



PRESS RELEASE

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Jerusalem
June 9, 2005
123/2005

“LAND OF MILK AND HONEY” MILK AND HONEY IN ISRAEL – ON THE EVE OF SHAVU’OT

Milk

- In 2003 milk cows in Israel yielded an average of 10,000 liters per year – more than that of milk cows in Holland, USA, Spain, Australia and New Zealand; as well as more than the average in the European Union.
- The amount of milk (destined for drinking milk and milk products) available to consumers in Israel in 2004 - 169 liters per person.
- The average expenditure of households in Israel on pasteurized milk, in 2003 – NIS 46 per month.
- The price of pasteurized milk rose in 2004 by 1.6%.

Honey

- The output of honey in Israel in 2004 was approximately 3,500 tons, which were produced in approximately 90,000 beehives.
- An additional 500 tons of honey are imported.
- The amount of honey which was available to consumers in Israel in 2004 – approximately half a kilo per person.
- The price of honey dropped in 2004 by 1.7%.

On the eve of Shavu’ot, the Central Bureau of Statistics presents updated data on milk and honey in Israel. These data are in the fields of output, supply (what is available to the public) and consumption (what the public buys).

The output of milk in 2004

The total amount of **output** of milk (beef, sheep and goats) in 2004 was estimated at approximately 1,208 millions of liters, a rise of 2.4% compared with 2003. The value of the milk was estimated at approximately NIS 2.04 B, and its share of total agricultural out put was 11.4%. This amount also includes the amount of milk produced by the farmers for their own consumption (especially in the non-Jewish sector, where consumption of goats’ milk is high).

Written by Ms. Ilana Dror

For explanations and clarifications regarding the contents of this Press Release,
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Following is the distribution according to types of milk:

	No. of milk cows	Amount in millions of liters	Percentage	Value in millions of NIS	Percentage
Total					
Cow's milk					
Sheep's milk					
Goat's milk					

Milk yield per milk cow – international comparison for 2003

Liters per milk cow per year

Israel
Holland
USA
European Union
Spain
Australia
New Zealand

Honey in Israel in 2004

The output of honey in Israel in 2004 was approximately 3,500 tons, and the value of the honey was estimated at NIS 46.4 M. These values have remained identical to those of 2003. This is the product of approximately 90,000 beehives. The average yield in each beehive was approximately 42 kilos. This amount (approximately 3,500 tons) does not fill the local demand for honey in the State of Israel. In 2003 the free import of honey was approved. The amount of honey imported into Israel in 2004 was 500 tons.

Supply of milk and honey – calories, protein and fat per person per day in 2004

The total amount of milk (intended for both drinking and other milk products) available to consumers in 2004 was 1.21 M liters, approximately 169 liter per person in a year¹, a rise of 1.8% from 2003.

	Liter per person per year	Calories (Kcal per person per day)	Protein (Gram per person per day)	Fat (Gram per person per day)
Total milk				
Cow's milk				
Goat's milk				

¹ The provisional figure for the average population in 2004 stood at 6.89 M (not including tourists and foreign workers, according to international definitions).

In Israel there is approximately one-half a kilo of honey per person per year available to the public, which provides approximately 4.3 calories per person per day.

International comparison – supply of milk per person per year

Liters per person per year

Egypt
Jordan
Lebanon
Spain
Israel
Greece
USA

Average monthly expenditure of households in 2003 on milk and milk products and on honey

In 2003 the average monthly expenditure of households in Israel totaled NIS 10,139, 2.2% of expenditures were on milk and milk products.

The average expenditure of households in Israel on pasteurized milk, in 2003, was NIS 46 a month; on white cheese NIS 40 a month; on milk delicacies and cheese NIS 28 a month; on yellow cheese NIS 27 a month; and on honey NIS 4 a month.

Households with children spend more on milk delicacies than those without (NIS 8.5 a month compared with NIS 7.7 a month, respectively). The expenditure on honey in households with children and households without children is equal – NIS 4 a month.

Average price of milk and honey in 2004

In 2004 the price of a liter of pasteurized milk was, on average, NIS 3.95; 100 grams of hard, yellow cheese produced from cow milk was, on average, NIS 4.16; and 100 grams of fat, white, soft cheese is, on average, NIS 1.98.

In 2004 the price of pasteurized milk rose by 1.6% (December, 2004 compared with December, 2003). However, the price of honey dropped this year by 1.7%