

bees and honey

Maryland's honey production for 2003 totaled 84,000 pounds, down 61 percent from the 138,000 pounds produced in 2002. The number of producing colonies, at 2,000, fell by 1,000 colonies from the year before. Yield per colony averaged 42 pounds, 9% less than last year.

Value of honey production for 2003 totaled \$160,000, down from 2002's \$270,000. The price received for Maryland honey in 2003 averaged \$1.91 per pound, down \$0.05 from the \$1.96 received for 2002's honey.

Maryland Honey: Production, Colonies, Stocks, and Value¹

Year	Number of Colonies	Yield Per Colony	Production	Stocks December 15 ²	Average Price Per Pound	Value of Production
	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Thousand Pounds</i>	<i>Thousand Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>
1998	7	44	308	92	1.10	339
1999	6	46	276	50	1.64	453
2000	6	46	276	52	1.14	315
2001	4	46	184	55	1.60	294
2002 ³	3	46	138	21	1.96	270
2003	2	42	84	21	1.91	160

¹ For Producers with 5 or more colonies.

² Stocks held by producers. Does not include stocks under loan.

³ Revised

aquaculture

Maryland producers raise a variety of fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants, including hybrid striped bass, catfish, trout, tilapia, yellow perch, largemouth bass, bluegill, oysters, clams, soft-shelled crabs, crayfish, ornamental fish and aquatic plants.

The total value of production in 2001 was \$3.81 million. Production was down from 2000, when producers raised and sold \$4.95 million worth of aquatic plants and animals. The decrease was due primarily to reduced production and market value of certain finfish.

2001 Aquaculture Production and Sales

Description	Unit	Amount Produced	Value of Sales
Finfish			Dollars
Food fish ¹	lb	120,513	280,140
Sport fish ² and Baitfish	lb	61,490	212,180
Shellfish³	ea	6,945,890	159,880
Ornamental species			
Ornamental fish	ea	3,125,100	903,000
Aquatic plants	ea	1,502,900	2,257,230
Total			3,812,430

¹ Finfish include hybrid striped bass, catfish, trout, tilapia, and yellow perch.

² Sportfish include largemouth bass and bluegill.

³ Shellfish include market oysters and clams, seed oysters and clams, soft-shelled crabs and crayfish.