



New England Agricultural Statistics

A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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USDA TO MEASURE 2006 HONEY PRODUCTION

Bees are extremely important to the pollination of many crops and to ensure that a supply of honey is available to consumers. Many crops depend on pollination by honeybees, yet honeybees are constantly under siege from mites and disease-causing pathogens. Considering these issues, it is especially important to obtain accurate statistics regarding the size of the bee and honey industry in New England and across the Nation.

USDA's Bee and Honey survey is the only chance to measure the bee and honey industry in New England for 2006. This annual survey establishes official USDA estimates for the number of colonies, pounds of honey produced, and stocks on hand across the Nation. In early December, approximately 400 New England apiarists will receive questionnaires in the mail. Operations may submit their information by mail, via the internet, or wait to be phoned by an enumerator in mid to late December. The results of the survey are used by honey producers, pollinators, farmers, extension specialists, suppliers, lenders, and lawmakers when reviewing farm practices and policies. As with all surveys conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential and is exempted from the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination with other reports to establish state and national estimates.

The National survey results will be available in the **Honey** report from Washington, D.C. on February 28, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. All reports are available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov within minutes of the scheduled release time. New England statistics are reprinted in our monthly **Agricultural Review**. The **Agricultural Review** is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

[New England Agricultural Statistics is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics in all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All national statistics and state level newsletters are available free from e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov.]

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