

State of Mississippi

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Agriculture Fact Sheet Dairy 2021



- In 2021, Mississippi had 65 Grade A dairy herds, made up of 8,000 milk cows.
 - The value of milk production in 2021 was \$22 million.
 - A typical Mississippi dairy herd has 121 cows.
 - The most common dairy breeds in the U.S. are Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn.
 - Cows are milked at least twice a day using sanitary milking machines.
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- Dairy cows provide 90 percent of the world's milk.
 - Annual milk consumption in the U.S. averages 17 gallons per person.
 - Milk is the only commodity that is harvested daily.
 - Most cows average about 70 pounds of milk per day, which is about eight gallons.
 - Dairy products are the primary source of calcium in the American diet, accounting for 76 percent of the calcium in food.
 - It takes 21.2 pounds of whole milk to make one pound of butter, 12 pounds to make one gallon of ice cream and 10 pounds to make a pound of cheese.

Source: Mississippi State University & USDA-NASS

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