



# HONEY



Virginia's honey production (from producers with at least 5 colonies) totaled 294,000 pounds in 2000, up 49,000 pounds from the previous year. Although production has increased honey producers are still faced with mites and other parasites that destroy bee colonies. Yield per colony was 42 pounds, up 20 percent from the 1999 estimate of 35 pounds per colony. Stocks in 2000 were 35 percent of the production, unchanged from last year.

Honey production in 2000 (from producers with at least 5 colonies) totaled 221 million pounds, up 8 percent from 1999. There were 2.63 million colonies producing honey in 2000, down 2 percent from 1999. Yield per colony averaged 83.9 pounds, up 7.5 pounds from the 76.4 pounds in 1999. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 86.2 million pounds on December 15, 2000, up 9 percent from a year earlier.

## HONEY PRODUCTION, STOCKS, AND VALUE, 1999-2000 <sup>1/</sup>

|                             | Producing Colonies |          | Yield Per Colony |           | Production   |            | Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup> |            | Average Price Per Pound <sup>3/</sup> |               | Value of Production |            |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------|
|                             | -thousands-        |          | -pounds-         |           | -000 pounds- |            | -000 pounds-                |            | -cents-                               | -000 dollars- |                     |            |
|                             | 1999               | 2000     | 1999             | 2000      | 1999         | 2000       | 1999                        | 2000       | 1999                                  | 2000          | 1999                | 2000       |
| Maryland                    | 6                  | 6        | 46               | 46        | 276          | 276        | 50                          | 52         | 164                                   | 114           | 453                 | 315        |
| North Carolina              | 9                  | 11       | 46               | 49        | 414          | 539        | 104                         | 243        | 162                                   | 143           | 671                 | 771        |
| <b>VIRGINIA</b>             | <b>7</b>           | <b>7</b> | <b>35</b>        | <b>42</b> | <b>245</b>   | <b>294</b> | <b>86</b>                   | <b>103</b> | <b>117</b>                            | <b>150</b>    | <b>287</b>          | <b>441</b> |
| West Virginia               | 6                  | 7        | 39               | 54        | 234          | 378        | 152                         | 234        | 109                                   | 122           | 255                 | 461        |
| United States <sup>4/</sup> | 2,688              | 2,634    | 76.4             | 83.9      | 205,250      | 221,005    | 79,375                      | 86,158     | 60.1                                  | 59.4          | 126,075             | 132,205    |

<sup>1/</sup> 1999 revised.

<sup>2/</sup> Does not include stocks under loan.

<sup>3/</sup> Price weighted by sales.

<sup>4/</sup> U.S. colonies multiplied by U.S. yield may not exactly equal U.S. Production due to rounding.