

# The Milk Check

**TOM JURCHAK**  
County Agent



### Old Habits

Old habits are hard to break and one of the oldest is producing more milk than last year. At least it seems that way in Order 2 where in April of this year, for the first time since August 1978 you produced less milk than the same month of the previous year.

At that time — four years ago — it lasted only one month and you were back to increasing production. This year, it was the same story with May milk shipments up nine million pounds over last year and June up 14 million pounds.

However, even though you're back on the track of increasing

production, it isn't as heavy as it was a year ago. The first six months in Order 2 this year, shipments increased about 70 million pounds or 1.2 percent higher than 1981.

That's a lot less than the 198 million pounds or 3.6 percent that you jumped in the first six months of 1981 compared to 1980.

No doubt the pace is slackening but you still haven't turned the corner.

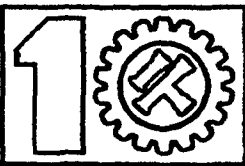
### Another corner

Even if you didn't turn the corner on milk production, at least you did it on price last month. May

was the low for the season in Order 2 at \$12.61 and June milk was up to \$12.63.

Not a large jump certainly, but with the same Class prices you had last month and the same 40 cent payment for the Louisville Plan you got the two cents from an improved class I utilization — up to 36.9 percent.

Total production was down over one million pounds per day for a decrease of 3.3 percent. Class I sales were down less than one percent from last month so you gained two cents on the exchange.



1972-1982

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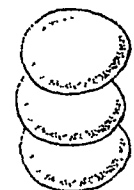
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