



# HONEY



**FLORIDA:** Honey production in 2003 was 14,910,000 pounds, down 27 percent from 2002. Florida ranked third in production behind California, and North Dakota. There were 210,000 colonies in Florida in 2003 with an average honey yield of 71 pounds per colony, 22 pounds less than in 2002.

Producers received an average of 135 cents per pound for the honey, up 21 cents per pound from the previous year. The value of Florida honey production in 2003 was \$20.1 million, down from the 2002 value of \$23.3 million.

**FLORIDA: Number of Colonies, Honey Production, Value, and Stocks, 1994-2003**

Year	Colonies of bees <sup>1/</sup>	Honey				
		Yield per colony	Production	Price per pound	Value	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup>
	1,000 colonies	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds
1994	230	84	19,320	47	9,080	2,898
1995	230	86	19,780	64	12,659	1,780
1996	240	105	25,200	86	21,672	2,268
1997	240	67	16,080	73	11,738	2,734
1998	230	98	22,540	64	14,426	4,508
1999	228	102	23,256	53	12,326	4,186
2000	232	105	24,360	54	13,154	2,923
2001	220	100	22,000	64	14,080	3,432
2002	220	93	20,460	114	23,324	2,026
2003	210	71	14,910	135	20,129	1,491

<sup>1/</sup> Operations with 5 or more colonies.

<sup>2/</sup> Stocks in producers' hands.

**UNITED STATES:** Honey production in 2003 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 181 million pounds, up 5 percent from 2002. There were 2.59 million colonies producing honey in 2003, up 1 percent from 2002. Yield per colony averaged 69.9 pounds, up 5 percent from the 66.7 pounds in 2002. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 40.7 million pounds on December 15, 2003, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2003 to 140.4 cents, up 6 percent from 132.7 cents in 2002. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op and private channels. U.S. honey prices for each color class are derived by weighing quantities sold for each marketing channel at the U.S. level. Honey prices for 2003 were higher than the previous year for all color classes. Some 2002 crop honey was sold at the higher prices in 2003, which caused some revisions to the 2002 crop prices.

**UNITED STATES: Number of Colonies, Honey Production, Value and Stocks, 1994-2003**

Year	Colonies of bees <sup>1/</sup>	Honey				
		Yield per colony	Production	Price per pound <sup>2/</sup>	Value	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>3/</sup>
	1,000 colonies	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds
1994	2,783	78.4	218,187	52.8	115,203	59,877
1995	2,655	79.5	211,073	68.5	144,585	42,313
1996	2,581	77.3	199,511	88.8	177,166	47,206
1997	2,631	74.7	196,536	75.2	147,795	70,696
1998	2,633	83.7	220,316	65.5	147,254	80,808
1999	2,688	76.4	205,250	60.1	126,075	79,375
2000	2,620	84.1	220,339	59.7	132,742	85,328
2001	2,506	74.0	185,461	70.4	132,225	64,556
2002 <sup>4/</sup>	2,574	66.7	171,718	132.7	228,338	39,393
2003 <sup>5/</sup>	2,590	69.9	181,096	140.4	255,791	40,735

<sup>1/</sup> Operations with 5 or more colonies.

<sup>2/</sup> Weighted by reported sales.

<sup>3/</sup> Stocks in producers' hands.

<sup>4/</sup> Revised.

<sup>5/</sup> Preliminary.

**UNITED STATES: Honey Prices by Color Class and Buyer, 2002 and 2003**

Color class	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Cents per pound</i>					
Water white, extra white, and white	139.6	143.8	153.8	187.0	140.2	146.0
Extra light amber	127.2	135.1	142.0	177.1	128.3	138.1
Light amber, amber, and dark amber	119.0	128.6	154.3	185.4	122.8	133.9
All other honey, area specialties	109.8	116.3	194.9	251.3	121.9	130.3
All honey	131.3	137.1	152.2	184.9	132.7	140.4

**HONEY: Number of Colonies, Production, Stocks, and Value, 2002-2003** <sup>1/</sup>

State	Number of colonies		Yield per colony		Production		Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup>		Average price per pound		Value of production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 colonies</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 pounds</i>				<i>Cents</i>		<i>1,000 dollars</i>	
Alabama	12	13	86	82	1,032	1,066	103	43	118	126	1,218	1,343
Arizona	38	40	63	72	2,394	2,880	1,197	1,123	108	138	2,586	3,974
Arkansas	45	40	88	75	3,960	3,000	871	810	126	127	4,990	3,810
California	470	480	50	67	23,500	32,160	3,525	6,432	132	142	31,020	45,667
Colorado	24	24	60	86	1,440	2,064	576	722	129	138	1,858	2,848
<b>Florida</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>20,460</b>	<b>14,910</b>	<b>2,026</b>	<b>1,491</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>23,324</b>	<b>20,129</b>
Georgia	50	52	52	65	2,600	3,380	52	270	113	128	2,938	4,326
Hawaii	7	7	136	113	952	791	29	43	111	143	1,057	1,131
Idaho	100	100	57	46	5,700	4,600	1,653	1,380	137	135	7,809	6,210
Illinois	9	7	80	60	720	420	130	252	147	173	1,058	727
Indiana	8	5	62	56	496	280	233	78	119	159	590	445
Iowa	33	32	70	59	2,310	1,888	901	868	143	145	3,303	2,738
Kansas	17	16	52	57	884	912	407	447	150	158	1,326	1,441
Kentucky	5	5	54	48	270	240	78	14	163	164	440	394
Louisiana	35	34	124	90	4,340	3,060	347	275	116	124	5,034	3,794
Maine	11	8	41	33	451	264	266	145	121	140	546	370
Maryland	3	2	46	42	138	84	21	21	196	191	270	160
Michigan	72	65	77	74	5,544	4,810	1,885	1,732	140	147	7,762	7,071
Minnesota	117	120	73	83	8,541	9,960	1,110	1,892	147	146	12,555	14,542
Mississippi	18	21	78	69	1,404	1,449	281	246	123	128	1,727	1,855
Missouri	18	17	50	53	900	901	189	189	142	141	1,278	1,270
Montana	134	145	63	66	8,442	9,570	1,097	1,914	138	148	11,650	14,164
Nebraska	43	45	75	74	3,225	3,330	1,161	1,299	149	143	4,805	4,762
Nevada	9	6	62	64	558	384	61	46	267	241	1,490	925
New Jersey	11	10	40	19	440	190	92	101	100	157	440	298
New Mexico	11	6	44	41	484	246	252	108	110	116	532	285
New York	60	67	98	72	5,880	4,824	2,470	1,640	125	140	7,350	6,754
North Carolina	16	10	42	44	672	440	74	79	141	190	948	836
North Dakota	320	340	75	87	24,000	29,580	8,160	6,803	146	136	35,040	40,229
Ohio	18	15	70	50	1,260	750	504	278	144	143	1,814	1,073
Oklahoma	3	3	53	47	159	141	51	69	163	183	259	258
Oregon	43	42	49	51	2,107	2,142	885	964	135	126	2,844	2,699
Pennsylvania	29	27	57	50	1,653	1,350	827	419	134	132	2,215	1,782
South Carolina	5	6	94	70	470	420	14	13	125	195	588	819
South Dakota	225	200	51	70	11,475	14,000	2,410	2,520	142	146	16,295	20,440
Tennessee	8	7	61	40	488	280	137	53	140	153	683	428
Texas	114	140	67	67	7,638	9,380	985	1,126	114	142	8,707	13,320
Utah	22	23	59	57	1,298	1,311	208	144	130	130	1,687	1,704
Vermont	7	7	89	83	623	581	274	163	120	192	748	1,116
Virginia	8	6	38	37	304	222	79	69	190	169	578	375
Washington	50	58	51	56	2,550	3,248	561	942	127	152	3,239	4,937
West Virginia	9	8	51	47	459	376	151	194	132	201	606	756
Wisconsin	70	74	95	77	6,650	5,698	2,461	2,678	134	144	8,911	8,205
Wyoming	38	39	63	81	2,394	3,159	383	474	133	140	3,184	4,423
Other States <sup>3/</sup>	9	8	50	44	453	355	216	166	229	270	1,036	958
<b>United States <sup>4/</sup></b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>2,590</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>171,718</b>	<b>181,096</b>	<b>39,393</b>	<b>40,735</b>	<b>132.7</b>	<b>140.4</b>	<b>228,338</b>	<b>255,791</b>

<sup>1/</sup> 2002 data revised.

<sup>2/</sup> Does not include stocks under loan.

<sup>3/</sup> CT, DE, MA, NH, and RI not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>4/</sup> U.S. price weighted by survey expanded sales.