

MINK AND HONEY

MINK: Illinois ranks tenth nationally in mink pelt production. Production of mink pelts in Illinois increased six percent in 2006 to 65,520 pelts. Females bred to produce kits in 2007 totaled 17,900, up five percent from the number of females bred to produce kits in 2006.

MINK: Ranches, females bred and pelts produced, Illinois, 1997-2006

Year	Ranches producing pelts	Females bred 1/	Pelts produced		
			Standard	Other	Total pelts
<u>Thousand</u>					
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
2006	7	17.9	52.0	13.5	65.5

1/ To produce kits the following year.

HONEY: Illinois honey production in 2006 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 660,000 pounds, down three percent from 2005. Prices for 2006 Illinois honey averaged \$1.88 per pound, up two cents from the 2005 price. The total value of honey production was \$1,241,000, down two percent from 2005. 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, 1997-2006

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>
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	1.86	1,265
2006	10	66	660	1.88	1,241