry, Illinois; Thurman Gaskill, Iowa; and Walter Goepfinger, Iowa.

In addition, the NCGA Board of Directors appointed the immediate past president, Russell Arndt, to

represent the Association by serving on the Commodity Policy Advisory Committee of the United States Trade Representative. In this capacity, Arndt will participate as a corn grower advisor in the U.S. government development of overall U.S. commodity policy in international trade.

The NCGA purpose is to promote the general welfare of U.S. corn farmers by working to develop domestic corn production and income support programs consistent with a market-oriented grain economy. NCGA state members include Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin.

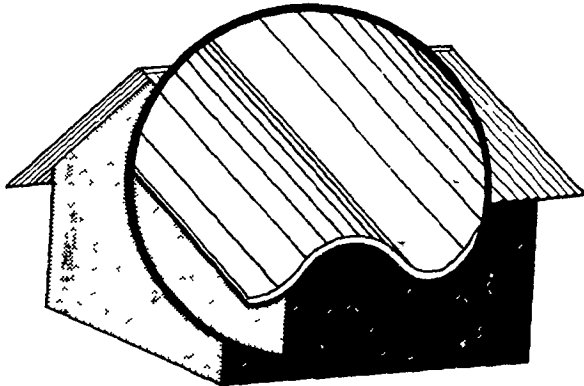


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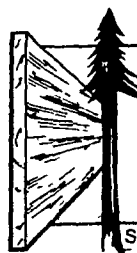
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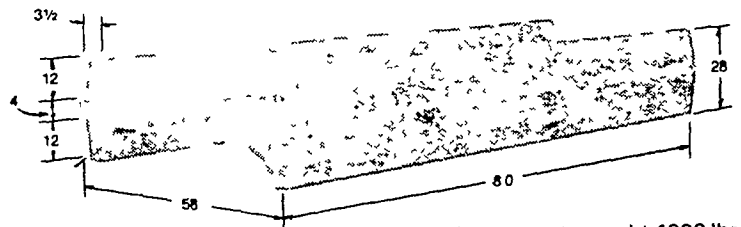


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