

# MINK



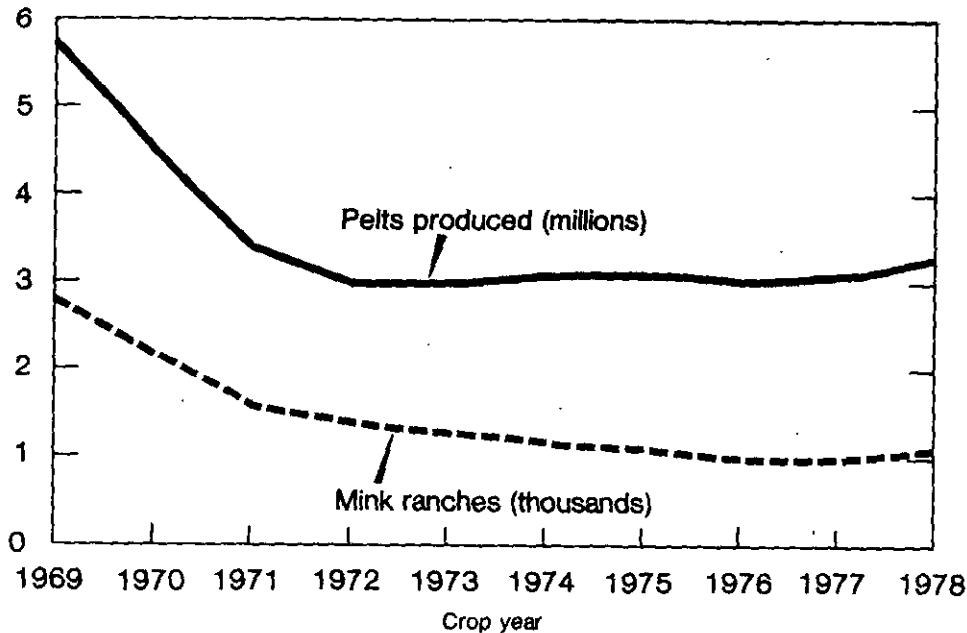
Released: July 6, 1979  
3:00 P.M. ET

Economics, Statistics, &  
Cooperatives Service  
U.S. Department  
of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.  
20250

**PELT PRODUCTION UP 9 PERCENT:** Mink pelt production in the United States in 1978 totaled 3.35 million pelts, up 9 percent from 1977. Wisconsin, the major mink State, produced 1.00 million pelts, 8 percent more than the 928 thousand a year ago. By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total 1978 production was: Standard, 34.8 percent; demi-buff, 20.6 percent; pastel, 23.2 percent; pearl, 5.6 percent; violet, 5.6 percent and the remaining color classes accounted for 10.2 percent.

**VALUE OF PELT PRODUCTION UP 51 PERCENT:** Mink pelts sold during the 1978 crop year were valued at 131.5 million dollars. This compares with a value of 87.1 million dollars for pelts sold during the 1977 crop year. The average price per pelt for the 1978 crop year was \$39.30 compared with \$28.30 a year ago.

### U.S. Mink Pelts and Ranches



USDA

Rep. ESCS 101-79 (6)

INCREASE IN BRED FEMALES: Mink females bred to produce kits in 1979 totaled 963 thousand, up 4 percent from the 925 thousand the previous year. Bred females and percent changes from a year ago for the two major color classes are: Standard, 528 thousand females bred, up 15 percent; pastel, 205 thousand, down 14 percent. Females bred in the leading mink States and percent changes from 1978 are: Wisconsin, 268 thousand, up 1 percent; Utah, 141 thousand, up 9 percent; and Minnesota, 122 thousand, up 5 percent.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 1979 by color class are: Standard, 54.8 percent; pastel, 21.3 percent; pearl, 6.2 percent; violet, 5.9 percent with the remaining color classes accounting for 11.8 percent.

NUMBER OF RANCHES INCREASES: There were 1083 mink ranches producing pelts in 1978, up 4 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin with 259 ranches was up 2 percent, Utah with 187 ranches was up 1 percent and Minnesota with 141 was up 9 percent.

MINK PELTS PRODUCED AND FEMALES BRED, BY COLOR CLASS,  
UNITED STATES, 1977-79

COLOR CLASS	PELTS PRODUCED			FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS			
	1977	1978	1978 AS %	1977	1978	1979	1979 AS %
	THOUSANDS		OF 1977	THOUSANDS			OF 1978
STANDARD	1,048	1,166	111	408	458	528	115
DEMI-BUFF <sup>1/</sup>	531	690	130				
PASTEL	740	776	105	233	<u>4/238</u>	205	86
PALE BROWN	10	11	110	2.4	<u>4/2.5</u>	3.2	128
SAPPHIRE	78	115	147	24.7	<u>33.9</u>	42.8	126
GUNMETAL	50	51	102	12.7	<u>13.6</u>	17.3	127
PLATINUM	5	5	100	2.8	<u>4/1.4</u>	1.3	93
PEARL	234	189	81	77.9	<u>4/64.1</u>	59.4	93
LAVENDER-HOPE	16	16	100	5.3	<u>4.1</u>	5.1	124
PINK	61	56	92	19.4	<u>18.4</u>	16.2	88
VIOLET TYPE	205	186	91	72	<u>4/62.0</u>	57.2	92
WHITE	84	81	96	25.5	<u>26.0</u>	24.5	94
MISC & UNCLASSIFIED	14	5	36	3.2	<u>3.1</u>	2.9	94
U S TOTAL	3,076	3,347	109	887	<u>4/925</u>	963	104

MINK RANCHES, PELTS PRODUCED AND VALUE OF MINK PELTS,  
UNITED STATES, 1969-78 <sup>2/</sup>

YEAR	MINK RANCHES	PELTS PRODUCED	AVERAGE MARKETING PRICE <sup>3/</sup>	VALUE OF MINK PELTS <sup>3/</sup>
	THOUSANDS	MILLION	DOLLARS	MILLION DOLLARS
1969	2.8	5.7		
1970	2.2	4.5		
1971	1.6	3.4		
1972	1.4	3.0		
1973	1.3	3.0		
1974	1.2	3.1		
1975	1.1	3.1	24.10	73.9
1976	1.0	3.0	29.00	87.8
1977	1.0	3.1	<u>4/ 28.30</u>	<u>4/87.1</u>
1978	1.1	3.3	39.30	131.5

<sup>1/</sup> THIS COLOR CLASS INCLUDED "RANCH WILD" TYPES IN 1977. IN 1978 IT INCLUDED MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE DEMI-BUFF-DARK BROWN, VIOLET CROSS, PASTEL CROSS, STANDARD CROSS, PEARL CROSS, AND OTHERS. <sup>2/</sup> SEE CHART ON FRONT PAGE FOR PELTS PRODUCED AND NUMBER OF RANCHES. <sup>3/</sup> DATA NOT AVAILABLE PRIOR TO 1975.  
<sup>4/</sup> REVISED.

MINK PELTS PRODUCED AND NUMBER OF RANCHES PRODUCING PELTS IN 1977, BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND UNITED STATES

STATE	STANDARD	DEMI-BUFF 1/	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUNMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-IFIED	TOTAL PELTS	NUMBER OF RANCHES
IDAHO	29.0	45.2	41.0	2/	4.6	2/	2/	7.2	2/	2/	2.3	2.4	2/	132	38
ILL	55.0	2/	22.6	2/	2/	2/	2/	12.0	2/	2/	2.0	1.8	2/	176	28
IND	5.3	2/	7.7	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	4.6	1.5	2/	18	8
IOWA	42.3	9.1	25.2	2/	34	2/	2/	19.5	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	105	48
MASS	2/	4.4	3/8.4	2/	2/	2/	2/	10.6	2/	2/	7.1	9.1	2/	3/21	3/16
MICH	30.0	21.5	23.9	2/	3.6	2/	2/	18.8	2/	2/	23.1	4.5	2/	104	37
MINN	112.2	77.6	122.9	2/	3	2/	2/	8.0	2/	2/	8.9	2/	2/	376	129
N Y	33.8	7.4	26.1	2/	1.7	2/	2/	9.5	2/	2/	4.5	2/	2/	95	34
OHIO	39.2	19.9	39.2	2/	1.1	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	21.1	2/	2/	117	34
OREG	46.3	25.1	9.8	2/	17.4	2/	2/	29.4	2/	2/	15.3	2/	2/	141	36
PA	12.7	25.7	25.0	2/	14.0	2/	2/	12.3	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	129	48
S DAK	12.8	22.5	6.3	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	59	9
UTAH	169	32.8	85.7	2/	12.7	2/	2/	28.4	2/	2/	24.4	.23	2/	359	185
WASH	90.4	27.8	18.3	2/	5.8	2/	2/	2.6	2/	2/	6.2	1.9	2/	169	56
WIS	332.6	107.9	239.0	2.3	14.9	2.4	.66	57.2	9.2	31.0	75.3	54.1	1.8	928	255
ALL OTH STS:	3/36.2	3/38.2	3/39.0	.14	1.1	.34	.92	74.8	.5	3.7	4.6	7.6	.22	147	3/79
TOTAL	1,048	3/531	3/740	3/10	78	50	5	234	16	61	205	3/84	3/14	3/3,076	3/1,040

1/ THIS COLOR CLASS INCLUDES "RANCH WILD" TYPES. 2/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS. 3/ REVISED.

MINK PELTS PRODUCED AND NUMBER OF RANCHES PRODUCING PELTS IN 1978, BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND UNITED STATES

STATE	STANDARD	DEMI-BUFF 1/	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUNMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-IFIED	TOTAL PELTS	NUMBER OF RANCHES
IDAHO	29.0	60.0	37.6	2/	3.0	2/	2/	6.4	2/	2/	2.7	2.3	2/	141	53
ILL	58.3	56.4	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	9.0	2/	2/	2.9	2/	2/	171	29
IND	6.7	2.0	6.4	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	4.3	1.1	2/	19	16
IOWA	46.3	13.5	26.5	2/	1.5	2/	2/	18.4	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	112	43
MASS	1.5	5.4	6.5	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	20	16
MICH	33.2	17.0	27.4	2/	2/	2/	2/	9.8	2/	2/	7.2	9.0	2/	106	45
MINN	137.3	100.0	138.6	2/	9.8	1.9	2/	20.7	1.3	13.5	16.8	6.9	2/	447	141
N Y	40.5	14.9	28.1	2.4	4.3	5.4	2/	4.1	2/	2/	8.8	2/	2/	110	34
OHIO	43.4	26.8	34.8	2.4	2.0	2/	2/	7.3	2/	2/	4.4	2/	2/	122	35
OREG	50.5	28.9	6.8	2/	19.4	19.5	2/	2/	2/	2.0	19.8	2/	2/	148	37
PA	14.5	35.6	26.1	2/	16.9	1.5	2/	24.4	2/	2/	14.7	2/	2/	138	46
S DAK	16.7	29.0	10.5	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	69	8
UTAH	184.6	58.0	94.5	2/	20.0	2/	2/	22.2	2/	2/	27.6	2/	2/	411	187
WASH	78.5	38.6	18.7	2/	8.9	14.6	2/	2/	.96	1.5	4.9	2/	2/	167	55
WIS	390.9	145.3	233.9	3.5	25.7	4.3	1.2	38.2	9.3	30.6	65.4	54.5	1.2	1,004	259
ALL OTH STS:	34.0	58.5	40.6	.19	1.9	.24	1.1	15.0	.23	2.1	2.1	6.0	.25	162	79
TOTAL	1,166	690	776	11	115	51	5	189	16	56	186	81	5	3,347	1,083

1/ FOR 1978, THIS COLOR CLASS INCLUDES MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE DEMI-BUFF - DARK BROWN, VIOLET CROSS, PASTEL CROSS, STANDARD CROSS,

MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS IN 1978 BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND UNITED STATES

STATE	STANDARD	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUMMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLASSIFIED	TOTAL FEMALES
1,000 FEMALES													
IDAHO	20.6	13.3	.2	1.5			2.2		1/	.53	.71	1/	39
ILL	27.8	9.5	1/	1/	1.3		2.9		1/	.91	1/	1/	43.7
IND	1.9	1.8	1/	1/			1/			1/	1/	1/	4.8
IOWA	16.2	7.5	1/	.26		.26	5.7	.01		1/	.09	1/	32.6
MASS	1/	2/3.2	1/	1/	1/	1/	2.3	1/	1/	1/	1.9	1/	2/5.7
MICH	16.0	8.1	1/	1/			6.4	.51	1/	2.9	1.5	1/	116
MINN	58.9	36.3	1/	1.5	.51		2.0	1/	1/	2.9	1/	1/	31.1
N Y	14.8	7.2	1/	1.1			2.8	.1	1/	1.8	1/	1/	35.4
OHIO	16.7	12.6	1/	1.0			1/		1/	5.3	1/	1/	38.7
OREG	18.4	4.0	1/	5.6	4.6	1/	1/	1/	1/	4.7	1/	.06	40.8
PA	10.3	9.6	1/	5.0	.41	1/	1.2	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	16.6
S DAK	12.8	1.9	1/	1/	1/	1/	8.5	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	129
UTAH	73.6	28.7	1/	7.3	1/	1/	.28	1/	1/	2.1	.06	1/	46.8
WASH	30.7	5.6	1/	2.4	1/	1/	15.9	2.1	1/	21.4	16.4	1/	264
WIS	117.9	72.6	.45	6.8	1.3	.12			8.1				
ALL OTH													
STS	2/20.8	2/15.9	.11	.81	.04	.24	5.5	.1	2/1.2	2/1.64	3.5	.23	49
U S	458	2/238	2/2.5	33.9	13.6	2/1.4	2/64.1	4.1	18.4	2/62.0	26.0	3.1	925

1/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.  
2/ REVISED.

MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS IN 1979 BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND UNITED STATES

STATE	STANDARD	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUMMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLASSIFIED	TOTAL FEMALES
1,000 FEMALES													
IDAHO	26.7	11.4	1/	1.7	1/	1/	2.2		1/	.75	1/	1/	43.5
ILL	36.5	4.6	1/	1/	1/	1/	1.6		1/	1.1	1/	1/	46.6
IND	3.1	.9	1/	1/			1/			1/	1/	1/	5.3
IOWA	18.2	6.3	1/	.7			5.9			1/	1/	.2	33.2
MASS	18.4	5.8	1/	1/	1/	1/	.8	1/	1/	1.7	2.3	1/	31
MICH	69.2	30.7	1/	3.0	.57	1/	2.3	1/	1/	5.0	2.2	1/	122
MINN	13.8	7.9	1/	1.8	1.3	1/	6.2	1/	1/	2.6	1/	1/	29.9
N Y	20.3	10.3	.7	1.4			1.5	1/	1/	1.5	1/	1/	38.3
OHIO	19.2	3.4	1/	6.3	5.8	1/	1/	1/	1/	5.0	1/	1/	40.4
OREG	14.6	7.5	1/	6.5	.61	1/	1/	1/	1/	4.1	1/	1/	42.2
PA	13.6	1.6	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	16.9
S DAK	92.1	23.6	1/	7.9	1/	1/	6.1	.52	1/	10.0	1/	1/	141
UTAH	30.3	5.1	.5	2.8	1/	1/	12.4	3.2	8.3	1.8	14.9	1.3	45.9
WASH	127.6	68.1	.89	9.2	2.1	.11				19.5			267.6
WIS													
ALL OTH													
STS	23.6	15.4	.16	.8	.4	.4	7.5	.1	1.1	.66	4.1	.48	54
U S	528	205	3.2	42.8	17.3	1.3	59.4	5.1	16.2	57.2	24.5	2.9	963

1/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.