








Table 2.3 & Fig. 2.3

Milk supply, by somatic cell count categories, in 2004

-  Premium
-  Grade A
-  Grade B
-  Grade C
-  Grade D

SOMATIC CELL COUNT		
Quality Grade	Count per ml	% of supplied milk
Premium	Less than 230,000	59.3
Grade A	230,001 – 300,000	27.2
Grade B	300,001 – 400,000	10.7
Grade C	401,000 – 500,000	2.0
Grade D	501,000 – 600,000	0.7
Total		100.0

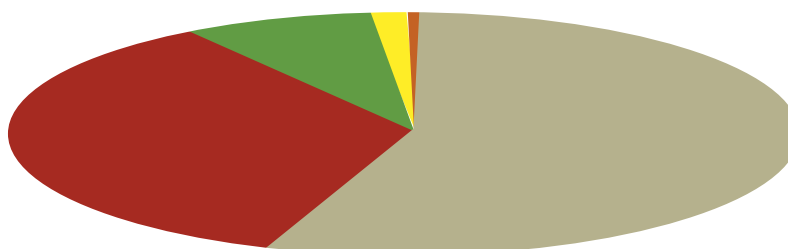






Table 2.4 & Fig. 2.4

Milk supply, by bacterial count categories, in 2004

-  Premium
-  Grade A
-  Grade B
-  Grade C

BACTERIAL COUNT		
Quality Grade	Count per ml	% of supplied milk
Premium	Less than 30,000	73.8
Grade A	30,001 – 100,000	25.1
Grade B	100,001 – 150,000	0.5
Grade C	151,000 – 250,000	0.6
Total		100.0

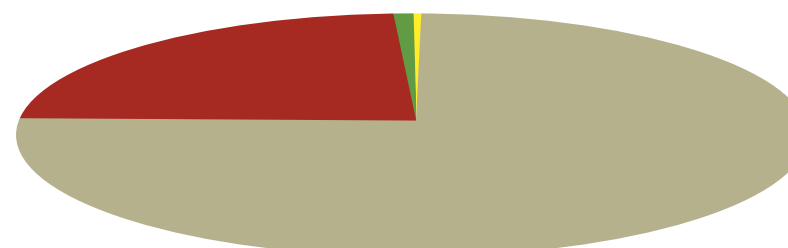
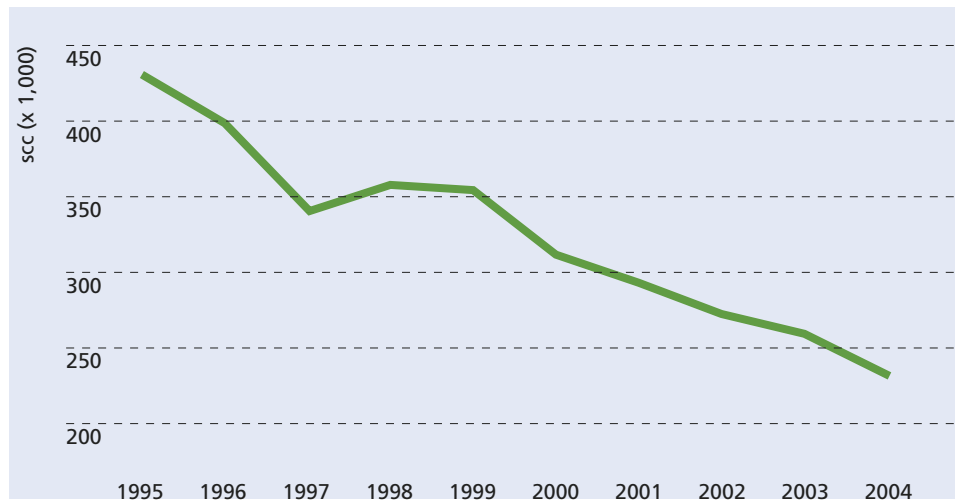




Fig. 2.5

Average somatic cell count, by year



A firm and constant policy was established by the Israeli Dairy Board in the 90s with the aim of improving milk quality. Economic incentives were set in order to lower the somatic cell count in the milk supplied to the industry

and threshold of price categories was progressively lowered along years. The farmers' response caused the average SCC (annual average for all farms) to decrease from 428,000/ml in 1995 to 259,000 in 2004.

