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United States Honey Production Down 4 Percent

Honey production in 2007 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 148 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. There were 2.44 million colonies producing honey in 2007, up 2 percent from 2006. Yield per colony averaged 60.8 pounds, down 6 percent from the 64.7 pounds in 2006. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields 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 52.5 million pounds on December 15, 2007, down 13 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey Price Down Slightly

The 2007 all honey price was 103.2 cents, down slightly from 103.6 cents in 2006. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, cooperatives, and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2006 crop reflect honey sold in 2006 and 2007.

Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2006-07

Color Class	Price					
	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>Cents per Pound</i>	<i>Cents per Pound</i>	<i>Cents per Pound</i>	<i>Cents per Pound</i>	<i>Cents per Pound</i>	<i>Cents per Pound</i>
Water White, Extra White, White	97.0	96.6	175.6	167.7	99.9	98.4
Extra Light Amber	94.0	95.1	176.0	178.5	104.0	102.3
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	86.7	92.7	201.7	207.5	106.3	109.1
All Other Honey, Area Specialties	114.0	135.6	231.9	289.3	163.2	174.4
All Honey	94.0	95.6	192.0	196.1	103.6	103.2

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,
and Value by State and United States, 2006^{1 2}**

State	Honey Producing Colonies ³	Yield per Colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 ⁴	Average Price per Pound ⁵	Value of Production ⁶
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
AL	11	72	792	230	133	1,053
AZ	30	65	1,950	839	93	1,814
AR	32	76	2,432	730	91	2,213
CA	380	52	19,760	7,706	99	19,562
CO	36	75	2,700	1,458	110	2,970
FL	170	81	13,770	1,790	101	13,908
GA	63	74	4,662	746	122	5,688
HI	10	93	930	233	121	1,125
ID	95	44	4,180	2,592	100	4,180
IL	10	66	660	356	217	1,432
IN	6	54	324	107	158	512
IA	26	84	2,184	1,441	138	3,014
KS	14	55	770	246	122	939
KY	5	56	280	70	220	616
LA	30	90	2,700	675	90	2,430
ME	11	23	253	86	161	407
MI	72	55	3,960	2,099	117	4,633
MN	125	80	10,000	3,300	96	9,600
MS	14	98	1,372	453	93	1,276
MO	15	46	690	117	105	725
MT	132	79	10,428	1,981	96	10,011
NE	47	73	3,431	3,843	94	3,225
NV	9	37	333	50	362	1,205
NJ	9	36	324	152	115	373
NM	7	48	336	104	119	400
NY	60	64	3,840	2,458	130	4,992
NC	10	50	500	215	158	790
ND	350	74	25,900	7,770	92	23,828
OH	14	56	784	282	142	1,113
OR	46	48	2,208	729	106	2,340
PA	28	40	1,120	605	163	1,826
SD	225	47	10,575	10,575	95	10,046
TN	7	55	385	58	186	716
TX	82	70	5,740	976	91	5,223
UT	23	50	1,150	265	101	1,162
VT	6	56	336	144	120	403
VA	8	42	336	114	227	763
WA	49	52	2,548	1,605	125	3,185
WV	5	42	210	57	202	424
WI	64	93	5,952	2,500	114	6,785
WY	39	85	3,315	497	100	3,315
Oth Sts ^{7 8}	18	44	787	294	252	1,983
US ^{8 9}	2,393	64.7	154,907	60,548	103.6	160,484

¹ For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State.

² Revised.

³ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

⁴ Stocks held by producers.

⁵ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

⁶ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

⁷ CT, DE, MD, MA, NH, OK, RI, and SC not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

⁸ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

⁹ Summation of States will not equal U.S. level value of production.

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,
and Value by State and United States, 2007¹**

State	Honey Producing Colonies ²	Yield per Colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 ³	Average Price per Pound ⁴	Value of Production ⁵
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
AL	11	56	616	209	141	869
AZ	30	64	1,920	902	118	2,266
AR	28	80	2,240	717	95	2,128
CA	340	40	13,600	3,672	104	14,144
CO	33	51	1,683	892	112	1,885
FL	160	71	11,360	1,363	99	11,246
GA	60	58	3,480	522	114	3,967
HI	10	92	920	285	158	1,454
ID	92	41	3,772	1,848	108	4,074
IL	9	63	567	374	240	1,361
IN	7	51	357	100	139	496
IA	26	81	2,106	1,221	126	2,654
KS	14	40	560	196	112	627
KY	4	61	244	54	208	508
LA	29	89	2,581	413	108	2,787
ME	9	26	234	59	139	325
MI	72	64	4,608	2,350	114	5,253
MN	130	68	8,840	2,564	99	8,752
MS	15	105	1,575	189	90	1,418
MO	13	47	611	141	105	642
MT	135	68	9,180	2,203	94	8,629
NE	45	49	2,205	1,477	98	2,161
NV	10	28	280	67	360	1,008
NJ	9	57	513	185	217	1,113
NM	6	59	354	138	136	481
NY	56	57	3,192	1,947	142	4,533
NC	11	45	495	69	225	1,114
ND	420	74	31,080	9,013	92	28,594
OH	14	61	854	376	175	1,495
OR	44	43	1,892	1,041	121	2,289
PA	25	42	1,050	326	163	1,712
SD	255	52	13,260	10,608	93	12,332
TN	7	65	455	114	195	887
TX	105	82	8,610	1,550	95	8,180
UT	25	39	975	224	112	1,092
VT	5	64	320	96	126	403
VA	6	46	276	63	235	649
WA	46	44	2,024	648	125	2,530
WV	5	48	240	79	196	470
WI	60	84	5,040	3,024	115	5,796
WY	43	80	3,440	894	103	3,543
Oth Sts ^{6,7}	18	49	873	271	253	2,209
US ^{7,8}	2,442	60.8	148,482	52,484	103.2	153,233

¹ For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State.

² Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

³ Stocks held by producers.

⁴ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

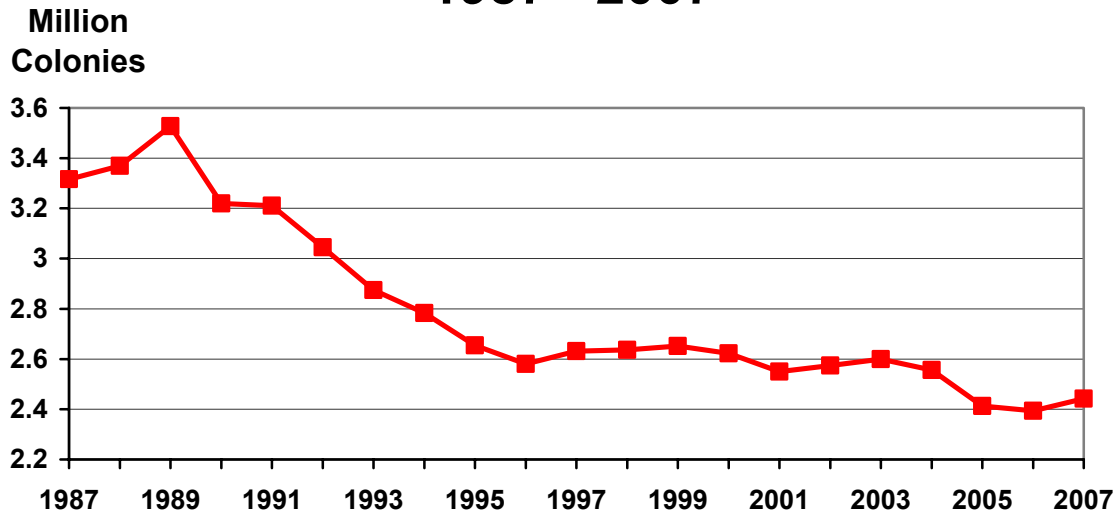
⁵ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

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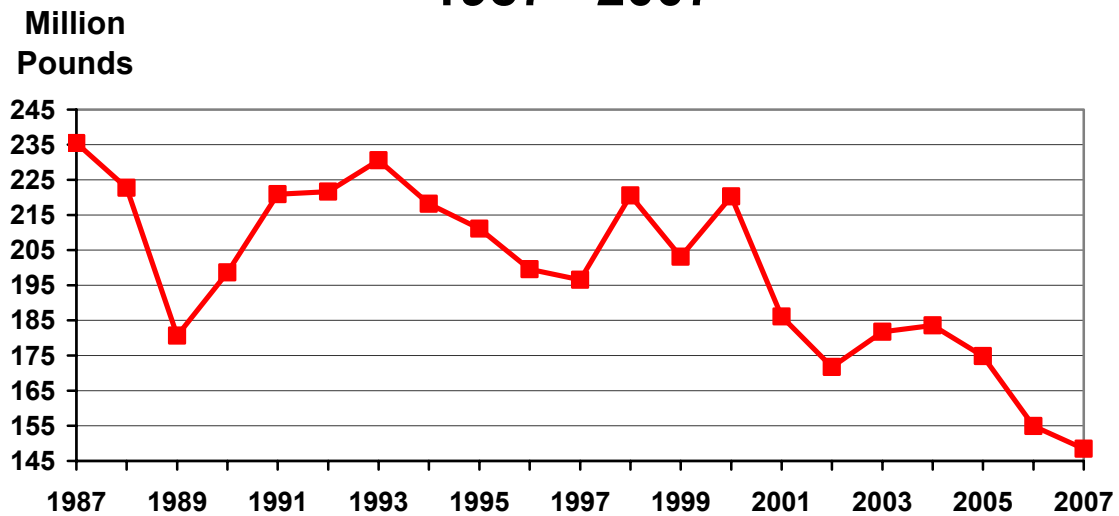
⁷ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

⁸ Summation of States will not equal U.S. level value of production.

Honey Producing Colonies United States 1987 - 2007



Honey Production United States 1987 - 2007



Reliability Statement

Survey Procedures: Data for honey producing operations are collected from a stratified sample of all known producers with 5 or more colonies. States with small populations are not sampled, instead a complete census is surveyed. Individual NASS Field Offices maintain a list of all known honey producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. All sampled honey producers with 5 or more colonies are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond by mail are telephoned or enumerated in person. Care is exercised to ensure that all operations are taken into account. Prices are collected by color class and marketing channel.

Estimation Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. State offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: The previous year's estimates are subject to revision when current year's estimates are made. Revisions are the result of late reports or corrected data. Price revisions can be the result of additional sales reported the following year.

Reliability: Since all honey producing operations are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for honey producing colonies over the past 10 years is 1.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 2.44 million colonies by more than 1.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.0 percent.

Reliability of Honey Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90 Percent Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Years	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Honey Producing Colonies	1.1	2.0	48	21	0	52	2	7
Honey Production	0.8	1.4	2,223	915	0	4,143	2	7

¹ Based on data for the past 10 years.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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 Toby Paterson - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture,
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