

MINK AND HONEY

MINK: Illinois ranks ninth nationally in mink pelt production. Production of mink pelts in Illinois increased three percent in 2005 to 61,700 pelts. Females bred to produce kits in 2006 totaled 17,000, up six percent from the number of females bred to produce kits in 2005.

MINK: Ranches, females bred and pelts produced, Illinois, 1996-2005

Year	Ranches producing pelts	Females bred 1/	Pelts produced		
			Standard	Other	Total pelts
<u>Thousand</u>					
1996	9	14.7	50.9	5.8	56.7
1997	9	12.2	55.5	6.5	62.0
1998	10	12.8	43.2	6.4	49.6
1999	8	12.8	42.7	6.6	49.3
2000	7	12.9	37.0	8.6	45.6
2001	7	13.8	41.1	10.5	51.6
2002	7	14.3	41.9	11.6	53.5
2003	7	14.8	41.8	10.5	52.3
2004	7	16.0	46.9	12.8	59.7
2005	7	17.0	49.8	11.9	61.7

1/ To produce kits the following year.

HONEY: Illinois honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 680,000 pounds, up 77 percent from 2004. Prices for 2005 Illinois honey averaged \$1.62 per pound, down 24 cents from the 2004 price. The total value of honey production was \$1,102,000, up 54 percent from 2004. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

HONEY: Number of colonies of bees, production and value, Illinois, 1996-2005

Year	Number of colonies	Yield per colony	Production	Average price per pound	Value of production
	<u>Thousands</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Thousand pounds</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Thousand dollars</u>
1996	11	74	814	1.35	1,099
1997	7	69	483	1.27	613
1998	9	71	639	1.19	760
1999	9	66	594	1.15	683
2000	8	61	488	1.17	571
2001	6	76	456	1.58	720
2002	9	80	720	1.47	1,058
2003	7	60	420	1.73	727
2004	7	55	385	1.86	716
2005	8	85	680	1.62	1,102