



Minnesota Ag News – Honey



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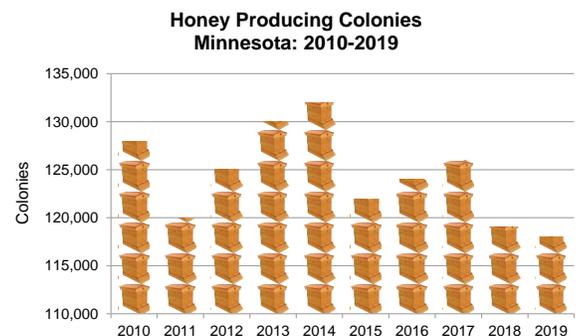
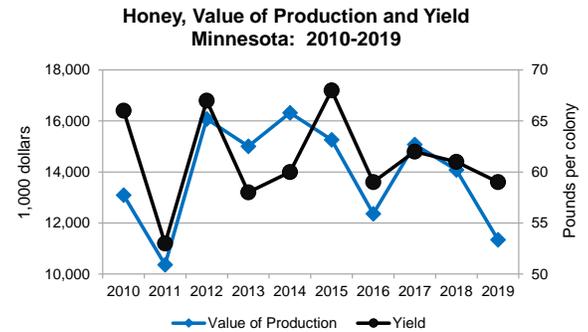
Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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Honey production from producers with five or more colonies in Minnesota totaled 6.96 million pounds in 2019 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Honey Report*. This was a 4 percent decrease from the 7.26 million pounds produced in 2018. The number of honey producing colonies in the state decreased from 119,000 colonies in 2018 to 118,000 colonies in 2019. This number does not include producers with fewer than five colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Yield per colony in Minnesota averaged 59 pounds, down 2 pounds per colony from 2018. Minnesota remains ranked seventh nationally in honey production, unchanged from last year. 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, 2019, producer honey stocks in Minnesota, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 3.06 million pounds, a 164 percent increase from 2018. The state's 2019 honey crop was valued at \$11.3 million, down 19 percent from the previous year's \$14.1 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Minnesota was \$1.63, down 31 cents from 2018.



Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value – Selected States and United States: 2018 and 2019

[Operations with five or more colonies that also qualify as a farm. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state.]

| State | Producing Colonies ¹ | | Yield | | Production | | Honey Stocks Dec 15 ² | | Average Price per Pound ³ | | Value of Production ⁴ | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| | (1,000) | (1,000) | (pounds) | (pounds) | (1,000 lbs) | (1,000 lbs) | (1,000 lbs) | (1,000 lbs) | (dollars) | (dollars) | (1,000 dollars) | (1,000 dollars) |
| California | 335 | 335 | 41 | 48 | 13,735 | 16,080 | 3,022 | 3,216 | 2.11 | 1.56 | 28,981 | 25,085 |
| Florida | 215 | 205 | 49 | 45 | 10,535 | 9,225 | 737 | 830 | 2.40 | 2.48 | 25,284 | 22,878 |
| Georgia | 98 | 102 | 34 | 33 | 3,332 | 3,366 | 200 | 370 | 2.76 | 2.61 | 9,196 | 8,785 |
| Idaho | 96 | 92 | 31 | 32 | 2,976 | 2,944 | 655 | 677 | 1.96 | 1.67 | 5,833 | 4,916 |
| Iowa | 38 | 38 | 49 | 55 | 1,862 | 2,090 | 1,005 | 1,170 | 2.40 | 2.24 | 4,469 | 4,682 |
| Louisiana | 45 | 54 | 83 | 72 | 3,735 | 3,888 | 261 | 428 | 1.91 | 2.04 | 7,134 | 7,932 |
| Michigan | 97 | 94 | 44 | 50 | 4,268 | 4,700 | 768 | 1,363 | 2.49 | 2.36 | 10,627 | 11,092 |
| Minnesota | 119 | 118 | 61 | 59 | 7,259 | 6,962 | 1,161 | 3,063 | 1.94 | 1.63 | 14,082 | 11,348 |
| Montana | 160 | 173 | 92 | 86 | 14,720 | 14,878 | 3,680 | 5,802 | 1.90 | 1.48 | 27,968 | 22,019 |
| New York | 56 | 59 | 48 | 58 | 2,688 | 3,422 | 833 | 1,027 | 3.24 | 4.49 | 8,709 | 15,365 |
| North Dakota | 550 | 520 | 72 | 65 | 39,600 | 33,800 | 4,752 | 6,422 | 1.87 | 1.40 | 74,052 | 47,320 |
| South Dakota | 255 | 270 | 47 | 72 | 11,985 | 19,440 | 5,154 | 7,582 | 1.91 | 1.53 | 22,891 | 29,743 |
| Texas | 132 | 126 | 56 | 60 | 7,392 | 7,560 | 1,035 | 1,814 | 2.12 | 2.30 | 15,671 | 17,388 |
| Wisconsin | 51 | 46 | 45 | 47 | 2,295 | 2,162 | 711 | 692 | 2.95 | 2.99 | 6,770 | 6,464 |
| United States^{5,6} .. | 2,828 | 2,812 | 55 | 56 | 154,008 | 156,922 | 29,303 | 41,022 | 2.21 | 1.97 | 340,358 | 309,136 |

¹ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was harvested during the year. It is possible to harvest 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.
⁶ United States value of production will not equal summation of states.

UNITED STATES BEE & HONEY

Honey price per pound data have been updated to dollars per pound from cents per pound. Before deciding to update this data, NASS reviewed our estimating programs against mission- and user-based criteria requirements to maintain the strongest data in service to U.S. agriculture. Information about all NASS surveys and reports is available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

United States honey production in 2019 totaled 157 million pounds, up 2 percent from 2018. There were 2.81 million colonies producing honey in 2019, down 1 percent from 2018. Yield per colony averaged 55.8 pounds, up 2 percent from the 54.5 pounds in 2018. 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 41.0 million pounds on December 15, 2019, up 40 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey prices decreased 11 percent during 2019 to 1.97 cents per pound, compared to 2.21 cents per pound in 2018. 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 2018 crop reflect honey sold in 2018 and 2019. Some 2018 crop honey was sold in 2019, which caused some revisions to the 2018 crop prices.

The average prices paid in 2019 for honey bee queens, packages, and nucs were \$18, \$85, and \$100 respectively. Pollination income for 2019 was \$310 million, up 3 percent from 2018. Other income from honey bees in 2019 was \$77.7 million, down 18 percent from 2018.