



## Bees and Honey

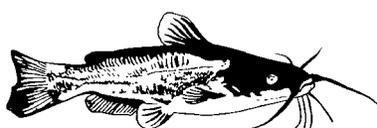
Honey production from Louisiana producers with five or more colonies during 2004 totaled 3.43 million pounds, 12 percent above the 2003 level. Producers harvested honey from 35,000 colonies. Production per colony averaged 98 pounds.

Prices from the 2004 honey crop averaged \$0.79 per pound, down \$0.45 from 2003. Prices were based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and co-ops. Louisiana producers had 240,000 pounds of honey in stock on December 15, 2004, compared with 275,000 pounds on hand the previous year.

### Number of Colonies, Production, Stocks and Value: Louisiana, 2001-2004

Year	Number of Colonies ---1,000---	Average Yield per Colony ---Pounds---	Production -----1,000 Pounds-----	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Average Price per Pound ---Cents---	Value of Production ---\$1,000---
2001	45	106	4,770	572	60.0	2,862
2002	35	124	4,340	347	116.0	5,034
2003	34	90	3,060	275	124.0	3,794
2004	35	98	3,430	240	79.0	2,710

## Catfish



Louisiana continues to rank fourth in the nation in foodsize catfish production, water surface acres and total sales of catfish. Mississippi leads the nation in foodsize catfish production, followed by Alabama and Arkansas.

There were 38 commercial catfish operations in the state on January 1, 2005, down from 48 on January 1, 2004. These farms operated 7,600 water acres, down 1,200 acres from the same time in 2004.

Total sales of catfish in Louisiana for the year 2004 were \$14.32 million, down 1 percent from sales in 2003. Virtually all of this amount (\$14.26 million) was from sales of foodsize catfish. Farmers sold 23.0 million pounds of foodsize catfish in 2004 compared to 26.1 million pounds in 2003. Sales in 2004 averaged 62 cents per pound, up 8 cents from 2003.

Catfish data come from the January 1, 2005, Catfish Grower's Survey. This survey is conducted every January; a similar survey is conducted every July.