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Special Note

NASS is in the process of modifying report layouts in order to improve readability. This report issue is published using both layouts but all future issues will only be produced with the new layout, which is available on the NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. This is the last issue using this layout.

Pelt Production Up 1 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 2009 totaled 2.86 million pelts, up 1 percent from 2008. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 886,100 pelts. Utah, the second largest producing State, produced 613,500 pelts.

The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total U.S. production in 2009 is as follows: Black at 52 percent, Mahogany at 23 percent, Blue Iris at 10 percent, Demi/Wild at 4 percent, and Sapphire at 4 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 7 percent.

Value of Pelt Production Up 58 Percent

Mink pelts produced during the 2009 crop year were valued at \$186 million, up 58 percent from \$117 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2009 crop year was \$65.10, up \$23.50 from \$41.60 in 2008.

Females Bred Down 1 Percent

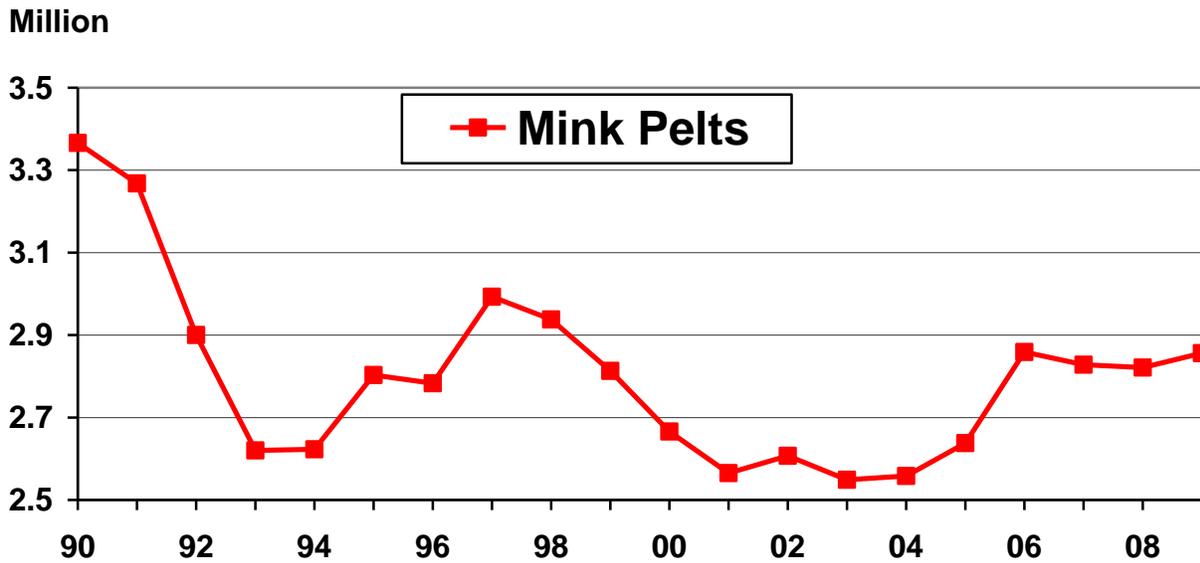
Female mink bred to produce kits in 2010 totaled 670,200, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2010 by color class is as follows: Black at 50 percent, Mahogany at 24 percent, Blue Iris at 9 percent, Sapphire at 5 percent, and Demi/Wild at 4 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 8 percent.

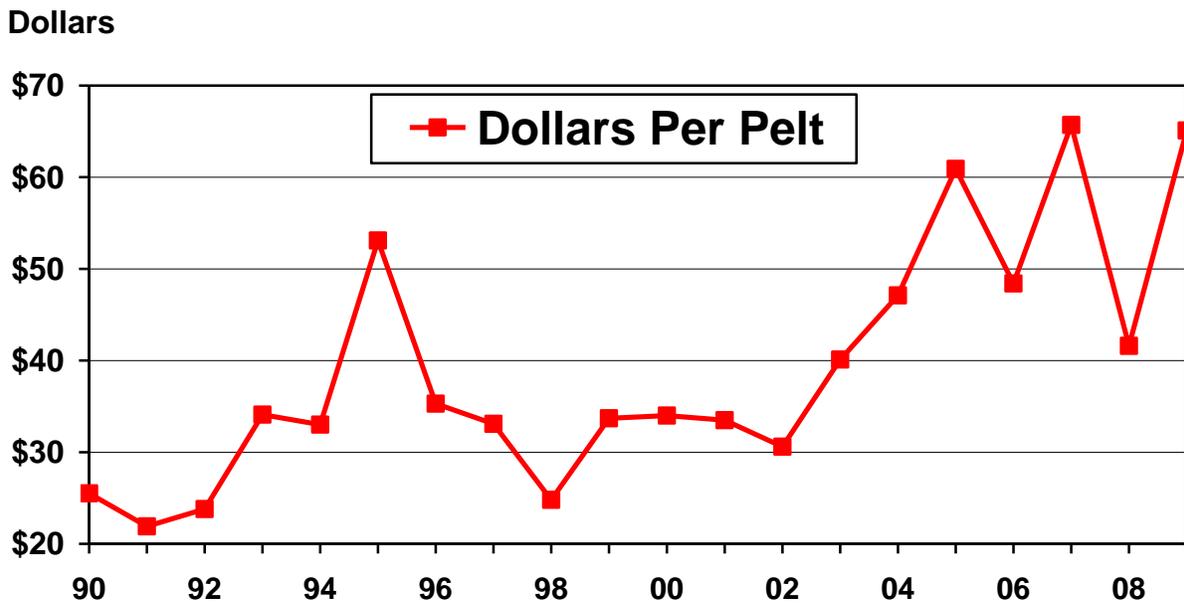
Number of Mink Farms Up 1 Percent

There were 278 mink farms producing pelts in 2009, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Mink Pelts Produced United States, 1990 - 2009



Mink Pelt Average Price United States, 1990 - 2009



**Mink: Pelts Produced and Females Bred, by Color Class,
United States, 2008-2010**

Color Class	Pelts Produced		Females Bred to Produce Kits	
	2008 ¹	2009	2009 ¹	2010
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Black	1,515,300	1,494,500	348,600	338,400
Demi/Wild	114,600	123,900	26,200	27,600
Pastel	61,100	56,200	19,800	18,300
Sapphire	93,600	104,400	28,400	35,900
Blue Iris	288,000	282,400	68,100	58,600
Mahogany	602,600	663,500	149,200	159,700
Pearl	42,700	57,100	12,800	12,600
Lavender	3,700	4,400	1,600	1,700
Violet	36,800	14,500	5,200	4,000
White	50,100	48,800	11,600	11,800
Misc. & Unclassified	12,200	6,000	2,700	1,600
US	2,820,700	2,855,700	674,200	670,200

¹ Revised.

**Mink: Farms, Pelts Produced, Price, and Value,
United States, 1990-2009**

Year	Mink Farms	Pelts Produced	Average Marketing Price	Value of Mink Pelts
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
1990	771	3,365,700	25.50	85,825,350
1991	683	3,268,200	21.90	71,573,580
1992	571	2,900,000	23.80	69,020,000
1993	523	2,620,300	34.10	89,352,230
1994	484	2,623,200	33.00	86,565,600
1995	478	2,803,100	53.10	148,844,610
1996	449	2,783,200	35.30	98,246,960
1997	452	2,993,300	33.10	99,078,230
1998	438	2,938,100	24.80	72,864,880
1999	398	2,812,500	33.70	94,781,250
2000	350	2,666,100	34.00	90,647,400
2001	329	2,565,300	33.50	85,937,550
2002	324	2,607,300	30.60	79,783,380
2003	305	2,549,000	40.10	102,214,900
2004	296	2,558,100	47.10	120,486,510
2005	275	2,637,800	60.90	160,642,020
2006	279	2,858,800	48.40	138,365,920
2007	283	2,828,200	65.70	185,812,740
2008 ¹	274	2,820,700	41.60	117,341,120
2009	278	2,855,700	65.10	185,906,070

¹ Revised.

**Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 2008 ¹**

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	98,000	11,000	2,800	8,500	12,500	95,000
IL	51,000					
IA	108,000				9,000	
MI	25,000					
MN	75,000	31,000	1,700		46,000	73,000
MT	13,500					
OH	46,000					24,000
OR	158,000			12,000	85,000	
PA	29,000			10,500	11,500	500
SD						
UT	235,000			8,500	6,000	205,000
WA	57,000				17,000	
WI	600,000		10,000	38,000	93,000	116,000
Oth Sts ²	19,800	72,600	46,600	16,100	8,000	89,100
US	1,515,300	114,600	61,100	93,600	288,000	602,600
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts ³
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						228,100
IL						64,700
IA						154,600
MI				6,000		44,100
MN				7,000		236,400
MT						23,400
OH						79,200
OR			2,900			287,600
PA					2,400	63,900
SD						76,000
UT						549,700
WA						92,500
WI		3,500		19,000	3,500	908,100
Oth Sts ²	42,700	200	33,900	18,100	6,300	12,400
US	42,700	3,700	36,800	50,100	12,200	2,820,700

¹ Revised.

² Other States also includes some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ Published color classes may not add to the State total.

**Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 2009**

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	107,000	13,500	3,400	9,500		108,000
IL	56,000					
IA	79,000				6,500	
MI	29,000					3,400
MN	88,000	35,000			55,000	80,000
MT						
OH	36,000					21,000
OR	158,000			11,000	79,000	
PA	28,000			5,500	11,000	
SD						
UT	225,000	37,000			7,500	285,000
WA	69,000					
WI	585,000			55,000	97,000	97,000
Oth Sts ¹	34,500	38,400	52,800	23,400	26,400	69,100
US	1,494,500	123,900	56,200	104,400	282,400	663,500
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts ²
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						251,500
IL						71,100
IA						114,800
MI				5,500		45,300
MN				6,000		267,200
MT						22,500
OH						67,900
OR						270,100
PA						57,300
SD						81,500
UT						613,500
WA						93,500
WI		3,300		24,000	4,100	886,100
Oth Sts ¹	57,100	1,100	14,500	13,300	1,900	13,400
US	57,100	4,400	14,500	48,800	6,000	2,855,700

¹ Other States also includes some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Published color classes may not add to the State total.

**Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 2009 ¹**

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	27,000	2,300	1,000	2,600		22,000
IL	16,000					
IA	17,500				2,500	
MI	7,500					
MN	18,500	7,500			12,000	19,000
MT						
OH	11,500					6,000
OR	34,000			2,400	16,500	
PA	6,000			2,800	2,900	
SD						
UT	61,000				1,800	63,000
WA	14,500				2,900	
WI	126,000		3,100	11,500	25,000	23,000
Oth Sts ²	9,100	16,400	15,700	9,100	4,500	16,200
US	348,600	26,200	19,800	28,400	68,100	149,200
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total ³
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						57,800
IL					100	19,500
IA						28,300
MI				1,200		10,900
MN						60,300
MT						6,000
OH						20,400
OR			500			58,400
PA						15,300
SD						18,200
UT						157,300
WA						19,900
WI		1,200		4,400	1,100	198,200
Oth Sts ²	12,800	400	4,700	6,000	1,500	3,700
US	12,800	1,600	5,200	11,600	2,700	674,200

¹ Revised.

² Other States also includes some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

³ Published color classes may not add to the State total.

**Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 2010**

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	28,000	2,400	800	2,200		25,000
IL	15,000					
IA	17,500				1,700	
MI	7,500					900
MN	11,000	7,500		100	4,800	20,000
MT	1,400					
OH	8,500					7,500
OR	32,000			2,600	17,000	
PA	6,500			2,600	3,700	
SD						
UT	65,000	11,000			4,100	70,000
WA	16,000					
WI	125,000		3,600	22,000	20,000	16,500
Oth Sts ¹	5,000	6,700	13,900	6,400	7,300	19,800
US	338,400	27,600	18,300	35,900	58,600	159,700
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total ²
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						61,000
IL						18,400
IA						23,500
MI				1,100		11,100
MN						45,800
MT						5,800
OH						19,300
OR						57,500
PA						15,900
SD						18,200
UT						170,600
WA						21,400
WI		1,400		6,500	1,100	199,000
Oth Sts ¹	12,600	300	4,000	4,200	500	2,700
US	12,600	1,700	4,000	11,800	1,600	670,200

¹ Other States also includes some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Published color classes may not add to the State total.

Reliability Statement

Survey Procedures: Mink production data are collected from all known producers. Individual NASS Field Offices maintain a list of all known mink producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. All known mink producers are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond by mail are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person. Care is exercised to account for all operations. Major auction houses, which handle producer sales, provide mink pelt price data in July. Prices are collected at the point of first sale, before marketing costs are deducted.

Estimation Procedures: All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. Field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year-to-year and item-to-item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Mink production estimates are based on a census of all known active producers and therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality control in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the “Root Mean Square Error” is shown for selected items in the following table. The “Root Mean Square Error” is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The “Root Mean Square Error” for mink pelts produced over the past 10 years is 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 2.86 million pelts by more than 0.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.8 percent.

Reliability of Mink Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90 Percent Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Years	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Pelts Produced	0.4	0.8	22	6	0	34	2	5
Females Bred	0.9	1.7	11	4	0	15	2	7

¹ Based on data for the past 10 years.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch (202) 720-3570

Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section (202) 720-4447

 Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised (202) 690-3237

 David Colwell – Cold Storage (202) 720-8784

 Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production,
 Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink (202) 720-0585

 Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs (202) 690-8632

 Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey (202) 720-3244

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