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**In This Issue**



# Comparison of Nutrient Content Between Ryegrass Varieties: Results of the Mississippi State 2001 Ryegrass Variety Trial.


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The yield data for the 2001 Mississippi ryegrass variety trial has been reported previously (MAFES Inf. Bull. 379). This addendum reports on the protein percentage, fiber content and in vitro total digestibility of 32 ryegrass varieties at two harvest dates (**Table 1**). At the early harvest date the crude protein (CP) content ranged from 14.7 - 18.5% DM and tended to differ between varieties, with the Jackson and FLX2000(New)4XLR-Late varieties having the highest CP percentage. However with a higher yield, CP production was greatest in the WVPB AR 99-L and ME 94 varieties (> 335 lbs/ac). Fiber and total digestibility measures were not significantly different between varieties at the early harvest date. However, neutral detergent fiber (NDF) concentration ranged from 47.5 - 52.2% DM. When combined with the yield data, production of neutral detergent solubles (NDS; 1-NDF) was greatest in the WVPB AR 99-L and TXR 99-Beau varieties (> 970 lbs/ac). Similarly, acid detergent fiber (ADF) concentration ranged from 26.7 - 29.6% DM and production of acid detergent solubles (ADS; 1-NDF) was greatest in WVPB AR 99-L and TXR 99-Beau varieties (> 1394 lbs/ac). Thus, estimates of in vitro total digestibility (IVTD) ranged from 83.2 - 85.7 % DM and production of digestible dry matter was greatest in the WVPB AR 99-L and TXR 99-Beau varieties (> 1630 lbs/ac). When considering the production of protein and digestible dry matter at the early harvest date, the following five varieties performed best WCPB AR 99-L, ME 94,WVPB AR 99-M, TXR 99-Beau and Bestfor II.

The CP content of all varieties declined as the season progressed. It ranged from 8.8 - 11.6% DM at the later harvest date and there were no significant differences between varieties. However with the higher yield, the production of CP was greatest in TAM and MCX varieties (> 155 lb/ac). Fiber fractions were elevated in the later harvest samples as the ryegrass became more mature, but some varieties matured more slowly. NDF ranged from 54.7 - 65.1% and was significantly different between varieties. At the later cutting, NDS production was greatest in TAM and Passerel Plus varieties (> 570 lbs/ac). Similarly, ADF ranged from 29.3 - 35.7% and values differed between varieties. The greatest ADS production was found in TAM and Gulf varieties (> 950 lbs/ac) at the later cutting. As a result, estimates for in vitro total digestibility (IVTD) were lower at the later harvest date; they ranged from 70.7 - 77.6% DM, and were significantly different between varieties. At the later cutting, production of digestible dry matter was greatest in the TAM and MCX varietes (> 1040 lbs/ac). When considering the protein content, digestibility and the yield data, the following five varieties performed the best at the late harvest date TAM, Ribeye, Gulf, Passerel Plus and RLX 2000 (New) 4XLR mid-late.

The choice of ryegrass variety depends on what characteristics are desired. The excellent early performance of WVPB AR99-L, ME 94 and WVPB AR 99-M more

than compensates for the later slump in these varieties. Conversely, the MCX variety had only average performance early, but sustained its performance later in the season. When combined early and late performance is desired, the Bestfor II variety did the best to maintain good yield, protein and digestibility throughout the growing season. Even so, these varieties did not have the best nutrient content at all harvest dates. Thus, differences in the management of forages, grazing and commodities should be considered when determining the best variety for your situation. Analysis of samples from the 2002 ryegrass variety trial is in progress.

**Table 1.** Percentage crude protein (CP), fiber (ADF & NDF) and in vitro total digestibility (IVTD) of ryegrass samples harvested at two dates[A].

| | 3/27/2001 Cutting | | | | | 4/30/01 Cutting | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Yield | Composition (%; DM Basis) | | | | Yield | Composition (%; DM Basis) | | | |
| Variety | (lbs/ac) | CP | NDF | ADF | IVTD | (lbs/ac) | CP | NDF | ADF | IVTD |
| Assertive | 1681 | 16.4 | 49.1 | 26.9 | 85.2 | 1260 | 10.5 | 61.8 | 34.4 | 72.0 |
| Bestfor II | 1903 | 16.2 | 50.0 | 27.3 | 84.8 | 1226 | 10.9 | 57.2 | 31.9 | 76.5 |
| Big Daddy | 1650 | 16.6 | 50.3 | 28.8 | 83.2 | 1414 | 9.0 | 65.1 | 35.7 | 70.6 |
| Brigadier | 1670 | 15.4 | 50.6 | 28.0 | 84.2 | 1119 | 8.8 | 62.6 | 33.4 | 72.5 |
| Ed | 1716 | 17.1 | 48.3 | 27.1 | 85.2 | 1266 | 9.2 | 60.4 | 33.0 | 73.6 |
| Fantastic | 1515 | 17.1 | 50.0 | 27.8 | 84.4 | 1307 | 9.3 | 60.2 | 32.3 | 73.6 |
| Florlina 1 | 682 | 16.5 | 49.6 | 28.1 | 84.4 | 1086 | 9.5 | 57.6 | 30.0 | 76.8 |
| FLX2000 (New) 4XLR mid-late | 1752 | 17.2 | 49.6 | 27.9 | 84.5 | 1306 | 9.9 | 58.6 | 31.6 | 75.0 |
| FLX2000 (New 1) 4XLR late | 1703 | 18.4 | 49.4 | 28.8 | 84.3 | 1116 | 9.6 | 58.1 | 30.4 | 76.6 |
| Gulf | 1491 | 16.9 | 50.0 | 28.1 | 84.5 | 1427 | 10.3 | 61.2 | 33.4 | 73.2 |
| Jackson | 1666 | 18.5 | 48.6 | 27.8 | 84.9 | 1154 | 10.3 | 57.9 | 30.7 | 76.1 |
| Jumbo | 1664 | 17.5 | 47.9 | 27.2 | 85.3 | 1087 | 10.8 | 58.3 | 31.7 | 74.7 |
| King | 1556 | 17.1 | 49.2 | 27.6 | 84.8 | 1201 | 9.8 | 62.9 | 33.5 | 72.9 |
| Louisiana | 1554 | 16.9 | 48.7 | 27.5 | 84.9 | 1142 | 9.8 | 63.3 | 34.1 | 71.1 |
| Marshall | 1876 | 16.1 | 52.2 | 29.6 | 83.2 | 1169 | 9.0 | 56.3 | 29.3 | 77.6 |
| MCX | 1726 | 17.0 | 50.1 | 28.7 | 84.2 | 1386 | 11.2 | 58.8 | 32.5 | 74.7 |
| ME 94 | 1918 | 17.7 | 49.7 | 28.7 | 83.9 | 1117 | 9.7 | 55.7 | 29.5 | 77.5 |
| Passerel Plus | 1832 | 15.4 | 50.9 | 27.2 | 85.0 | 1328 | 10.4 | 57.0 | 30.7 | 77.0 |
| Prine | 1733 | 17.6 | 48.4 | 27.3 | 85.3 | 1122 | 10.6 | 57.7 | 32.6 | 74.6 |
| Ribeye | 1804 | 16.4 | 50.7 | 28.8 | 84.4 | 1243 | 9.8 | 59.9 | 32.1 | 74.2 |
| Rio | 1856 | 17.0 | 50.6 | 28.9 | 83.5 | 1088 | 10.5 | 55.8 | 30.4 | 76.5 |
| Stampede | 1801 | 17.0 | 49.7 | 27.4 | 85.1 | 1140 | 10.1 | 57.3 | 31.2 | 75.9 |
| Surrey II | 1786 | 18.0 | 49.5 | 28.0 | 84.7 | 1052 | 9.8 | 57.4 | 30.7 | 76.0 |
| Tam | 1475 | 17.2 | 47.5 | 26.7 | 85.7 | 1533 | 10.1 | 60.8 | 32.2 | 74.0 |
| TAM 90 | 1759 | 17.3 | 49.9 | 27.5 | 84.9 | 1182 | 10.0 | 58.3 | 31.3 | 76.0 |
| TXR 2000-2 | 1817 | 16.1 | 50.1 | 27.8 | 84.1 | 1126 | 9.8 | 56.2 | 30.6 | 76.7 |
| TXR 99-Beau | 1927 | 16.1 | 49.6 | 27.4 | 84.7 | 1179 | 9.7 | 62.7 | 33.6 | 72.2 |
| TXR 2000-T1 | 1799 | 14.7 | 50.5 | 26.8 | 85.0 | 1215 | 10.1 | 57.3 | 30.5 | 76.4 |
| WMN 97 | 1863 | 16.8 | 51.1 | 28.8 | 84.0 | 1044 | 10.7 | 54.7 | 29.5 | 77.5 |
| WVPB AR 99-M | 1876 | 17.7 | 49.5 | 27.6 | 84.9 | 1078 | 9.8 | 55.6 | 29.6 | 77.5 |
| WVPB AR 98-7 | 1620 | 17.5 | 50.2 | 28.0 | 84.8 | 1339 | 9.9 | 63.9 | 34.4 | 71.6 |
| WVPB AR 99-L | 1933 | 17.4 | 49.5 | 27.9 | 84.7 | 1059 | 11.6 | 55.0 | 30.6 | 77.3 |
| Mean | 1738 | 16.9 | 49.7 | 27.9 | 84.6 | 1203 | 10.0 | 58.9 | 31.8 | 74.9 |
| LSD (0.05)[B] | 278 | 1.9 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 312 | 1.6 | 4.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 |
| CV;% | 10 | 6.4 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 1.1 | 16 | 12.1 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 1.8 |

[A]Ryegrass samples were evaluated by near infrared spectroscopy at the Forage Analysis Laboratory in Franklinton, Louisiana.

[B]Varieties that differ by more than the LSD are significantly different ($P<0.05$).

## JULY 2002 HONOR ROLL HERDS **

| DAIRY | COUNTY | NO. COWS | LBS ECM | Rolling Herd Average MILK | FAT | PROTEIN | DOT | Supervisor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mactoc Farm | Oktibbeha | 201 | 68.1 | 25325 | 800 | 762 | 7/2 | B. King |
| Tim Weeks | Copiah | 71 | 67.4 | 24296 | 859 | 723 | 7/6 | R. Davis |
| G & B Dairy | Lincoln | 54 | 65.7 | 18866 | 776 | 699 | 7/8 | R. Davis |
| Heritage Dairy | Tate | 539 | 62.7 | 23930 | 985 | 726 | 7/7 | R. Hardin |
| David Robinson & Sons | Rankin | 126 | 59.8 | 23690 | 849 | 701 | 6/24 | D. Patterson |
| Speaks & Son | Walthall | 311 | 57.9 | 18266 | 697 | 569 | 6/30 | A. Wilson |
| MS State University | Oktibbeha | 147 | 57.8 | 20515 | 807 | 641 | 6/30 | B. King |
| Paul W Edwards | Newton | 143 | 57.1 | 20075 | 817 | 631 | 6/26 | J. Coker |
| Melvin Nicholson | Newton | 103 | 54.9 | 22943 | 847 | 685 | 7/28 | J. Coker |
| Gottago Show | Lincoln | 11 | 53.8 | 18095 | 554 | 509 | 6/29 | R. Davis |
| Knights Dairy Farm | Jones | 120 | 53.2 | 19887 | 686 | 622 | 7/27 | L. Adams |
| Rowzee Jersey Farm | Newton | 163 | 51.1 | 17577 | 804 | 644 | 7/10 | J. Coker |
| David Nunnery | Pike | 126 | 50.7 | 17490 | 534 | 496 | 6/23 | A. Wilson |
| Milton & Terry Jefcoat | Jones | 180 | 49.9 | 20157 | 655 | 604 | 7/24 | L. Adams |
| Ronald H Clark | Lincoln | 73 | 49.3 | 22233 | 791 | 684 | 7/22 | R. Davis |
| Knights Dairy Farm | Jones | 124 | 49.2 | 19925 | 685 | 626 | 6/29 | L. Adams |
| Jimmy Tucker & Sons | Pike | 216 | 49.1 | 21121 | 775 | 632 | 7/29 | A. Wilson |
| Brad Bean | Amite | 242 | 49.0 | 20418 | 776 | 612 | 7/25 | R. Reid |
| Clemmer & Hill Dairy | Tippah | 131 | 48.7 | 19401 | 718 | 588 | 7/22 | J. Jumper |
| A L Boyd Jr | Walthall | 77 | 48.4 | 22335 | 595 | 667 | 6/27 | R. Vandenweghe |
| Leon Bardwell Dairy | Lincoln | 51 | 48.1 | 21069 | 635 | 621 | 6/29 | R. Davis |
| Cheeks Dairy | Jones | 124 | 46.4 | 18266 | 558 | 546 | 7/12 | L. Adams |
| North MS Br Exp Sta | Marshall | 111 | 46.2 | 19547 | 697 | 598 | 7/9 | J. Jumper |
| Steve Rowley | Marion | 63 | 45.7 | . | . | . | 7/16 | A. Wilson |
| Coastal Plain Exp Sta | Newton | 161 | 45.7 | 22252 | 821 | 641 | 7/21 | J. Coker |

Top 25 herds enrolled on supervised DHIA testing programs by test day energy corrected milk for all cows.
**ECM = (.3246 x test day milk) + (12.86 x test day lbs. fat) + (7.04 x test day lbs. protein)

## Dairy Farmers Begin to Sign-up for Counter-Cyclical Payments

The USDA recently announced that August 13 is the first day that dairy farmers can go to their local county's FSA office to sign up for the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program specified under the 2002 Farm Bill. These MILC payments are designed to provide counter-cyclical payments to dairy producers when Class I milk prices fall below a predetermined level. The procedure for calculating the monthly amounts of these MILC payments was explained in a previous issue of this newsletter. These monthly payments have averaged $1.04 per cwt. over the first nine months of this program, which are scheduled to in effect from December 2001 through September 2005. The details of the features of this MILC program payments are described below and to be eligible to receive these MILC payments, the dairy farmer must:

1) It is required that dairy farmers MUST sign up for the MILC payments at their local FSA offices. Farmers will NOT automatically receive a check from the USDA.
2) If a farm received DMLA III payments in 2000, their farm will be eligible to receive these MILC payments.
3) To be eligible to receive these MILC payments, the dairy farmer MUST have a conservation farm plan on file at their local NRCS office for managing highly erodible land and wetlands. Failure to complete and file a conservation farm plan will result in the dairy farmer forfeiting her/his right and access to these MILC payments.

**Upcoming Events……**

| | |
|---|---|
| Aug.31 – Sept.7 | NE Mississippi Fair & Livestock Show, Verona, MS |
| Sept. 14 | Tylertown State Fall Dairy Show, Tylertown, MS |
| Sept. 21 | Columbia State Fall Dairy Show Columbia, MS |
| Sept 27 – 29 | Mid-South Fair Dairy Show Memphis, TN |

## AUGUST 2002 Advanced Class I Price

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**August Advanced Class I Milk Falls 9th Straight Month to $13.58/cwt.** The Advanced Class I milk price fell for the ninth straight month plunging $5.45 (28.6%) from $19.03 per cwt. to $13.58 per cwt. since last October. Increases in national milk production have pushed the Class I milk price to its lowest level since Federal Order reform was implemented in January 2000. The August Class IV skim milk price served as the Class I mover price (based on the value of skim milk used in butter and milk powder production) because it was greater than the corresponding Class III price (representing skim milk value in cheddar cheese product). The USDA reported that the August 2002 Advanced Class IV Skim Milk price was $6.86 per hundredweight (cwt.) compared to the Advanced Class III Skim Milk price of $5.77 per cwt. The difference between these respective Class IV and Class III prices (after factoring in butterfat prices) resulted in a $1.05 per cwt. *higher* Class I base price ($10.48 vs $9.43, respectively). Therefore, the USDA announced on July 19 that the August 2002 Advanced Class I "base" milk price would be $10.48 per cwt. (for 3.5% butterfat milk). After adding the $3.10 Class I price differential for the pricing zone which includes Atlanta and Starkville (Oktibbeha County) to this "base" price, the Advanced Class I milk price for August will be $13.58 per cwt. So, the August Advanced Class I price (for the North Central Zone) is $13.58 per cwt. and represents a DECREASE of 14 cents per cwt. (-1.0%) BELOW the corresponding July price of $13.72. This year's August Advanced Class I price is $4.92 (-26.6%) LESS than the August 2001 Class I price of $18.50 per cwt. Dairy farmers should keep in mind that the August Class I price will be an important, but not the only, factor influencing revenues derived from the sale of their milk produced during the month of August. Since about 55-70 % of Mississippi milk is processed into Class I products, farmers should expect less milk revenues when they receive their settlements checks in mid-September as the final payment for milk produced and sold in August.

| Advanced Class I Milk Price @ 3.5% bf | Price/cwt. in North Central MS Zone | Price Difference vs. Aug. 2002 -- $/cwt. | % Change vs Aug. 2002 |
|---|---|---|---|
| August 2002 | $13.58 | ----- | ------ |
| July 2002 | $13.72 | ↓$0.14 | ↓1.0% |
| June 2002 | $14.13 | ↓$0.55 | ↓3.9% |
| August 2001 | $18.50 | ↓$4.92 | ↓26.6% |
| August 2000 | $15.05 | ↓$1.47 | ↓9.8% |

**Market Conditions.** Sharp increases in national milk output during the past three-quarters of a year have forced down milk and dairy product prices. Milk production increased for the eight straight month during August (+2.0%), which has been driven by a combination of both increased productivity per cow and more cows in the national milk herd. However, there is a slight "silver-lining" to this dark cloud overhanging this dismal current market situation that offers some hope for improving dairy and milk prices. First, the onset of "hot and humid" summer weather conditions should dampen the magnitude of these recent pronounced monthly increases in milk output. Second, fluid milk demand rises as schools open for their fall terms during August and September. These two factors are expected to fall push up milk prices by $1.00 to $1.50 per cwt. through October or November. These growing milk supplies are currently being manufactured into dairy products as indicated in the USDA's June 30 Cold Storage report where total butter inventories swelled by 8% between May and June were 59% greater than June 2001. Commercial holdings of various types of natural cheeses were from 8% less to 14% greater than the May totals and ranged between 3% and 22% more than last June inventories. The market tone for dairy products has been described as "firming up" as diminishing milk supplies are beginning to ease its pressure on dairy products markets. Milk production declined in response to the onslaught of hot and extremely dry weather conditions in selected Western states and the prolonged heat wave in South and the Northeast. Despite declining milk production, Florida handlers exported 49 truckloads of milk out of the state during the first week of August compared to 48 loads shipped out during the previous week and 0 (zero) loads during the same week of 2001. The price outlook for September and October is not great but improving, as fluid demand grows with the re-opening of schools this fall and as milk production ebbs with hot, summer temperatures. Therefore, it is expected that Class I milk prices should increase about 40-50 cents and where the Atlanta/Starkville zone price should be reported near $14.00 per cwt. in September while mailbox milk prices should be in the $12.50 range for July and August. If our usual hot, humid summer weather persists, diminishing milk output is expected to push milk prices up by as much as $1.50 per cwt. in October and November.

**Milk Production.** Increasing milk supplies have been produced by sharp enhancements in milk output per cow and the growing numbers of milk cows on U.S. dairy farms. For example, the number of milk cows in our national dairy herd increased by 49,000 cows between June 2002 and June 2001, while milk productivity grew 25 lbs./cow. Coupling these two factors, the market has

and is still witnessing dramatic growth in milk supplies. U.S. milk production swelled by 306 (+2.2%) million pounds between these months. Mississippi's second-quarter milk output displayed its usual declining trend as production fell 2.9% (four million pounds) where farmers milked 2,000 fewer cows (34,000) compared to the April-May-June quarter of 2001. Monthly and second-quarter statistics are listed in the table below for selected states, the southeast region and the nation. The milk-feed price ratio can be used as an indicator when incentives may exist for dairy producers to change the size of their operations and when this ratio exceeds 3.0 economic conditions favor the expansion of milk supplies. The June 2002 milk-feed price ratio was 2.65 decreasing from 2.66 in May and significantly less than the 3.74 reported for June 2001, marking the fourth straight month this ratio has been reported below 3.0.

| Comparing 2002 vs 2001 | June Change in Prod.(%) | June Change in Output/Cow (%) | 2nd Quarter Change in Prod. (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **U.S. Total** | ↑2.2% | ↑1.5% | ↑3.0% |
| California | ↑5.1% | ↑1.4% | ↑5.7% |
| Wisconsin | ↓2.2% | ↓0.7% | ↓1.4% |
| Idaho | ↑5.0% | ↓0.6% | ↑5.6% |
| New Mexico | ↑14.4% | ↑1.1% | ↑15.6% |
| Indiana | 0.0% | ↑2.1% | ↑2.7% |
| Florida | ↓2.0% | ↑0.7% | ↓3.6% |
| Kentucky | ↓3.6% | ↑0.5% | ↓1.6% |
| Virginia | ↑1.7% | ↑0.4% | ↑2.7% |
| Texas | ↑2.8% | ↑8.8% | ↑6.5% |
| Mississippi | Not Available | Not Available | ↓2.9% |
| Louisiana | Not Available | Not Available | ↑2.4% |
| Alabama | Not Available | Not Available | ↓6.2% |
| 11-State Southeast Region | Not Available | Not Available | ↓0.5% |

**Dairy Product Prices.** Cheddar cheese, butter and nonfat dry milk (NDM) are beginning to display some improvement as the amount of milk supplies begin to decline with hot, summer weather conditions. Surplus milk supplies are declining and butter and cheese have responded with slightly higher product prices. Cheese prices rose 7-9% while butter price grew only 0.5% and NDM increased 2.2% between July 2 and August 2. Cheese prices have recovered and are again above the government support prices, but the USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) did purchase about 850,000 pounds of barrel and processed cheese in late-July. The CCC continues to purchase very large quantities of NDM at a rate of between 13 and 30 million pounds per week during July. As of August 2, the CCC has purchased a total of almost 610 million pounds of NDM since October 1 compared to nearly 365 million over the same time span last year. The U.S. government owns a total of 1.25 billion pounds of NDM as of July 26, 2002 vs a total of nearly 640 million pounds during the same week of 2001. The table below shows Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) cash prices for selected dairy products and trading dates.

| Chicago Mercantile Exchange Dairy Product Prices | August 2 Prices ($/lb) | July 2 Prices ($/lb) | Price Change ($/lb) | Change (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 40# Block Cheese | $1.1600 | $1.0650 | ↑$0.0950 | ↑8.9% |
| 500# Barrel Cheese | $1.1275 | $1.0550 | ↑$0.0750 | ↑6.9% |
| Grade AA Butter | $1.0625 | $1.0575 | ↑$0.0050 | ↑0.5% |
| Grade A Nonfat Dry Milk | $0.9200 | $0.9000 | ↑$0.0200 | ↑2.2% |

**Near-term Market Outlook.** The near-term dairy outlook continues to be overshadowed by the fears about the relentless increases in the number of milk cows and milk output/cow. However, recent declines in milk supplies precipitated by hot, summer temperatures have provided a welcome reprieve from dismally low dairy product prices. Combining diminishing milk supplies with the seasonal surge of fluid milk demand as schools reopen after summer holidays, dairy prices have recovered and inched above government support price levels for cheddar cheese and NDM. Thus, milk and dairy product prices are expected to strengthen and rise 8 to 12 % by October or November where the September Advanced Class I milk price for Mississippi (Starkville zone) is predicted to be in the range of $13.75 to $13.90. The August Class III price should increase 30 to 40 cents and be reported around $9.75 with the September 2002 Class III prices forecast at near $11.25 per cwt. CME settlement prices for selected Class III and Class IV milk futures contracts are found in the table below along with several butter futures contracts. Warning: dairy farmers and processors should use great care when evaluating the accuracy of these predictions because history continues to demonstrate just how wrong these guesses have been in the past.

| CME Dairy Futures Contract Prices | August 2 Settlement Prices | July 2 Settlement Prices | Change (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Class III Milk Futures** | **--- $/cwt ---** | **--- $/cwt ---** | |
| August Contract | $9.62 | $10.43 | ↓7.8% |
| September Contract | $11.20 | $11.85 | ↓5.5% |
| October Contract | $11.20 | $11.88 | ↓5.7% |
| **Class IV Milk Futures** | **--- $/cwt ---** | **--- $/cwt ---** | |
| August Contract | $10.75 | $10.50 | ↑2.4% |
| September Contract | $10.70 | $10.70 | ---- |
| October Contract | $10.70 | $10.70 | ---- |
| **Butter Futures** | **--- $/lb ---** | **--- $/lb ---** | |
| September Contract | $1.0625 | $1.0725 | ↓0.9% |
| October Contract | $1.0800 | $1.0900 | ↓0.9% |

**Southeast F.O. #7 June "Blend" Price Plunges to $12.69 per cwt.** The Southeast Federal Order Milk

Market Administrator reported the June 2002 "blend" or uniform price for milk delivered in the Atlanta and Starkville "base" zone of Federal Order (FO) #7 was $12.69/cwt. for 3.5% butterfat milk. (North Zone is minus $0.20, North Central Zone is the "base" zone, South Central Zone is plus $0.20, South Zone 10 is plus $0.30, and the Coastal Zone is plus $0.40/cwt.) The June blend price of $12.69/cwt. was determined using the following factors: (1) a "net" Class I price of $12.63 on 54.09% of the milk marketed; (2) the "net" price for Class II of $14.91 on 11.71% of the milk; (3) a "net" price of $10.44 on 21.74% of the milk used for Class III products; and, (4) the "net" Class IV price of $12.45 on 12.47% of the milk marketed. Please remember that milk is priced based on the location of the plant that processes the farmer's milk and NOT the site of a dairy farm. The table below contains selected monthly blend prices, price and percentage changes between these months, and their respective Class I utilization rates.

| FO #7 "Blend" Prices - N. Central MS Zone | "Blend" Price ($/cwt) | Price Difference vs. June 2002 -- $/cwt | Change (%) vs June 2002 | Class I Utilization |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| June 2002 | $12.69 | ----- | ----- | 54.08% |
| May 2002 | $12.89 | ↓$0.20 | ↓1.6% | 53.37% |
| April 2002 | $13.23 | ↓$0.54 | ↓4.1% | 54.79% |
| June 2001 | $17.28 | ↓$4.59 | ↓26.6% | 60.27% |
| June 2000 | $13.78 | ↓$1.09 | ↓7.9% | 64.26% |

**Prices of Holstein Dairy Cattle Replacements**

| Location of Sale | Norwood, MO | Thomasville, GA |
|---|---|---|
| Auction Date | July 11 | July 23 |
| No. of Head Sold | 765 | 284 |
| Springer Heifers | | |
| Supreme | $1,525-$1,585 | $1,630-$1,700 |
| Approved | $1,200-$1,475 | $1,400-$1,590 |
| Common | $650-$975 | $600-$1,010 |
| Springer Cows | | |
| Supreme | Not Available | Not Available |
| Approved | $1,225-$1,560 | $1,320-$1,330 |
| Common | $530-$730 | $580-$860 |
| Fresh Heifers/Cows | | |
| Supreme | Not Available | $1,520-$1,845 |
| Approved | $1,125-$1,600 | $1,460-$1,760 |
| Common | $475-$650 | $600-$980 |
| Calves 1-7 Days Old | | |
| Heifers & Bulls | $90-$425 | $90-$390 |

**UNIFORM or "Blend" PRICE FOR JUNE 2002**

| | |
|---|---|
| North Zone: | $12.49 |
| North Central Zone: | $12.69 |
| South Central Zone: | $12.89 |
| South Zone: | $12.99 |
| Coastal Zone: | $13.09 |

**CLASS I PRICE-AUGUST 2002 (Advanced Price)**

| | |
|---|---|
| North Zone: | $13.38 |
| North Central Zone: | $13.58 |
| South Central Zone: | $13.78 |
| South Zone: | $13.88 |
| Coastal Zone: | $13.98 |