



## Bees and Honey

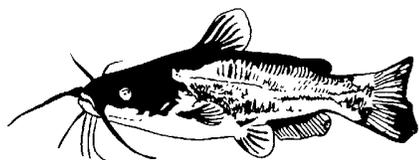
Honey production from Louisiana producers with five or more colonies during 2005 totaled 3.40 million pounds, 1 percent below the 2004 level. Producers harvested honey from 35,000 colonies. Production per colony averaged 97 pounds.

Prices from the 2005 honey crop averaged \$0.71 per pound, down \$0.07 from 2004. Prices were based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and co-ops. Louisiana producers had 611,000 pounds of honey in stock on December 15, 2005, compared with 240,000 pounds on hand the previous year.

### Number of Colonies, Production, Stocks and Value: Louisiana, 2002-2005

Year	Number of Colonies	Average Yield per Colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Average Price per Pound	Value of Production
	---1,000---	---Pounds---	-----1,000 Pounds-----		---Cents---	---\$1,000---
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	78.0	2,675
2005	35	97	3,395	611	71.0	2,410

## 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 28 commercial catfish operations in the state on January 1, 2006, down from 38 on January 1, 2005. These farms operated 6,600 water acres, down 1,000 acres from the same time in 2005.

Total sales of catfish in Louisiana for the year 2005 were \$14.94 million, up 4 percent from sales in 2004. Of this amount, 98.9% was from sales of foodsize catfish. Farmers sold 21.1 million pounds of foodsize catfish in 2005 compared to 23.0 million pounds in 2004. Sales in 2005 averaged 70 cents per pound, up 8 cents from 2004.

Catfish data come from the January 1, 2006, Catfish Grower's Survey. This survey is conducted every January; a similar survey is conducted every July.