



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

Southern Region News Release

Honey



Cooperating with the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Georgia Department of Agriculture, and South Carolina Department of Agriculture
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United States Honey Production Up 19 Percent

Honey production in 2014 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 178 million pounds, up 19 percent from 2013. There were 2.74 million colonies producing honey in 2014, up 4 percent from 2013. Yield per colony averaged 65.1 pounds, up 15 percent from the 56.6 pounds in 2013. 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 41.2 million pounds on December 15, 2014, up 8 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Record High Honey Prices

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2014 to 216.1 cents per pound, up 1 percent from 214.1 cents per pound in 2013. 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 2013 crop reflect honey sold in 2013 and 2014. Some 2013 crop honey was sold in 2014, which caused some revisions to the 2013 crop prices.

Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value — States and United States: 2013 and 2014

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

State	Honey producing colonies ¹		Yield per colony		Production		Stocks December 15 ²		Average price per pound ³		Value of production ⁴	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(cents)	(cents)	(\$1,000)	(\$1,000)
Alabama	7	7	52	53	364	371	55	26	285	340	1,037	1,261
Florida	220	245	61	60	13,420	14,700	1,074	1,029	203	208	27,243	30,576
Georgia	67	73	50	62	3,350	4,526	637	362	226	219	7,571	9,912
South Carolina....	(D)	9	(D)	54	(D)	486	(D)	19	(D)	383	(D)	1,861
United States ⁵ ...	2,640	2,740	56.6	65.1	149,499	178,270	38,160	41,192	214.1	216.1	320,077	385,241

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ 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.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

⁴ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

⁵ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Honey*, March 2015