



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2020

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2019 WEST VIRGINIA HONEY PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Honey production in 2019 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 222,000 pounds, unchanged from 2018. There were 6,000 producing colonies in 2019, unchanged from 2018. Yield per colony averaged 37 pounds, unchanged from 2018. Honey stocks on December 15, 2019, were reported at 47,000 pounds, up 9,000 pounds, or 24 percent, from 38,000 pounds reported in 2018.

Prices for the 2019 crop averaged 4.50 dollars per pound, up 4 percent from the price of 4.33 dollars per pound in 2018. Value of production totaled 999,000 dollars, up 38,000 dollars, or 4 percent, from 961,000 dollars in 2018.

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.

Honey prices decreased 11 percent during 2019 to 1.97 dollars per pound, compared to 2.21 dollars 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.

**Note: 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.*