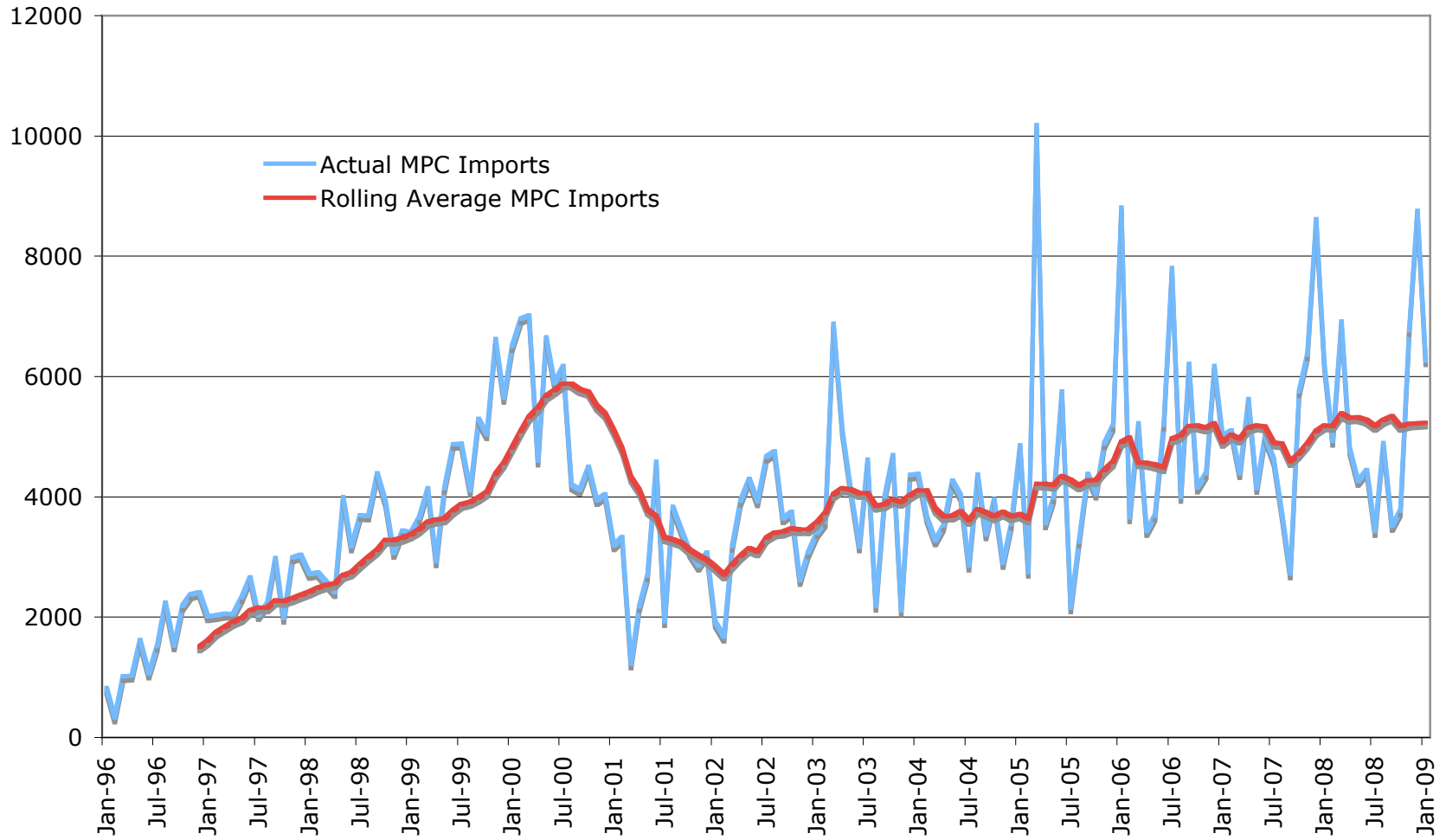
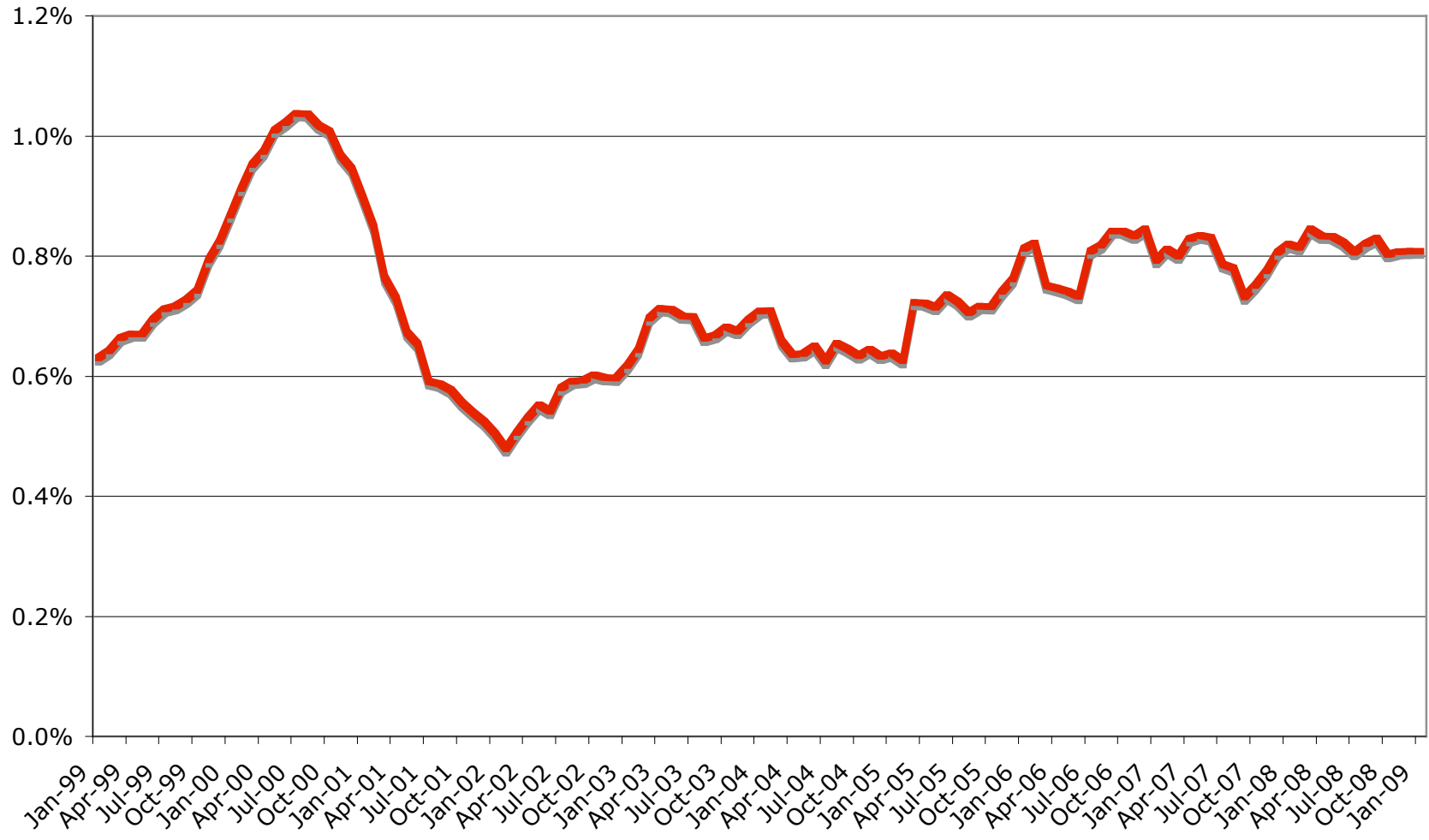


MPC Imports 1000s kg



MPC Imported Solids as a Percentage of U.S. Produced Solids



The following is information requested from Dr. Mark Stephenson with the Dairy Markets and Policy Program at Cornell University regarding the impact of imported milk protein concentrates into the United States. The information was provided by Dr. Stephenson to the Jefferson County Agricultural Development Corporation on April 6, 2009. Two graphs were provided in addition to this information.

MPC Import Graphs and Information

The first graph shows the monthly Milk Protein Concentrate (MPC) imports into the United States in two different ways. The light blue line shows the actual monthly volumes in thousands of kilograms. But, because this line can bounce up and down quite a bit, also included is a rolling average of those values in red to better represent trends.

This shows that the U.S. is well off our 2000 peak imports but that MPCs have been nudging upward a bit over the last several years.

The second graph tries to put these numbers in some perspective. Graphed are the MPC imports as a percentage of the production of U.S. nonfat milk solids to see if MPC imports are 1) a significant proportion of available milk in the country, and 2) if the imports have increased at a rate greater than milk production. I think that you can see that MPCs imports have been quite stable for the last 3 years and also that they represent a fairly small amount (about 8 tenths of one percent) of the nonfat milk solids that we produce in this country.

If you want to distort the meaning of statistics then you pick a single month like March 2008 where you can say with great accuracy that MPC imports are up 158% from year earlier levels. However, that really isn't the true picture of what is happening--you would just be comparing a relatively low import month in 2007 with a relatively high month in 2008.

The import information comes from the U.S. International Trade Commission's monthly data. Imports vary quite a bit from month-to-month but they are not trending upward in any significant fashion--particularly as a percentage of U.S. production of milk. A case could be made that they "displace" or "augment" about 8 tenths of one percent of U.S. milk production.

The milk that is displaced by MPC imports in the United States is the amount from about 70,000 cows—roughly equivalent to the number of cows in Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties.

Sources:

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and the U.S. International Trade Commission's monthly data