

"Returns except for milk and its products," includes value of calves born during the year, manure, appreciation on cows, gain on herd bull and miscellaneous receipts.

The average number of cows kept ranged from about 15 in the Ocala district to 96 in the Miami district, with an average of 49 (Table LXVII).

The average milk production was highest in the St. Petersburg district followed by the Jacksonville district with 14 pounds less per cow; the Orlando district was third, followed by Ocala with 11 pounds less per cow, while Tampa had the lowest production. The average production for all districts was 4,373 pounds of milk per cow.

The cost of feed was 33 percent of the total cost of milk production in the Ocala district, 38 percent in the St. Petersburg and Orlando districts, 40 percent in the Miami district and 42 and 45 percent, respectively, in the Jacksonville and Tampa districts.

The cost of human labor in the several districts represented the following percentages of the total cost: Orlando and Miami 20, Tampa 21, St. Petersburg 22, Jacksonville 23 and Ocala 24.

Milk hauling costs in percentages of the total costs were: Tampa 10, Miami 11, Jacksonville 13 and St. Petersburg, Orlando and Ocala each 14 percent.

The cost of feed for all farms was 41 percent, human labor 21 percent and milk hauling 12 percent. These three items represented 74 percent of the total costs.

The average test of milk for all districts was 4.3 percent butterfat.

On the 249 farms cows were dry for an average period of 7.8 weeks.

MILK HAULING

Milk hauling by horse-drawn vehicles is almost a thing of the past on the dairy farms studied. In the Jacksonville district, 60 used autos or trucks regularly, two hired milk hauled, one used auto or truck and hired part and one used horses (Table LXVIII).

In the Miami district eight hired all their milk hauled, two hired part, and 26 used autos or trucks regularly.

In the Tampa district 50 used autos or trucks only, three part time, two used horses only and two part time. Three hired milk hauled regularly and one part time.

In the St. Petersburg district all the farmers used autos or trucks at some time during the year, but three hired their milk hauled part of the time.