

## Wisconsin Remains Number 1 in Mink Pelt Production and Females Bred

Wisconsin continues to be a leader in the United States for mink pelt production and females bred. The state's mink pelt production in 2007 totaled 914,100, an increase of 3 percent from 2006. Wisconsin accounted for 32 percent of the nation's total pelt production compared to 31 percent the previous year.

The percents of pelts produced in Wisconsin by color class were Black - 65 percent; Mahogany - 11 percent; Blue Iris - 10 percent; White - 5 percent; Sapphire - 4 percent; Pastel – 1 percent; and Lavender and Miscellaneous colors less than 1 percent each. The remaining 3 percent fall into color classes that were not published to avoid disclosure of individual information.

Females bred in Wisconsin to produce kits in 2008 increased 1 percent to 217,830. This accounted for 32 percent of the U.S. total compared with 31 percent a year ago.

The number of farms producing pelts in Wisconsin, at 71, was up 3 from 2006.

Nationwide, mink pelt production during 2007 totaled 2.83 million pelts, down 1 percent from 2006. After Wisconsin's production of 914,100 pelts, Utah came in second with 599,430 pelts.

Females bred in the United States to produce kits in 2008 totaled 691,170, a decrease of 1 percent from the previous year.

Mink pelts produced during the 2007 crop year were valued at \$186 million, up 34 percent from \$139 million a year earlier. The average price per pelt for the 2007 crop year was \$65.70, up \$17.30 from the 2006 price of \$48.40.

In 2007 there were 283 mink farms producing pelts, 1 percent above a year ago. Leading states were Wisconsin with 71 farms, Utah with 65 farms, and Idaho with 24.

## MINK: Number of Ranches, Females Bred, Pelts Produced, and Value, Wisconsin, 2003-2007

Year	Mink ranches	Females bred	Pelts produced	Average price 1/	Value of pelts
	Number	1,000	Dollars	Million dollars	
2003	69	170.0	706.3	40.10	28.3
2004	67	168.9	768.0	47.10	36.2
2005	67	190.4	778.0	60.90	47.4
2006	69	188.0	890.2	48.40	42.0
<b>2007</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>214.9</b>	<b>914.1</b>	<b>65.70</b>	<b>42.0</b>

1/Average market price, U.S.

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

## MINK PELT PRODUCTION AND PRICE

