



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
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## 2010 WEST VIRGINIA HONEY PRODUCTION, RECORD HIGH HONEY PRICES FOR THE UNITED STATES

**WEST VIRGINIA - Honey production** in 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 190,000 pounds, up 5,000 pounds from 2009. There were 5,000 producing colonies in 2010, unchanged from 2009. Yield per colony averaged 38 pounds, up 1 pound from 37 pounds in 2009. Honey stocks on December 15, 2010, were reported at 38,000 pounds, up 5,000 pounds from the amount of 33,000 pounds reported in 2009.

**Prices** for the 2010 crop averaged 239 cents per pound, compared to the revised price of 260 cents per pound in 2009. Value of production totaled 454,000 dollars, down 27,000 dollars from the revised amount of 481,000 dollars in 2009.

**UNITED STATES - Honey production** in 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 176 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2009. There were 2.68 million colonies producing honey in 2010, up 7 percent from 2009. Yield per colony averaged 65.5 pounds, up 12 percent from the 58.6 pounds in 2009. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield 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 45.3 million pounds on December 15, 2010, up 21 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

**Honey prices** increased to a record high during 2010 to 160.3 cents, up 9 percent from 147.3 cents in 2009. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private channels, and retail. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2009 crop reflect honey sold in 2009 and 2010. Some 2009 crop honey was sold in 2010, which caused some revisions to the 2009 crop prices.