



Wisconsin Ag News – Honey



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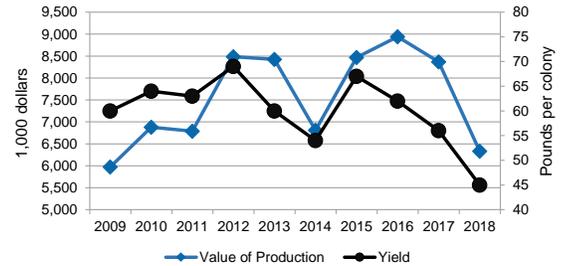
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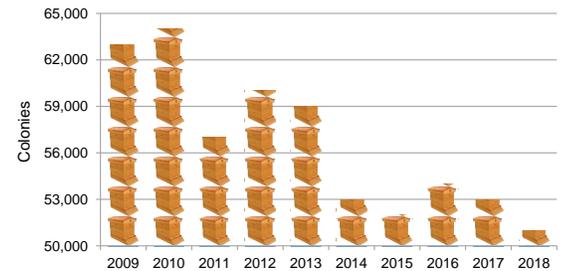
Honey production from producers with five or more colonies in Wisconsin totaled 2.30 million pounds in 2018 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Honey Report*. This was a 23 percent decrease from the 2.97 million pounds produced in 2017. The number of honey producing colonies in the state decreased from 53,000 colonies in 2017 to 51,000 colonies in 2018. This number does not include producers with fewer than five colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Yield per colony in Wisconsin averaged 45 pounds, down from 56 pounds per colony in 2017. Wisconsin moved to sixteenth place nationally in honey production, down from fifteenth place last year. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in 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, 2018, producer honey stocks in Wisconsin, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 711 thousand pounds, a 4 percent increase from 2017. The state's 2018 honey crop was valued at \$6.33 million, down 24 percent from the previous year's \$8.37 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Wisconsin was \$2.76, down 6 cents from 2017.

Honey, Value of Production and Yield
Wisconsin: 2009-2018



Honey Producing Colonies
Wisconsin: 2009-2018



Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value – Selected States and United States: 2017 and 2018

[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	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(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	335	335	41	41	13,735	13,735	2,198	3,022	216	206	29,668	28,294
Florida	205	215	43	49	8,815	10,535	529	737	237	240	20,892	25,284
Georgia	99	98	32	34	3,168	3,332	190	200	300	279	9,504	9,296
Idaho	95	96	44	31	4,180	2,976	1,045	655	179	196	7,482	5,833
Iowa	35	38	58	49	2,030	1,862	1,035	1,005	226	235	4,588	4,376
Louisiana	43	45	81	83	3,483	3,735	279	261	193	190	6,722	7,097
Michigan	87	92	45	44	3,915	4,048	822	729	242	237	9,474	9,594
Minnesota	126	119	62	61	7,812	7,259	1,016	1,161	193	188	15,077	13,647
Montana	145	160	72	92	10,440	14,720	2,506	3,680	221	192	23,072	28,262
New York	57	56	56	48	3,192	2,688	766	833	303	334	9,672	8,978
North Dakota	455	530	74	72	33,670	38,160	4,377	4,579	191	188	64,310	71,741
South Dakota	255	255	57	47	14,535	11,985	6,541	5,154	207	198	30,087	23,730
Texas	120	132	66	56	7,920	7,392	2,297	1,035	217	206	17,186	15,228
Wisconsin	53	51	56	45	2,968	2,295	683	711	282	276	8,370	6,334
United States ^{5,6} ..	2,683	2,803	56	54	148,980	152,348	30,662	29,091	220	217	334,166	333,482

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 2018 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 152 million pounds, up 2 percent from 2017. There were 2.80 million colonies producing honey in 2018, up 4 percent from 2017. Yield per colony averaged 54.4 pounds, down 2 percent from the 55.5 pounds in 2017. 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 29.1 million pounds on December 15, 2018, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey prices decreased 2 percent during 2018 to 216.6 cents per pound, compared to 219.9 cents per pound in 2017. 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 2017 crop reflect honey sold in 2017 and 2018. Some 2017 crop honey was sold in 2018, which caused some revisions to the 2017 crop prices.

For operations with five or more colonies, the average prices paid in 2018 for honey bee queens, packages, and nucs were \$18, \$86, and \$110 respectively. For operations with five or more colonies, pollination income for 2018 was \$302 million, up 8 percent from 2017. Other income from honey bees for operations with five or more colonies in 2018 was \$94.6 million, up 17 percent from 2017.