



# News Release

## Cost of Pollination

The total value for pollination of all crops in the seventeen-state census region, which included Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio was 16.45 million dollars, down 11 percent from a year ago, according to Marlo Johnson, Director of the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Great Lakes Region.

The Cost of Pollination survey, conducted by NASS in all 50 states, collected information on acres paid to be pollinated, honey bee colonies used, and dollars spent for pollinating a variety of crops. “Nationally, around 14,500 farms and ranches with at least one acre of a crop determined to be potentially pollinated by honey bees were contacted this fall to help with this unique and important project,” said Johnson. “There were 34 specific crops targeted in the Cost of Pollination sampling scheme, 19 of these crops were listed individually on the questionnaire.”

NASS released the results of the Cost of Pollination Survey on December 21, with statistics published for seven census regions. Region 1 includes Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, as well as Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin. Highlights from the report follow:

- Dollars spent to pollinate blueberries, which had the highest total value of pollination of crops reported in Region 1 during 2016, decreased by 26 percent to 4.25 million dollars in 2017. The price per colony for blueberries, at \$77.30 per colony per colony in 2017, was down \$10.90 from a year earlier. The price per acre for pollinating blueberries was 126 dollars per acre.
- Apple orchards accounted for the highest number of paid pollinated acres in Region 1, with 91,600 total acres. The price per colony for pollinating apples, at \$70.90, was \$1.00 higher than the year before, and the price per acre for pollinating apples decreased by one dollar from last year to \$32 dollars per acre in 2017. The total value of pollination for apples in Region 1 for 2017 was 3.33 million dollars.
- Cucumbers had the highest total value of pollination for vegetable crops in Region 1 reported during 2017. The price per acre increased 50 percent from a year ago to \$44.10 per acre, while the cost per colony rose by seven percent to \$67.00 per colony. The total value of pollination for cucumbers in Region 1 for 2017 was 1.11 million dollars, up 18 percent from the previous year.

For additional survey results, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and search for “Cost of Pollination”, or visit the Quick Stats database at <https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov>.

Media Contact: Greg Matli · 765-494-8371

P.O. Box 30239 · Lansing, MI 48909-9983  
(517) 324-5300 · (855) 270-2709 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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