

United States Senate

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Schumer Report: With Milk Prices Down More Than 12 Percent This Year, Schumer Kick Starts New Fight to Save MILC Program That Has Saved Upstate NY Dairy Farmers Millions

Today, U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer revealed that over the last five months, upstate New York dairy farmers have saved more than \$38 million because of payments received under the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program, despite a 12 percent drop in milk prices across upstate New York. Last year, Schumer successfully lobbied to extend the program until August of 2007. However, as negotiations on the 2007 Farm Bill begin to heat up, the program is in danger of being cut again. The MILC program provides subsidies to dairy farmers when the price of milk drops below \$16.94. Since November 2005, the average price of milk in upstate New York has plummeted from \$17.81 to \$15.68.

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Capital Region** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$3,897,843** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.4 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in the **Capital Region** produced **1.267 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Albany	25,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$79,451
Fulton	62,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$197,037
Montgomery	289,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$918,448
Rensselaer	207,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$657,850
Saratoga	144,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$457,635
Schenectady	13,500	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$42,903
Schoharie	118,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$375,006
Washington	368,000	\$17.16	\$15.03	12.4%	\$1,169,512
Capital Region Total	1,226,500	\$17.22	\$15.09	12.4%	\$3,897,843

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Central New York** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$4,762,265** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.5 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **Central New York** produced **1.499 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Cortland	273,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$867,600
Madison	360,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$1,144,088
Oneida	410,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$1,302,989
Onondaga	379,500	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$1,206,059
Oswego	76,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$241,530
Central NY Total	1,498,500	\$17.02	\$14.89	12.5%	\$4,762,265

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Rochester-Finger Lakes** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$6,632,530** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.6 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **the Rochester-Finger Lakes Region** produced **2.09 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Cayuga	620,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,971,962
Livingston	368,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,169,512
Monroe	70,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$222,461
Ontario	348,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,107,540
Schuyler	72,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$230,407
Seneca	110,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$349,582
Tompkins	170,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$540,264
Wayne	145,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$460,813
Yates	182,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$579,989
Finger Lakes Total	2,087,000	\$16.88	\$14.75	12.6%	\$6,632,530

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Hudson Valley** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$1,004,255** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.3 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **the Hudson Valley** produced **316 million** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Columbia	137,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$435,389
Dutchess	46,500	\$17.36	\$15.23	12.3%	\$147,778
Greene	26,500	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$84,218
Orange	26,500	\$17.56	\$15.43	12.1%	\$84,218
Putnam					
Sullivan	63,000	\$17.36	\$15.23	12.3%	\$200,215
Ulster	16,500	\$17.36	\$15.23	12.3%	\$52,437
Westchester					
Rockland					
Hudson Valley Total	316,000	\$17.36	\$15.23	12.3%	\$1,004,255

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **North Country** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$8,278,745** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.6 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **the North Country** produced **2.605 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Clinton	350,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,113,896
Essex	33,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$106,464
Franklin	288,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$915,270
Hamilton					
Herkimer	230,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$730,945
Jefferson	597,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,897,279
Lewis	475,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$1,509,560
St. Lawrence	631,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$2,005,331
Warren					
North Country Total	2,605,000	\$16.89	\$14.76	12.6%	\$8,278,745

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Southern Tier** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$4,571,583** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.5 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **the Southern Tier** produced **1.438 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Alleghany	161,000	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$511,661
Broome	132,000	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$419,499
Chemung	48,500	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$154,134
Chenango	315,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$1,001,077
Delaware	46,500	\$17.26	\$15.13	12.3%	\$147,778
Otsego	274,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$870,778
Steuben	314,500	\$16.86	\$14.73	12.6%	\$999,488
Tioga	147,000	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$467,169
Southern Tier Total	1,438,500	\$17.06	\$14.93	12.5%	\$4,571,583

Since the MILC program was restarted April 1, 2006, **Western New York** dairy farmers have received an estimated **\$8,477,371** because of the MILC program, helping them to weather a **12.7 percent** drop in milk prices. Dairy farmers in **Western New York** produced **2.668 billion** pounds of milk in 2005.

County	Milk Produced (1,000 lbs)	Milk Price (Nov. 2006)	Milk Price Today	Price Drop	Total MILC Program Saved Farmers in Last Five Months
Cattaraugus	326,500	\$16.66	\$14.53	12.8%	\$1,037,624
Chautauqua	371,000	\$16.66	\$14.53	12.8%	\$1,179,046
Erie	260,000	\$16.76	\$14.63	12.7%	\$826,285
Genesee	459,000	\$16.76	\$14.63	12.7%	\$1,458,712
Niagara	184,000	\$16.76	\$14.63	12.7%	\$584,756
Orleans	56,000	\$16.76	\$14.63	12.7%	\$177,969
Wyoming	1,011,000	\$16.76	\$14.63	12.7%	\$3,212,979
Western New York Total	2,667,500	\$16.73	\$14.60	12.7%	\$8,477,371

*Data from the United States Department of Agriculture and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets was used to create this report.