



Wisconsin Ag News – Honey



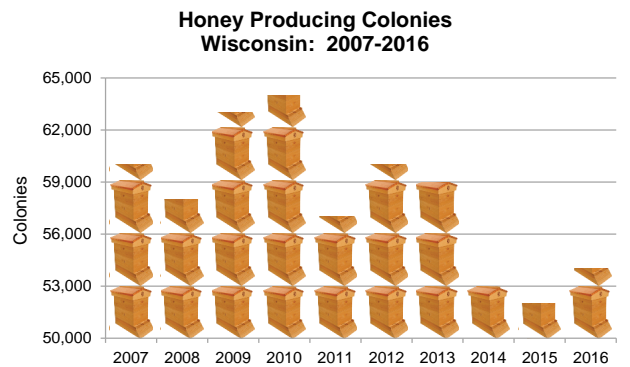
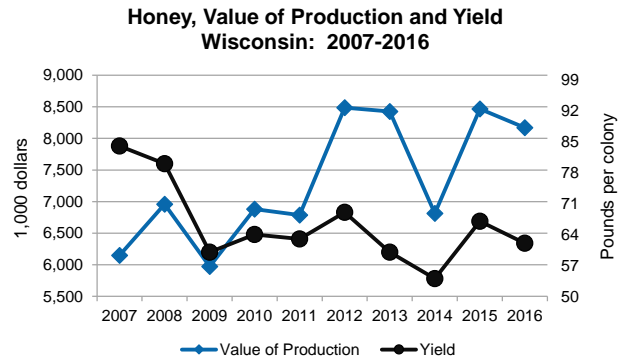
Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718
(608) 224-4848 · fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov
Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Honey production from producers with 5 or more colonies in Wisconsin totaled 3.35 million pounds in 2016 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Honey Report*. This was a 4 percent decrease from the 3.48 million pounds produced in 2015. The number of honey producing colonies in the state increased from 52,000 colonies in 2015 to 54,000 colonies in 2016. This number does not include producers with fewer than 5 colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Colonies that produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where they produced honey. Yield per colony in Wisconsin averaged 62 pounds, down from 67 pounds per colony in 2015. Wisconsin moved to twelfth place nationally in honey production, down from eleventh place last year.

On December 15, 2016, producer honey stocks in Wisconsin, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 1.21 million pounds, a 25 percent decrease from 2015. The state's 2016 honey crop was valued at \$8.17 million, down 4 percent from the previous year's \$8.47 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Wisconsin was \$2.44, up 1 cent from 2015.



Honey – Selected States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	Producing Colonies ¹		Yield		Production		Honey Stocks Dec 15 ²		Average Price per Pound ³		Value of Production ⁴	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(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	275	310	30.0	36.0	8,250	11,160	1,485	2,009	203.0	200.0	16,748	22,320
Florida	220	215	54.0	50.0	11,880	10,750	832	538	197.0	244.0	23,404	26,230
Georgia	69	96	40.0	39.0	2,760	3,744	221	899	243.0	269.0	6,707	10,071
Iowa	36	37	50.0	48.0	1,800	1,776	990	746	220.0	207.0	3,960	3,676
Louisiana	44	50	99.0	86.0	4,356	4,300	348	301	195.0	193.0	8,494	8,299
Michigan	90	89	58.0	60.0	5,220	5,340	1,984	1,709	244.0	225.0	12,737	12,015
Minnesota	122	124	68.0	59.0	8,296	7,316	2,157	1,390	184.0	164.0	15,265	11,998
Montana	146	159	83.0	77.0	12,118	12,243	3,757	3,183	194.0	175.0	23,509	21,425
New York	58	64	62.0	57.0	3,596	3,648	899	1,167	294.0	320.0	10,572	11,674
North Dakota	490	485	74.0	78.0	36,260	37,830	9,428	6,809	180.0	173.0	65,268	65,446
South Dakota	290	280	66.0	71.0	19,140	19,880	9,379	12,127	179.0	174.0	34,261	34,591
Texas	126	133	66.0	70.0	8,316	9,310	1,164	2,607	210.0	196.0	17,464	18,248
Wisconsin	52	54	67.0	62.0	3,484	3,348	1,603	1,205	243.0	244.0	8,466	8,169
United States ^{5,6} ..	2,660	2,775	58.9	58.3	156,544	161,882	42,203	41,253	208.3	207.5	326,081	335,905

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

United States honey production in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 162 million pounds, up 3 percent from 2015. There were 2.78 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2016, up 4 percent from 2015. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.3 pounds, down 1 percent from the 58.9 pounds in 2015. 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 41.3 million pounds on December 15, 2016, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey production in 2016 from producers with less than five colonies totaled 766 thousand pounds, up 6 percent from 2015. There were 24 thousand colonies from which honey was harvested in 2016, up 4 percent from 2015. The average yield was 31.9 pounds per colony in 2016, up 2 percent from the previous year. This yield is 26.4 pounds less than what was harvested per colony on operations with five or more colonies.

United States honey prices decreased during 2016 to 207.5 cents per pound, down slightly from 208.3 cents per pound in 2015. 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 2015 crop reflect honey sold in 2015 and 2016. Some 2015 honey was sold in 2016, which caused some revisions to the 2015 honey prices. Price data was not collected for operations with less than five colonies.

For operations with five or more colonies, the average prices paid in 2016 for honey bee queens, packages, and nucs were \$19, \$89, and \$117 respectively. The average prices paid in 2016 for operations with less than five colonies were \$33 per queen, \$109 per package, and \$122 per nuc. Comparable data is not available for 2015. For operations with five more colonies, pollination income for 2016 was \$338 million, down 1 percent from 2015. Other income from honey bees for operations with five or more colonies in 2016 was \$149 million, down 10 percent from 2015.