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WHAT GOES INTO A GALLON

The state keeps track of what dairy farmers pay for feed, labor and other milk production costs each quarter. The figures are statewide averages per gallon for April to June 2009. They are only part of the consumer price of milk, which also includes processing and retailing costs.

HIRED LABOR •

This includes milkers, feeders and other people hired by dairy owners. It does not include personal income to the dairy owner.

NEW COWS •

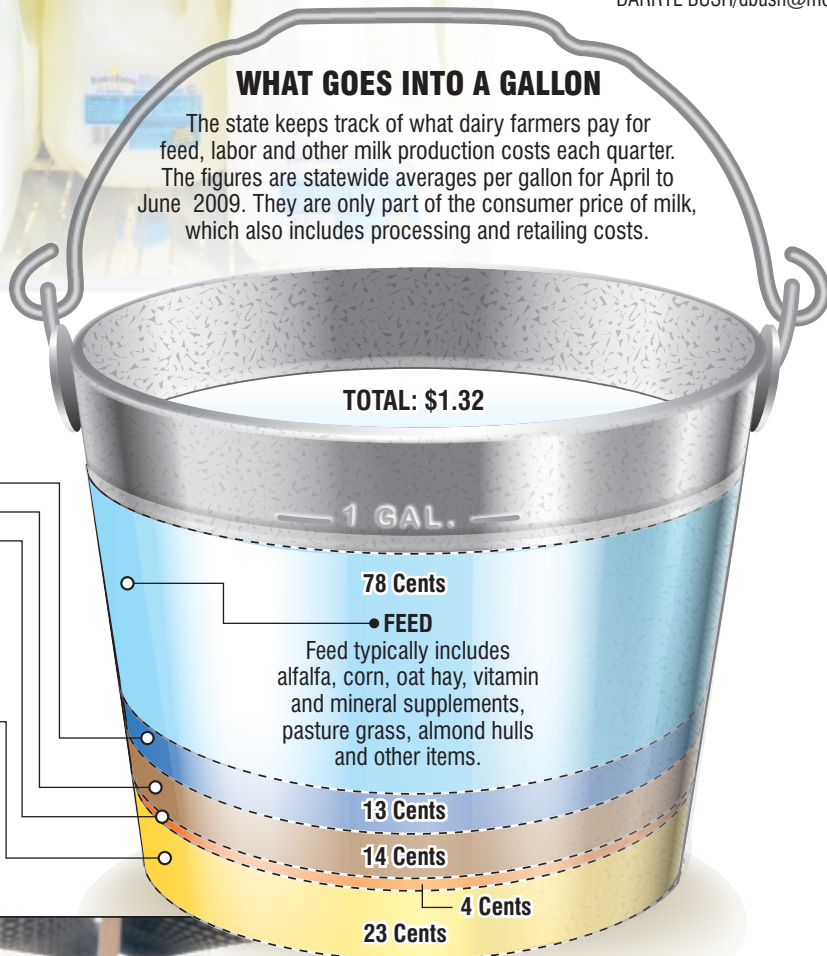
This reflects the need to replace animals past their milking prime.

MARKETING •

This includes trucking milk to processing plants and assessments for regulatory agencies and milk promotions.

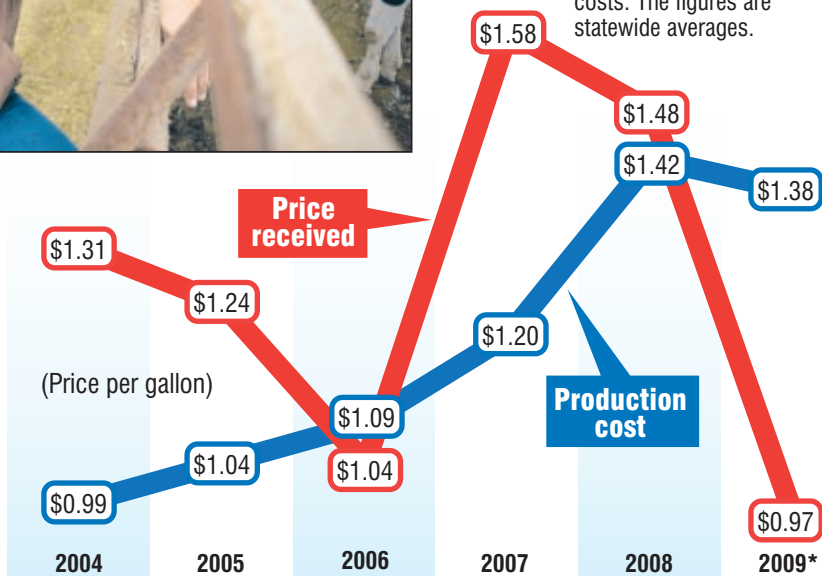
OTHER •

This includes utilities, fuel, veterinary care, other outside services, supplies, repairs, real estate, interest, taxes, depreciation and insurance.



CHURNING FORTUNES

Prices that California dairy farmers get for their milk have swung wildly in recent years, sometimes falling short of their feed, labor and other production costs. The figures are statewide averages.



Source: California Department of Food and Agriculture

* Through June