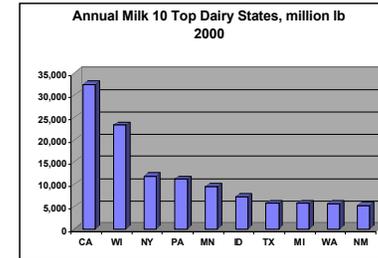
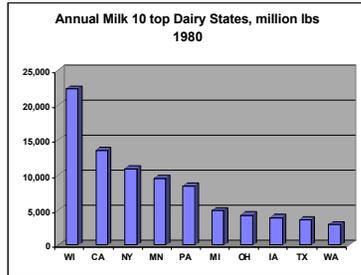


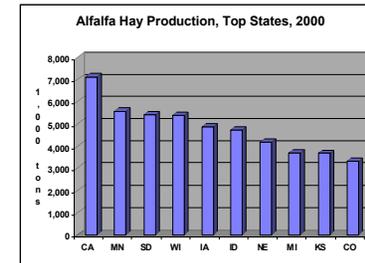
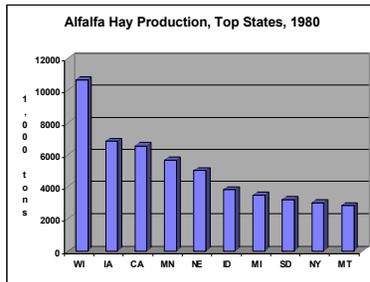
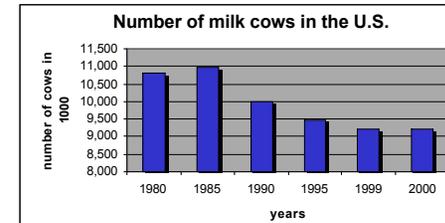
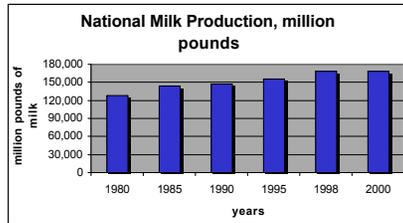


# Forage Related Data Over the Last 20 Years



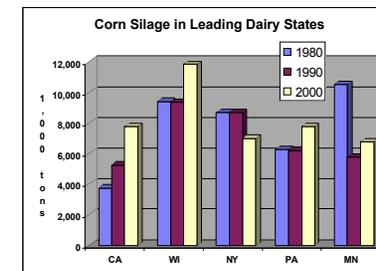
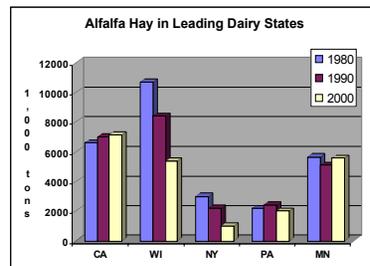
The research work performed at the U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center is designed to impact not only Regional production, but National production as well. One benefit of Forage and Dairy Agricultural research is that it can increase milk production per cow while decreasing feed costs and increasing feed quality.

The data shown in these four graphs illustrates milk production in the top ten dairy states, and in the United States in 1980 compared to 2000. Total milk production in the United States in 1980 was 128,406 million pounds from 10,799,000 cows. In 2000, there were 167,658 million pounds of milk produced from 9,210,000 cows. Current and past research done in agriculture helps farmers increase feed efficiency, and quality and therefore produce more milk per cow at a lower cost.



Efficient production of high quality forage is vital to the economic success of a dairy farm.

These graphs illustrate the production of Alfalfa in the top 10 dairy states in 1980 and 2000. In the U.S. in 1980 there was 79,963,000 tons of Alfalfa hay produced on 26,174,000 acres. In 2000 there was 80,347,000 tons of Alfalfa hay produced on 23,077,000 acres. Increasing the yield and quality per acre of forages is a key research topic for the Center.



Data Source is the National Agriculture Statistics Service