



# HONEY

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**Florida:** There were 199,000 honey producing colonies in Florida in 2012. Colonies used only for pollination or from which honey was not harvested were not included. Honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies was 12.7 million pounds, 16 percent above 2011. Florida ranked third in production behind North and South Dakota. The average honey yield was 64 pounds per colony, three pounds above 2011. Producers received an average of 181 cents per pound for the honey, up 13 cents per pound from the previous year. The value of Florida honey production in 2012 was \$23.1 million, up from the 2011 value of \$18.4 million.

**United States:** Honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 147 million pounds, down one percent from 2011. There were 2.62 million colonies producing honey in 2012, up five percent from 2011. Yield per colony averaged 56.1 pounds, down six percent from the 59.6 pounds in 2011. 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 32.9 million pounds on December 15, 2012, down ten percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2012 to 195.1 cents per pound, up 11 percent from 176.5 per pound cents in 2011. 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 2011 crop reflect honey sold in 2011 and 2012. Some 2011 crop honey was sold in 2012, which caused some revisions to the 2011 crop prices.

**Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Price, Value and Stocks — Florida and United States: 2003-2012**  
[Producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one States were counted in each State]

| Year                 | Honey Producing Colonies <sup>1</sup> | Yield per Colony | Production     | Average Price per Pound <sup>2</sup> | Value of Production <sup>3</sup> | Stocks Dec 15 <sup>4</sup> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                      | (1,000 colonies)                      | (pounds)         | (1,000 pounds) | (cents)                              | (1,000 dollars)                  | (1,000 pounds)             |
| <b>Florida</b>       |                                       |                  |                |                                      |                                  |                            |
| 2003 .....           | 210                                   | 71.0             | 14,910         | 132.0                                | 19,681                           | 1,491                      |
| 2004 .....           | 205                                   | 98.0             | 20,090         | 100.0                                | 20,090                           | 2,009                      |
| 2005 .....           | 160                                   | 86.0             | 13,760         | 86.0                                 | 11,834                           | 2,477                      |
| 2006 .....           | 170                                   | 81.0             | 13,770         | 101.0                                | 13,908                           | 1,790                      |
| 2007 .....           | 160                                   | 71.0             | 11,360         | 99.0                                 | 11,246                           | 1,363                      |
| 2008 .....           | 150                                   | 79.0             | 11,850         | 132.0                                | 15,642                           | 1,304                      |
| 2009 .....           | 170                                   | 68.0             | 11,560         | 142.0                                | 16,415                           | 1,618                      |
| 2010 .....           | 200                                   | 69.0             | 13,800         | 156.0                                | 21,528                           | 1,794                      |
| 2011 .....           | 180                                   | 61.0             | 10,980         | 168.0                                | 18,446                           | 988                        |
| 2012 .....           | 199                                   | 64.0             | 12,736         | 181.0                                | 23,052                           | 1,274                      |
| <b>United States</b> |                                       |                  |                |                                      |                                  |                            |
| 2003 .....           | 2,599                                 | 70.0             | 181,727        | 138.7                                | 253,106                          | 40,785                     |
| 2004 .....           | 2,556                                 | 71.8             | 183,582        | 106.9                                | 196,259                          | 61,222                     |
| 2005 .....           | 2,413                                 | 72.4             | 174,818        | 91.8                                 | 160,428                          | 62,478                     |
| 2006 .....           | 2,393                                 | 64.7             | 154,907        | 103.6                                | 160,484                          | 60,548                     |
| 2007 .....           | 2,443                                 | 60.7             | 148,341        | 107.7                                | 159,763                          | 52,635                     |
| 2008 .....           | 2,342                                 | 69.9             | 163,789        | 142.1                                | 232,744                          | 51,159                     |
| 2009 .....           | 2,498                                 | 58.6             | 146,416        | 147.3                                | 215,671                          | 37,516                     |
| 2010 .....           | 2,692                                 | 65.6             | 176,462        | 161.9                                | 285,692                          | 45,018                     |
| 2011 .....           | 2,491                                 | 59.6             | 148,357        | 176.5                                | 261,850                          | 36,761                     |
| 2012 .....           | 2,624                                 | 56.1             | 147,092        | 195.1                                | 286,976                          | 32,922                     |

<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 entire year.

<sup>2</sup> Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

<sup>3</sup> Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

<sup>4</sup> Stocks held by producers.

## United States Honey Prices by Color Class and Buyer: 2011 and 2012

| Color class                               | Co-op and Private |                   | Retail            |                   | All               |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 2011              | 2012              | 2011              | 2012              | 2011              | 2012              |
|   | (cents per pound) |
| Water white, extra white, and white ..... | 170.1             | 189.9             | 274.1             | 296.9             | 172.9             | 191.4             |
| Extra light amber .....                   | 164.4             | 189.6             | 307.1             | 293.5             | 171.1             | 194.3             |
| Light amber, amber, and dark amber .....  | 165.7             | 179.4             | 315.4             | 350.1             | 183.4             | 200.2             |
| All other honey, area specialties .....   | 182.6             | 210.2             | 461.0             | 522.7             | 225.2             | 286.5             |
| All honey .....                           | 167.7             | 187.8             | 314.7             | 340.5             | 176.5             | 195.1             |

## Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price and Value- States and United States: 2011-2012

[Producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one States were counted in each State]

| State                              | Honey Producing Colonies <sup>1</sup> |                  | Yield per Colony |           | Production     |                | Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2</sup> |                | Average Price per Pound <sup>3</sup> |            | Value of Production <sup>4</sup> |                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                    | 2011                                  | 2012             | 2011             | 2012      | 2011           | 2012           | 2011                       | 2012           | 2011                                 | 2012       | 2011                             | 2012            |
|                                    | (1,000 colonies)                      | (1,000 colonies) | (pounds)         | (pounds)  | (1,000 pounds) | (1,000 pounds) | (1,000 pounds)             | (1,000 pounds) | (cents)                              | (cents)    | (1,000 dollars)                  | (1,000 dollars) |
| Alabama.....                       | 9                                     | 8                | 50               | 54        | 450            | 432            | 63                         | 65             | 251                                  | 243        | 1,130                            | 1,050           |
| Arizona.....                       | 23                                    | 22               | 53               | 46        | 1,219          | 1,012          | 427                        | 253            | 155                                  | 170        | 1,889                            | 1,720           |
| Arkansas.....                      | 22                                    | 26               | 64               | 63        | 1,408          | 1,638          | 239                        | 197            | 162                                  | 184        | 2,281                            | 3,014           |
| California.....                    | 370                                   | 340              | 48               | 35        | 17,760         | 11,900         | 3,730                      | 3,213          | 165                                  | 193        | 29,304                           | 22,967          |
| Colorado.....                      | 31                                    | 26               | 55               | 48        | 1,705          | 1,248          | 443                        | 487            | 200                                  | 212        | 3,410                            | 2,646           |
| <b>Florida.....</b>                | <b>180</b>                            | <b>199</b>       | <b>61</b>        | <b>64</b> | <b>10,980</b>  | <b>12,736</b>  | <b>988</b>                 | <b>1,274</b>   | <b>168</b>                           | <b>181</b> | <b>18,446</b>                    | <b>23,052</b>   |
| Georgia.....                       | 65                                    | 62               | 43               | 51        | 2,795          | 3,162          | 196                        | 190            | 165                                  | 189        | 4,612                            | 5,976           |
| Hawaii.....                        | 9                                     | 10               | 74               | 75        | 666            | 750            | 246                        | 263            | 365                                  | 319        | 2,431                            | 2,393           |
| Idaho.....                         | 87                                    | 96               | 36               | 32        | 3,132          | 3,072          | 1,879                      | 553            | 178                                  | 161        | 5,575                            | 4,946           |
| Illinois.....                      | 7                                     | 7                | 50               | 61        | 350            | 427            | 98                         | 145            | 390                                  | 340        | 1,365                            | 1,452           |
| Indiana.....                       | 8                                     | 9                | 51               | 59        | 408            | 531            | 147                        | 228            | 214                                  | 244        | 873                              | 1,296           |
| Iowa.....                          | 25                                    | 38               | 62               | 61        | 1,550          | 2,318          | 961                        | 1,229          | 196                                  | 211        | 3,038                            | 4,891           |
| Kansas.....                        | 7                                     | 7                | 44               | 55        | 308            | 385            | 117                        | 146            | 215                                  | 235        | 662                              | 905             |
| Kentucky.....                      | 4                                     | 5                | 39               | 51        | 156            | 255            | 12                         | 41             | 317                                  | 318        | 495                              | 811             |
| Louisiana.....                     | 36                                    | 41               | 77               | 86        | 2,772          | 3,526          | 471                        | 141            | 167                                  | 177        | 4,629                            | 6,241           |
| Maine.....                         | 4                                     | 4                | 30               | 34        | 120            | 136            | 17                         | 24             | 198                                  | 225        | 238                              | 306             |
| Michigan.....                      | 74                                    | 76               | 64               | 57        | 4,736          | 4,332          | 2,084                      | 1,386          | 181                                  | 203        | 8,572                            | 8,794           |
| Minnesota.....                     | 120                                   | 130              | 53               | 67        | 6,360          | 8,710          | 2,099                      | 1,655          | 163                                  | 188        | 10,367                           | 16,375          |
| Mississippi.....                   | 18                                    | 19               | 115              | 118       | 2,070          | 2,242          | 104                        | 67             | 153                                  | 163        | 3,167                            | 3,654           |
| Missouri.....                      | 8                                     | 7                | 43               | 53        | 344            | 371            | 76                         | 108            | 214                                  | 256        | 736                              | 950             |
| Montana.....                       | 145                                   | 149              | 92               | 52        | 13,340         | 7,748          | 3,202                      | 2,479          | 170                                  | 191        | 22,678                           | 14,799          |
| Nebraska.....                      | 41                                    | 44               | 59               | 65        | 2,419          | 2,860          | 653                        | 1,173          | 175                                  | 191        | 4,233                            | 5,463           |
| New Jersey.....                    | 11                                    | 14               | 41               | 33        | 451            | 462            | 135                        | 51             | 370                                  | 188        | 1,669                            | 869             |
| New Mexico.....                    | 7                                     | 5                | 56               | 52        | 392            | 260            | 153                        | 99             | 169                                  | 313        | 662                              | 814             |
| New York.....                      | 49                                    | 52               | 56               | 51        | 2,744          | 2,652          | 1,235                      | 1,008          | 196                                  | 228        | 5,378                            | 6,047           |
| North Carolina.....                | 14                                    | 13               | 62               | 39        | 868            | 507            | 95                         | 106            | 283                                  | 369        | 2,456                            | 1,871           |
| North Dakota.....                  | 460                                   | 495              | 71               | 69        | 32,660         | 34,155         | 7,512                      | 6,148          | 167                                  | 189        | 54,542                           | 64,553          |
| Ohio.....                          | 15                                    | 19               | 66               | 60        | 990            | 1,140          | 228                        | 433            | 234                                  | 242        | 2,317                            | 2,759           |
| Oregon.....                        | 60                                    | 62               | 34               | 32        | 2,040          | 1,984          | 755                        | 873            | 168                                  | 211        | 3,427                            | 4,186           |
| Pennsylvania.....                  | 24                                    | 17               | 44               | 60        | 1,056          | 1,020          | 306                        | 286            | 255                                  | 262        | 2,693                            | 2,672           |
| South Dakota.....                  | 250                                   | 270              | 66               | 63        | 16,500         | 17,010         | 4,290                      | 3,742          | 170                                  | 194        | 28,050                           | 32,999          |
| Tennessee.....                     | 7                                     | 7                | 44               | 61        | 308            | 427            | 68                         | 68             | 293                                  | 285        | 902                              | 1,217           |
| Texas.....                         | 78                                    | 95               | 58               | 52        | 4,524          | 4,940          | 633                        | 741            | 178                                  | 200        | 8,053                            | 9,880           |
| Utah.....                          | 23                                    | 26               | 39               | 38        | 897            | 988            | 170                        | 217            | 175                                  | 185        | 1,570                            | 1,828           |
| Vermont.....                       | 4                                     | 4                | 43               | 60        | 172            | 240            | 43                         | 53             | 231                                  | 234        | 397                              | 562             |
| Virginia.....                      | 4                                     | 4                | 40               | 41        | 160            | 164            | 21                         | 23             | 407                                  | 385        | 651                              | 631             |
| Washington.....                    | 71                                    | 64               | 38               | 41        | 2,698          | 2,624          | 836                        | 1,050          | 193                                  | 235        | 5,207                            | 6,166           |
| West Virginia.....                 | 4                                     | 7                | 53               | 48        | 212            | 336            | 45                         | 111            | 257                                  | 280        | 545                              | 941             |
| Wisconsin.....                     | 57                                    | 63               | 63               | 69        | 3,591          | 4,347          | 1,508                      | 1,956          | 189                                  | 204        | 6,787                            | 8,868           |
| Wyoming.....                       | 35                                    | 51               | 54               | 51        | 1,890          | 2,601          | 265                        | 468            | 172                                  | 182        | 3,251                            | 4,734           |
| Other States <sup>5,6</sup> .....  | 25                                    | 31               | 46               | 47        | 1,156          | 1,444          | 211                        | 172            | 299                                  | 304        | 3,456                            | 4,390           |
| United States <sup>6,7</sup> ..... | 2,491                                 | 2,624            | 59.6             | 56.1      | 148,357        | 147,092        | 36,761                     | 32,922         | 176.5                                | 195.1      | 261,850                          | 286,976         |

<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 entire 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.

<sup>5</sup> Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, and South Carolina not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>6</sup> Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

<sup>7</sup> United States value of production will not equal summation of States.