



USDA  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Upper Midwest Region – Minnesota Field Office  
Cooperating with the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture  
[nassrfourm@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfourm@nass.usda.gov)  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

# Minnesota AgriView

Vol 16-07

March 31, 2016

## MILK PRODUCTION

**Milk production** in Minnesota during February 2016 totaled 768 million pounds, up 5 percent from the previous February. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to the leap year causes February milk production to be up 1 percent on a per day basis. The average number of milk cows during February, at 460,000 head, was unchanged from both last month and last year. Monthly production per cow averaged 1,670 pounds, up 80 pounds from last February.

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 15.8 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from February 2015. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to leap year causes February milk production to be up 1.0 percent on a per day basis. January revised production, at 16.6 billion pounds, was up 0.2 percent from January 2015. The January revision represented a decrease of 13 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,833 pounds for February, 79 pounds above February 2015. This is the highest production per cow for the month of February since the 23 State series began in 2003. When production is adjusted for the additional day due to leap year, February production per cow is 16 pounds above February 2015 on a per day basis. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.63 million head, 8,000 head more than February 2015, and 2,000 head more than January 2016.

Milk production in the United States during February totaled 16.9 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from February 2015. Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,815 pounds for February, 78 pounds above February 2015. The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.31 million head, 4,000 head more than February 2015, and 2,000 head more than January 2016.

### Milk Cows and Production – Selected States: February 2015 and 2016

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	Change from 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....	195	195	1,990	2,070	388	404	4.1
California .....	1,779	1,774	1,845	1,860	3,282	3,300	0.5
Colorado .....	145	148	1,970	2,050	286	303	5.9
Florida .....	124	126	1,780	1,785	221	225	1.8
Idaho .....	581	588	1,810	1,890	1,052	1,111	5.6
Illinois .....	95	94	1,590	1,660	151	156	3.3
Indiana .....	181	184	1,705	1,815	309	334	8.1
Iowa .....	211	210	1,775	1,870	375	393	4.8
Kansas .....	143	142	1,740	1,825	249	259	4.0
Michigan .....	403	414	1,900	2,065	766	855	11.6
<b>Minnesota.....</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>5.1</b>
New Mexico .....	323	311	1,880	1,900	607	591	-2.6
New York .....	616	620	1,715	1,845	1,056	1,144	8.3
Ohio .....	268	266	1,570	1,655	421	440	4.5
Oregon .....	125	126	1,570	1,645	196	207	5.6
Pennsylvania .....	530	530	1,585	1,640	840	869	3.5
South Dakota.....	101	112	1,700	1,760	172	197	14.5
Texas .....	468	455	1,740	1,815	814	826	1.5
Utah .....	96	95	1,770	1,820	170	173	1.8
Vermont .....	132	131	1,545	1,650	204	216	5.9
Virginia .....	93	91	1,500	1,570	140	143	2.1
Washington .....	277	277	1,830	1,895	507	525	3.6
Wisconsin .....	1,275	1,280	1,715	1,860	2,187	2,381	8.9
<b>23-State Total.....</b>	<b>8,621</b>	<b>8,629</b>	<b>1,754</b>	<b>1,833</b>	<b>15,124</b>	<b>15,820</b>	<b>4.6</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. <sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves

### IN THIS ISSUE

*Milk Production*

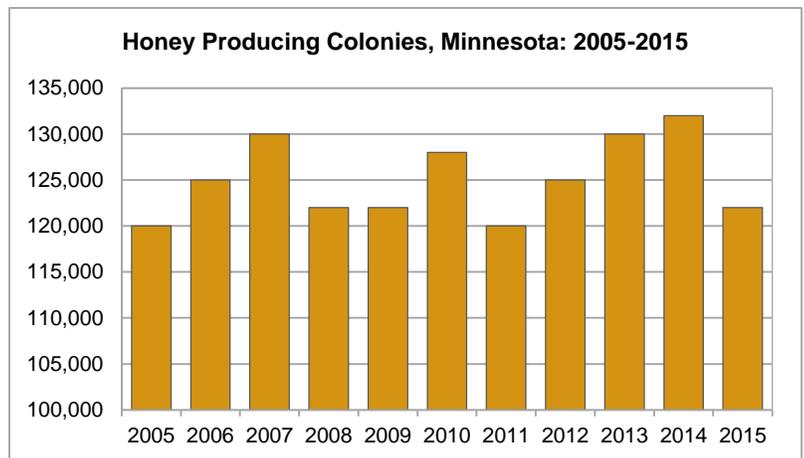
*Honey*

*Chickens & Eggs*

*Cattle on Feed*

# HONEY

Honey production from producers with 5 or more colonies in Minnesota totaled 8.30 million pounds in 2015. This was a 5 percent increase from the 7.92 million pounds produced in 2014. The number of honey producing colonies in the state declined from 132,000 colonies in 2014 to 122,000 colonies in 2015. This number does not include producers with fewer than 5 colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Colonies that produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where they produced honey. Yield per colony in Minnesota averaged 68 pounds, up from 60 pounds per colony in 2014. Minnesota moved to sixth place nationally in honey production, up from seventh place in 2014.



On December 15, 2015, producer honey stocks in Minnesota, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 2.16 million pounds, a 51 percent increase from 2014. The state's 2015 honey crop was valued at \$15.2 million, down 7 percent from the previous year's \$16.3 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Minnesota was \$1.83, down 23 cents from 2014.

United States honey production in 2015 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 157 million pounds, down 12 percent from 2014. There were 2.66 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2015, down 3 percent from 2014. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.9 pounds, down 10 percent from the 65.1 pounds in 2014. 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 42.2 million pounds on December 15, 2015, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey production in 2015 from producers with less than five colonies totaled 720 thousand pounds. There were 23 thousand colonies from which honey was harvested in 2015, with an average yield of 31.3 pounds harvested per colony. This yield is 27.6 pounds less than what was pulled per colony on operations with five or more colonies. Comparisons to 2014 are unavailable because no data prior to 2015 was collected for operations with less than five colonies.

United States honey prices decreased during 2015 to 209.0 cents per pound, down 4 percent from a record high of 217.3 cents per pound in 2014. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2014 crop reflect honey sold in 2014 and 2015. Some 2014 honey was sold in 2015, which caused some revisions to the 2014 honey prices. Price data was not collected for operations with less than five colonies.

## Honey – Selected States and United States: 2014 and 2015

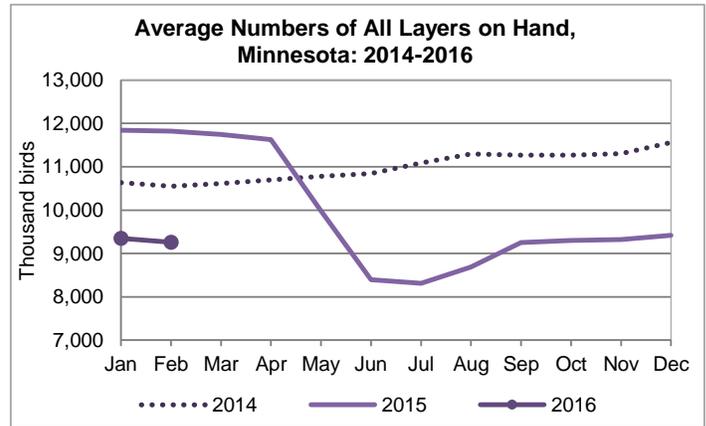
State	Producing Colonies <sup>1</sup>		Yield		Production		Honey Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2</sup>		Average Price per Pound <sup>3</sup>		Value of Production <sup>4</sup>	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(cents)	(cents)	(1,000) (dollars)	(1,000) (dollars)
California .....	320	275	39.0	30.0	12,480	8,250	2,995	1,485	206.0	204.0	25,709	16,830
Florida .....	245	220	60.0	54.0	14,700	11,880	1,029	832	208.0	197.0	30,576	23,404
Georgia .....	73	69	62.0	40.0	4,526	2,760	362	221	219.0	242.0	9,912	6,679
Iowa .....	35	36	43.0	50.0	1,505	1,800	933	990	241.0	233.0	3,627	4,194
Louisiana .....	48	44	84.0	99.0	4,032	4,356	524	348	218.0	193.0	8,790	8,407
Michigan .....	91	90	63.0	58.0	5,733	5,220	1,835	1,984	249.0	243.0	14,275	12,685
<b>Minnesota .....</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>7,920</b>	<b>8,296</b>	<b>1,426</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>206.0</b>	<b>183.0</b>	<b>16,315</b>	<b>15,182</b>
Montana .....	162	146	88.0	83.0	14,256	12,118	5,132	3,757	209.0	194.0	29,795	23,509
New York .....	60	58	55.0	62.0	3,300	3,596	1,518	899	283.0	294.0	9,339	10,572
North Dakota ....	490	490	86.0	74.0	42,140	36,260	9,271	9,428	199.0	180.0	83,859	65,268
South Dakota ....	280	290	87.0	66.0	24,360	19,140	5,846	9,379	208.0	179.0	50,669	34,261
Texas .....	116	126	78.0	66.0	9,048	8,316	2,081	1,164	224.0	209.0	20,268	17,380
Wisconsin .....	53	52	54.0	67.0	2,862	3,484	1,030	1,603	238.0	241.0	6,812	8,396
United States ....	2,740	2,660	65.1	58.9	178,270	156,544	41,192	42,203	217.3	209.0	387,381	327,177

<sup>1</sup> Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the year. <sup>2</sup> Stocks held by producers. <sup>3</sup> Average price per pound based on expanded sales. <sup>4</sup> Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

# CHICKENS & EGGS

**Minnesota Egg production during February 2016** was 209 million eggs, down 7 percent from last month, and down 19 percent from last year. The average number of **all layers on hand during February 2016** was 9.26 million, down 1 percent from last month, and down 22 percent from last year. Eggs per 100 layers for the month of February were 2,257, down 6 percent from last month, but up 3 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 7.79 billion during February 2016, including an extra day due to Leap Year; up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.73 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 980 million were broiler-type and 84 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2016 averaged 356 million, down 3 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 2,190 eggs, up 4 percent from February 2015.



All layers in the United States on March 1, 2016 totaled 358 million, down 2 percent from last year. The 358 million layers consisted of 299 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.61 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2016, averaged 76.1 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from March 1, 2015.

Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2016 totaled 50.5 million, up 17 percent from February 2015. Eggs in incubators totaled 51.1 million on March 1, 2016, up 11 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 189 thousand during February 2016, down 39 percent from February 2015.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during February 2016 totaled 749 million, up 5 percent from February 2015. Eggs in incubators totaled 650 million on March 1, 2016, up slightly from a year ago. Leading breeders placed 8.10 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2016, up 2 percent from February 2015.

## Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During February 2015 and 2016

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some states to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals.]

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 & above		All layers on hand		Eggs per 100 layers		Total egg production		Table egg production	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(1,000 layers)				(eggs)		(million eggs)			
Alabama	1,475	1,562	9,108	9,329	1,768	1,822	161	170	33	37
Arkansas	4,030	3,903	13,085	14,065	1,888	1,991	247	280	95	99
California	10,918	11,785	11,412	12,277	2,156	2,248	246	276	(D)	(D)
Colorado	3,747	4,233	4,120	4,701	2,306	2,319	95	109	(D)	(D)
Florida	8,681	8,592	9,061	8,960	2,086	2,210	189	198	185	194
Georgia	9,890	10,040	18,777	19,167	1,955	2,066	367	396	212	232
Illinois	4,210	4,483	4,663	4,935	2,230	2,371	104	117	100	113
Indiana	26,798	28,734	27,670	29,674	2,006	2,312	555	686	540	670
Iowa	58,330	43,825	59,562	45,061	2,147	2,064	1,279	930	1,262	913
Maryland	2,629	2,621	2,795	2,777	2,182	2,341	61	65	60	64
Michigan	12,894	13,164	13,147	13,383	2,236	2,376	294	318	(D)	(D)
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>11,369</b>	<b>8,806</b>	<b>11,825</b>	<b>9,262</b>	<b>2,190</b>	<b>2,257</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>203</b>
Mississippi	1,564	1,462	5,755	5,722	1,877	1,922	108	110	35	33
Missouri	7,422	7,340	11,016	10,837	2,115	2,279	233	247	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	9,446	8,449	9,554	8,557	2,303	2,244	220	192	220	192
New York	4,710	5,302	5,069	5,674	2,249	2,344	114	133	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	6,654	6,783	14,420	14,481	1,928	2,044	278	296	148	161
Ohio	31,136	32,300	31,998	33,159	2,175	2,277	696	755	(D)	(D)
Oregon	2,253	2,418	2,392	2,557	2,383	2,464	57	63	57	63
Pennsylvania	23,844	23,789	25,955	25,868	2,300	2,374	597	614	569	586
South Carolina	3,173	3,127	4,456	4,398	2,065	2,115	92	93	71	71
South Dakota	2,545	1,460	2,687	1,602	2,121	2,185	57	35	57	35
Texas	14,759	16,481	19,004	20,495	1,989	2,118	378	434	(D)	(D)
Utah	4,337	4,583	4,375	4,621	2,194	2,142	96	99	96	99
Virginia	1,167	1,271	2,924	3,028	1,984	2,015	58	61	29	31
Washington	7,056	6,936	7,221	7,101	2,160	2,267	156	161	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	4,586	4,916	5,326	5,604	2,197	2,391	117	134	(D)	(D)
Other States <sup>1</sup>	18,919	19,309	28,063	28,432	2,045	2,142	574	609	450	480
United States	298,542	287,674	365,440	355,727	2,104	2,190	7,688	7,790	6,685	6,726

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. <sup>1</sup> Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

# CATTLE ON FEED

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in Minnesota for all feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 163,000 head on March 1, 2016. This is up 3 percent from last month and up 12 percent from last year.

**Placements** during February totaled 23,000 head, up 35 percent from last month, and up 28 percent from last year. **Marketings** for February were 17,000 head, up 31 percent from last month and last year. **Other disappearance** totaled 1,000 head.

**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on March 1, 2016. The inventory was 1 percent above March 1, 2015.

**Placements** in feedlots during February totaled 1.71 million head, 10 percent above 2015. Net placements were 1.65 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 300,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 445,000 head, and 800 pounds and greater were 630,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during February totaled 1.59 million head, 5 percent above 2015.

**Other disappearance** totaled 58,000 head during February, 3 percent below 2015.

## Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – Selected States and United States: 2015-2016

State	Cattle on feed <sup>1</sup> March 1			Placements during February			Marketings during February			February disappearance other than slaughter <sup>2</sup>		
	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	'16 as % of '15 (percent)	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	'16 as % of '15 (percent)	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	'16 as % of '15 (percent)	2015 (1,000 head)	2016 (1,000 head)	'16 as % of '15 (percent)
Arizona .....	243	297	122	19	43	226	19	21	111	4	1	25
California .....	440	440	100	48	46	96	43	46	107	5	5	100
Colorado .....	890	890	100	150	170	113	145	155	107	5	5	100
Idaho .....	230	240	104	31	38	123	29	41	141	2	2	100
Iowa .....	660	630	95	85	92	108	74	78	105	1	4	400
Kansas .....	2,080	2,160	104	355	375	106	355	345	97	10	10	100
<b>Minnesota .....</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
Nebraska .....	2,500	2,420	97	400	395	99	385	420	109	15	15	100
Oklahoma .....	275	290	105	42	54	129	30	43	143	2	1	50
South Dakota ..	235	270	115	41	48	117	35	37	106	1	1	100
Texas .....	2,450	2,450	100	285	345	121	315	315	100	10	10	100
Washington .....	215	195	91	43	38	88	36	36	100	2	2	100
Other States ....	325	325	100	34	43	126	37	37	100	2	1	50
United States ...	10,688	10,770	101	1,551	1,710	110	1,516	1,591	105	60	58	97

<sup>1</sup> Cattle on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

<sup>2</sup> Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

