

# MINK AND HONEY

**MINK:** Mink production in Illinois is located primarily in the northeastern corner of the state, with the heaviest concentration of mink operations in Lake, Kane, and McHenry counties. Only a few operations are located out of this main area. Illinois ranks twelfth nationally in mink pelt production. Production of mink pelts in Illinois decreased one percent in 1999 to 49,300 pelts. Females bred to produce kits in 2000 totaled 12,800, unchanged from the number females bred to produce kits in 1999.

## MINK: Ranches, females bred, and pelts produced, Illinois, 1990-99

Year	Ranches producing pelts	Females bred 1/	Pelts produced		
			Standard	Other	Total pelts
<u>Thousand</u>					
1990	20	23.9	72.2	48.1	120.3
1991	20	18.5	71.2	9.7	80.9
1992	15	14.3	44.9	11.8	56.7
1993	11	14.7	36.1	5.7	41.8
1994	10	13.4	44.2	6.1	50.3
1995	10	14.3	43.5	4.9	48.4
1996	9	14.7	50.9	5.8	56.7
1997	9	12.2	55.5	6.5	62.0
1998	10	12.8	43.2	6.4	49.6
1999	8	12.8	42.7	6.6	49.3

1/ To produce kits the following year.

**HONEY:** Illinois honey production in 1999 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 594,000 pounds, down seven percent from 1998. Prices for 1999 Illinois honey averaged \$1.15 per pound, down three cents from the 1998 price. The total value of honey production was \$683,000, down ten percent from 1998. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

## HONEY: Number of colonies of bees, production and value, Illinois, 1990-99

Year	Number of colonies	Yield per colony	Production	Average price per pound	Value of production
<u>Thousands</u> <u>Pounds</u> <u>Thousand pounds</u> <u>Dollars</u> <u>Thousand dollars</u>					
1990	23	40	920	.73	672
1991	21	52	1,092	.79	863
1992	16	53	848	.88	746
1993	15	48	720	.96	691
1994	13	80	1,040	1.04	1,082
1995	11	74	814	1.13	920
1996	11	74	814	1.35	1,099
1997	7	69	483	1.27	613
1998	9	71	639	1.19	760
1999	9	66	594	1.15	683