



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Iowa Ag News – Honey



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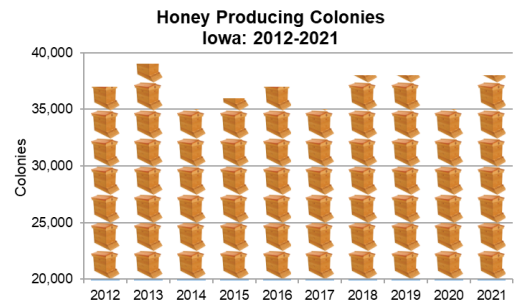
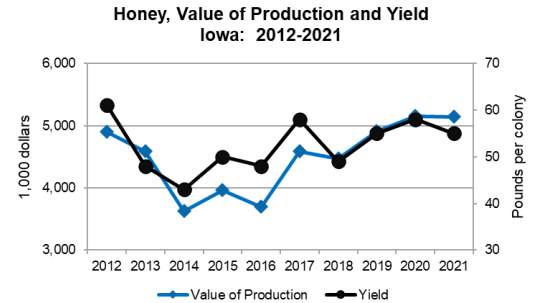
Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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Honey production from producers with five or more colonies in Iowa totaled 2.09 million pounds in 2021 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Honey* report. This was 3 percent higher than the 2.03 million pounds produced in 2020. The number of honey producing colonies in the state, at 38,000, was up 3,000 from 2020. This number does not include producers with fewer than five colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Yield per colony in Iowa averaged 55 pounds, compared to 58 pounds per colony in 2020. Iowa ranked 16th nationally in honey production, the same rank as 2020. 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.

On December 15, 2021, producer honey stocks in Iowa, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 502,000 pounds, 60 percent lower than 2020. The state's 2021 honey crop was valued at \$5.14 million, down slightly from the previous year's \$5.16 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Iowa was \$2.46, down 8 cents from 2020.



Honey – Selected States and United States: 2020 and 2021

Crop	Producing Colonies ¹		Yield		Production		Honey Stocks Dec 15 ²		Average Price per Pound ³		Value of Production ⁴	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(1,000) (lbs)	(cents)	(cents)	(1,000) (dollars)	(1,000) (dollars)
California	320	290	43	33	13,760	9,570	2,752	1,627	1.95	2.40	26,832	22,968
Florida	192	193	46	44	8,832	8,492	883	849	2.24	2.42	19,784	20,551
Georgia	101	96	34	34	3,434	3,264	412	261	2.52	2.73	8,654	8,911
Idaho	107	100	35	30	3,745	3,000	637	270	1.76	2.37	6,591	7,110
Iowa	35	38	58	55	2,030	2,090	1,259	502	2.54	2.46	5,156	5,141
Louisiana	33	37	69	58	2,277	2,146	228	205	2.46	2.50	5,601	5,365
Michigan	95	101	47	51	4,465	5,151	1,384	1,957	2.95	2.97	13,172	15,298
Minnesota	108	125	55	57	5,940	7,125	2,495	285	1.80	2.32	10,692	16,530
Montana	110	117	81	57	8,910	6,669	3,208	1,934	1.61	2.17	14,345	14,472
New York	58	57	56	53	3,248	3,021	844	665	3.13	4.15	10,166	12,537
North Dakota	495	515	78	55	38,610	28,325	8,108	2,266	1.59	2.19	61,390	62,032
South Dakota	245	250	61	49	14,945	12,250	8,668	5,268	1.77	2.27	26,453	27,808
Texas	157	137	57	56	8,949	7,672	1,253	384	2.00	2.30	17,898	17,646
Wisconsin	45	42	50	47	2,250	1,974	855	750	3.11	2.81	6,998	5,547
United States⁵	2,706	2,696	54.5	46.9	147,594	126,466	39,715	23,527	2.10	2.54	309,947	321,224

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 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.
⁶ United States value of production will not equal summation of states.

UNITED STATES HONEY

United States honey production in 2021 totaled 126 million pounds, down 14 percent from 2020. There were 2.70 million colonies producing honey in 2021, down slightly from 2020. Yield per colony averaged 46.9 pounds, down 14 percent from the 54.5 pounds in 2020. 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 23.5 million pounds on December 15, 2021, down 41 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey prices increased 21 percent during 2021 to \$2.54 per pound, compared to \$2.10 per pound in 2020. 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 2020 crop reflect honey sold in 2020 and 2021. Some 2020 crop honey was sold in 2021, which caused some revisions to the 2020 crop prices.

The average prices paid in 2021 for honey bee queens, packages, and nucs were \$20, \$91, and \$125 respectively. Pollination income for 2021 was \$269 million, up 6 percent from 2020. Other income from honey bees in 2021 was \$102 million, up 82 percent from 2020.