

MINK

Ten mink farms in Washington produced 109,600 pelts in 2005, up 34 percent from 2004. By color class, 51.3 percent of the pelts produced were Black, 31.3 percent of the pelts were Blue Iris, and the remainder were Demi-Wild, Mahogany or something else. The average price per mink pelt is

not estimated at the state level; however, at the U. S. level pelts averaged \$60.90 for the 2005 crop year, \$13.80 percent above the 2004 price of \$47.10. Females bred in 2005, to produce kits, totaled 23,900, up 2,200 females from the previous year.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class, Washington, 1996-2005 ¹

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total	Number of Operations
	<i>1,000 Pelts</i>	<i>Number</i>					
1996	68.0	*	33.0	*	16.0	117.0	19
1997	62.8	*	41.0	*	17.6	121.4	19
1998	57.7	*	59.3	*	25.6	142.6	20
1999	45.0	*	67.9	*	16.3	129.2	18
2000	37.3	*	57.4	*	18.0	112.7	16
2001	35.5	*	63.1	*	14.5	113.1	15
2002	42.6	18.5	48.9	*	*	110.0	15
2003	28.8	13.4	52.4	*	*	94.6	10
2004	42.0	*	40.0	*	*	82.0	10
2005	56.3	*	34.3	*	*	109.6	10

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

¹ New color classes starting for 2002 pelts. Black - formerly Standard, included Pure Dark: Demi-Wild-includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris-formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.

Females Bred to Produce Kits, by Color Class, Washington, 1997-2006 ¹

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total
	<i>1,000 Head</i>					
1997	17.0	*	10.4	*	3.5	30.9
1998	14.9	*	12.6	*	3.8	31.3
1999	11.8	*	15.1	*	2.7	29.6
2000	9.0	*	14.9	*	2.7	26.6
2001	9.6	2.8	12.7	*	*	25.1
2002	9.3	*	14.5	*	5.1	28.9
2003	7.7	4.3	10.7	*	*	22.9
2004	10.5	2.9	10.9	*	*	24.3
2005	12.4	*	9.3	*	*	21.7
2006	12.5	*	8.0	*	*	23.9

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Published color classes may not add to State total.

¹ New color classes starting for female mink bred in 2003. Black - formerly Standard, included Pure Dark: Demi-Wild-includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris-formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.