

MINK

Fifteen mink farms in Washington produced 110,000 pelts in 2002, down 3 percent from 2001. By color class, 38.7 percent of the pelts produced were Black, 16.8 percent of the pelts were Demi-Wild and 44.5 percent of the pelts were Blue Iris. The average price per mink pelt is not

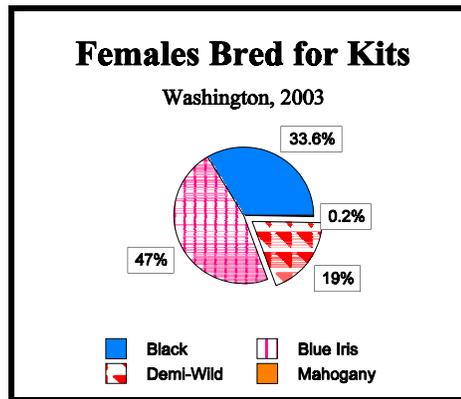
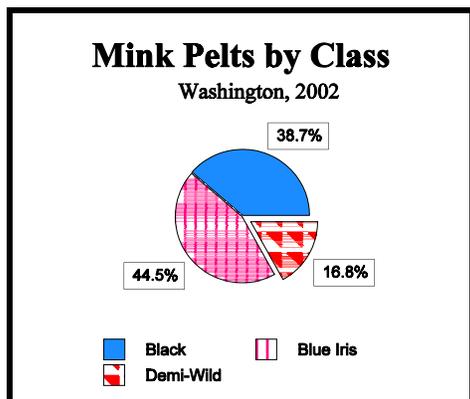
estimated at the state level; however, at the U.S. level pelts averaged \$30.60 for the 2002 crop year, 9 percent below the 2001 price of \$33.50. Females bred in 2003, to produce kits, totaled 22,900, down 6,000 females from the previous year.

Mink: Pelts Produced By Color Class, Washington, 1993-2002 1/

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total	Number of Operations
	1,000 Pelts						
1993	62.7	*	22.2	0.0	17.8	102.7	24
1994	66.0	*	22.5	0.0	20.2	108.7	24
1995	67.1	*	25.5	*	12.4	105.0	20
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	*	0.0	110.0	15

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

1/ New color classes starting for 2002 pelts. Black - formerly Standard, includes 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, 1994-2003 1/

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total
	1,000 Head					
1994	19.3	*	6.1	0.0	4.5	29.9
1995	16.7	*	6.5	*	2.4	25.6
1996	16.4	*	8.2	*	2.9	27.5
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	0.2	0.0	22.9

* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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