



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE**  
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## USDA to Measure Quarterly Colony Loss and Honey Production

**HARRISBURG, PA** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be collecting information about colony loss in the honey industry, as well as honey production throughout the United States. The Quarterly Colony Loss survey will be conducted during December and January. This survey collects information about colony inventory and loss from more than 400 producers with honeybee colonies in the northeastern region of the United States.

The Bee and Honey Production, Disposition, and Income (PDI) survey will be conducted from December through February 2021. This survey collects information on the number of honey-producing colonies, honey production, honey stocks, pounds of honey sold, and dollars received by honey color class and marketing channel from approximately 1,000 growers in the northeastern region of the United States.

“The information from these surveys directly impacts our region’s beekeepers and honey producers,” said King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office. “Beekeepers and producers can use the survey results when making business plans and marketing decisions. Cooperative Extensions use the data to provide needed outreach and education, and state departments and agencies of agriculture use the information to set insurance values,” added Whetstone.

NASS will mail the questionnaires to all producers selected for these surveys in late December. To ensure all survey participants have an opportunity to respond, NASS interviewers will contact producers who do not respond by mail or online to conduct telephone interviews.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in the annual *Honey* report in March 2021 and in the annual *Honeybee Colonies* report to be released in August 2021. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/). For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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