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This update covers Monday, November 2, 2009 to Friday, November 6, 2009

DATELINERS NEWSLETTER

The DatelinERS newsletter offers concise summaries of ERS reports and events with links to areas within our website. You can find it in our newsroom at www.ers.usda.gov/News/.

Released Monday, November 2, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinERSNewsletter.htm>

FRUIT AND TREE NUTS YEARBOOK DATA TABLES

Annual data on acreage, production, trade, supply and utilization, prices, and value of production for fruit and nuts including citrus, other tree fruits, grapes and other small fruits; supply and utilization of processed fruit and fruit juices.

Released Monday, November 2, 2009

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1377>

CHARACTERISTICS, COSTS, AND ISSUES FOR ORGANIC DAIRY FARMING

Organic milk production has been one of the fastest growing segments of organic agriculture in the United States in recent years. Despite the growing number of organic dairy operations, the characteristics of organic dairy operations and the relative costs of organic and conventional milk production have been difficult to analyze. This study, using 2005 ARMS data for U.S. dairy operations, which include a targeted sample of organic milk producers, examines the structure, costs, and challenges of organic milk production. The analysis addresses economies of size, regional differences, and pasture use in organic milk production and compares organic and conventional milk production costs. The findings suggest that economic forces have made organic operations more like conventional operations and that the future structure of the industry may depend on the interpretation and implementation of new organic pasture rules.

Released Monday, November 2, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR82/>

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