



Minnesota Ag News – Cost of Pollination



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Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

December 21, 2017

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The total value of pollination of all crops in Region 4 for 2017 was 855 thousand dollars, down 66 percent from last year, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cost of Pollination* report. Region 4 includes Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Apples had the highest total value of pollination of crops reported in Region 4 in 2017. The price per colony for apples increased 10 percent to \$50.10 in 2017. The price per acre increased 27 percent to \$41.20.

The price per colony for cherries in Region 4 decreased 10 percent to \$30.80 in 2017. The price per acre decreased 7 percent to \$25.70 in 2017. The total value of pollination for cherries in Region 4 for 2017 was 74 thousand dollars.

Paid Pollinated Acres, Price per Acre, Colonies Used, Price per Colony, and Total Value of Pollination - Region 4: 2016-2017

[See regional listing on page 2]

Crop	Paid pollinated acres		Price per acre		Colonies used		Price per colony ²		Total value of pollination	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(acres)	(acres)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(colonies)	(colonies)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
Tree fruit										
Apple	3,000	2,050	32.50	41.20	3,900	3,200	45.50	50.10	177	160
Cherry	3,100	2,600	27.50	25.70	3,100	2,400	34.30	30.80	106	74
Vegetables										
Pumpkin	3,850	(NA)	26.70	(NA)	2,500	(NA)	80.30	(NA)	201	(NA)
All other ¹	3,400	2,700	71.90	41.70	35,000	12,500	57.90	49.70	2,027	621
Total	13,350	7,350	40.00	36.10	44,500	18,100	56.40	47.20	2,511	855

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes any crops not categorized above.

² Regional total price per colony is total value of pollination divided by colonies used.

Estimation Regions

To improve the reliability and increase the number of estimates which can be published, estimates are published at regional level, based on the regions used for the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Regions 6 and 7 were combined. The states in each region are as follows:

Region 1: Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin.

Region 2: Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Region 3: Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas.

Region 4: Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming.

Region 5: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Regions 6 & 7: Arizona, California, Hawaii.

Terms and Definitions of Cost of Pollination Estimates

Paid Pollinated Acres: Acreage that an operation paid money to be pollinated by honey bees.

Dollars per Acre: The average price paid by operations to pollinate an acre of crop. Acres pollinated for free or on a non-monetary basis were not included in this calculation.

Colonies Used: The total colonies used to pollinate a crop; regardless of ownership or if on a paid basis.

Dollars per Colony: The average price paid by operations to use a colony for pollination. Colonies owned by the operation or used on a non-monetary basis were not included.

Total Value of Pollination: The total valuation of all pollination, calculated by multiplying the price per colony by colonies used.