



Press Release

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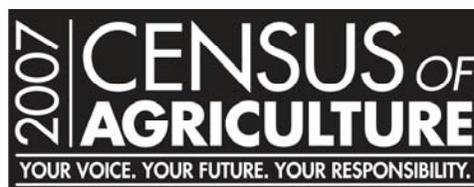
Media Contact: Bill Meyer

Idaho Honey Production Decreased 10 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2007 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.77 million pounds, a 10 percent decrease from 2006, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 92,000 colonies, down 3,000 colonies from last year. Yield per colony averaged 41 pounds, down 3 pounds from 2006. Producer honey stocks were 1.85 million pounds on December 15, 2007, a decrease of 29 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound is \$1.08, up 8 cents from a year ago.

U.S. honey production in 2007 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 148 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. There were 2.44 million colonies producing honey in 2007, up 2 percent from 2006. Yield per colony averaged 60.8 pounds, down 6 percent from the 64.7 pounds in 2006. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 52.5 million pounds on December 15, 2007, down 13 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

The 2007 all honey price was 103.2 cents, down slightly from 103.6 cents in 2006. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, cooperatives, and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2006 crop reflect honey sold in 2006 and 2007.



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