

MINK AND HONEY

MINK: Illinois ranks tenth nationally in mink pelt production. Production of mink pelts in Illinois increased 14 percent in 2004 to 59,700 pelts. Females bred to produce kits in 2005 totaled 16,000, up eight percent from the number of females bred to produce kits in 2004.

MINK: Ranches, females bred and pelts produced, Illinois, 1995-2004

Year	Ranches producing pelts	Females bred 1/	Pelts produced		
			Standard	Other	Total pelts
<u>Thousand</u>					
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
2000	7	12.9	37.0	8.6	45.6
2001	7	13.8	41.1	10.5	51.6
2002	7	14.3	41.9	11.6	53.5
2003	7	14.8	41.8	10.5	52.3
2004	7	16.0	46.9	12.8	59.7

1/ To produce kits the following year.

HONEY: Illinois honey production in 2004 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 385,000 pounds, down eight percent from 2003. Prices for 2004 Illinois honey averaged \$1.93 per pound, up 20 cents from the 2003 price. The total value of honey production was \$743,000, up two percent from 2003. 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, 1995-2004

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>
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
2000	8	61	488	1.17	571
2001	6	76	456	1.58	720
2002	9	80	720	1.47	1,058
2003	7	60	420	1.73	727
2004	7	55	385	1.93	743