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Pelt Production Down 10 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 2016 totaled 3.32 million pelts, down 10 percent from 2015. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 1.20 million pelts. Utah, the second largest producing State, produced 768 thousand pelts.

The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total United States production in 2016 is as follows: Black at 51 percent, Mahogany at 21 percent, Blue Iris at 7 percent, and White at 6 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 15 percent.

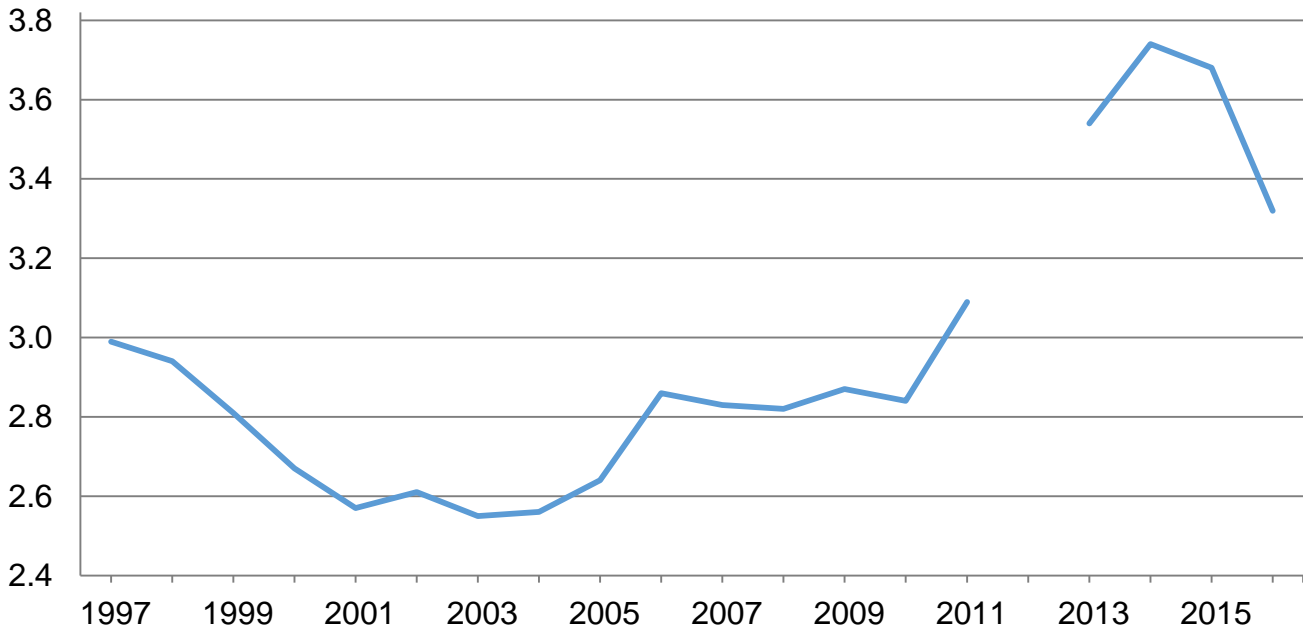
Value of pelts produced during the 2016 crop year was \$116 million, down 1 percent from \$118 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2016 crop year was \$35.00, up \$3.00 from \$32.00 in 2015.

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2017 totaled 741 thousand, down 3 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2017 by color class as is follows: Black at 50 percent, Mahogany at 21 percent, White at 7 percent, and Blue Iris at 6 percent. The remaining classes accounted for 16 percent.

Mink Pelts Produced – United States

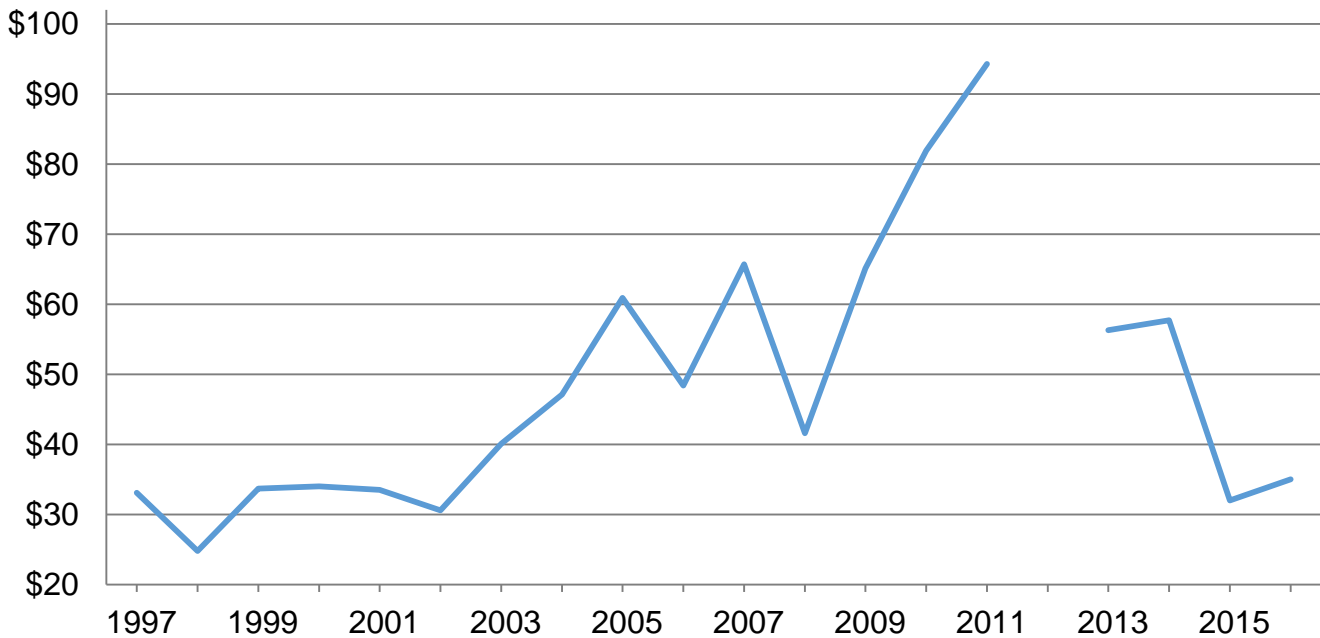
Million



Due to sequestration the *Mink* report was suspended in 2012.

Mink Average Price Per Pelt – United States

Dollars



Due to sequestration the *Mink* report was suspended in 2012.

Mink Pelts Produced and Females Bred by Color Class – United States: 2015-2017

Color class	Pelts produced		Females bred to produce kits	
	2015 (number)	2016 (number)	2016 (number)	2017 (number)
Black	1,853,700	1,685,450	382,890	369,930
Demi/Wild	74,280	62,110	15,420	14,170
Pastel	105,400	98,600	26,920	24,750
Sapphire	114,480	135,080	30,370	32,840
Blue Iris	278,420	226,130	53,370	44,620
Mahogany	861,850	711,320	163,160	155,730
Pearl	95,700	103,640	25,640	24,700
Lavender	22,460	32,310	7,750	9,290
Violet	59,250	54,550	14,100	12,350
White	205,910	199,570	45,710	50,760
Other	11,510	8,280	1,780	1,670
Total	3,682,960	3,317,040	767,110	740,810

Mink Pelts Produced, Average Price, and Value – United States: 1997-2016

Year	Pelts produced (number)	Average marketing price (dollars)	Value of mink pelts (dollars)
1997	2,993,300	33.10	99,078,230
1998	2,938,100	24.80	72,864,880
1999	2,812,500	33.70	94,781,250
2000	2,666,100	34.00	90,647,400
2001	2,565,300	33.50	85,937,550
2002	2,607,300	30.60	79,783,380
2003	2,549,000	40.10	102,214,900
2004	2,558,100	47.10	120,486,510
2005	2,637,800	60.90	160,642,020
2006	2,858,800	48.40	138,365,920
2007	2,828,200	65.70	185,812,740
2008	2,820,700	41.60	117,341,120
2009	2,866,700	65.10	186,622,170
2010	2,840,200	81.90	232,612,380
2011	3,091,470	94.30	291,525,621
2012 ¹	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2013	3,544,610	56.30	199,561,543
2014	3,741,150	57.70	215,864,355
2015	3,682,960	32.00	117,854,720
2016	3,317,040	35.00	116,096,400

(NA) Not available.

¹ Due to sequestration the *Mink* report was suspended.

Pelts Produced by Color Class – Selected States and United States: 2015

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho	129,000	10,000	17,500	14,500	(D)	193,000
Illinois	68,000	-	-	(D)	-	(D)
Iowa	50,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	37,000
Michigan	44,000	-	(D)	-	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	100,000	27,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	78,000
Montana	3,700	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio	57,000	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	220,000	-	(D)	(D)	77,000	(D)
Pennsylvania	35,000	(D)	(D)	9,000	17,000	(D)
Utah	300,000	29,000	(D)	40,000	2,200	360,000
Washington	58,000	-	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	780,000	(D)	34,000	33,000	129,000	135,000
Other States ¹	9,000	8,280	53,900	17,980	53,220	58,850
United States	1,853,700	74,280	105,400	114,480	278,420	861,850
States	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Other	Total ²
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	372,200
Illinois	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	98,700
Iowa	-	-	-	(D)	-	96,300
Michigan	-	(D)	(D)	8,000	-	60,250
Minnesota	-	-	-	11,500	-	265,520
Montana	-	-	-	(D)	(D)	14,900
Ohio	-	-	-	(D)	-	77,800
Oregon	-	-	(D)	-	-	332,900
Pennsylvania	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	86,770
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	867,880
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	71,800
Wisconsin	(D)	14,500	26,000	158,000	6,000	1,316,610
Other States ¹	95,700	7,960	33,250	28,410	5,510	21,330
United States	95,700	22,460	59,250	205,910	11,510	3,682,960

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Other States include New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, and some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Pelts Produced by Color Class – Selected States and United States: 2016

States	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho	113,000	(D)	17,000	12,500	(D)	175,000
Illinois	48,000	-	-	(D)	-	(D)
Iowa	45,000	-	(D)	2,300	(D)	35,000
Michigan	49,000	-	(D)	-	(D)	1,000
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	61,000
Montana	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	-	(D)
Ohio	60,000	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	215,000	-	(D)	9,500	56,000	(D)
Pennsylvania	28,000	(D)	(D)	8,500	11,500	(D)
Utah	260,000	(D)	28,000	50,000	1,900	295,000
Washington	39,000	-	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	730,000	(D)	34,000	44,000	116,000	91,000
Other States ¹	98,450	62,110	19,600	8,280	40,730	53,320
United States	1,685,450	62,110	98,600	135,080	226,130	711,320
States	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Other	Total ²
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	340,150
Illinois	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	81,100
Iowa	-	-	-	(D)	-	88,070
Michigan	-	(D)	(D)	6,500	-	64,500
Minnesota	-	-	(D)	27,000	(D)	204,580
Montana	-	-	-	(D)	(D)	11,900
Ohio	-	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	74,680
Oregon	-	-	(D)	-	-	308,800
Pennsylvania	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	67,540
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	768,010
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	55,080
Wisconsin	-	21,000	(D)	133,000	5,000	1,196,310
Other States ¹	103,640	11,310	54,550	33,070	3,280	56,320
United States	103,640	32,310	54,550	199,570	8,280	3,317,040

- Represents zero.

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¹ Other States include New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, and some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits by Color Class – Selected States and United States: 2016

States	Black (number)	Demi/Wild (number)	Pastel (number)	Sapphire (number)	Blue Iris (number)	Mahogany (number)
Idaho	28,000	1,600	4,800	3,300	-	41,000
Illinois	15,000	-	-	(D)	-	(D)
Iowa	13,500	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	10,000
Michigan	12,500	-	(D)	-	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	3,500	3,600	(D)	(D)	13,500
Montana	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	(D)
Ohio	12,000	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	2,900
Oregon	42,000	-	(D)	2,300	13,000	(D)
Pennsylvania	5,500	(D)	(D)	3,000	3,400	(D)
Utah	70,000	(D)	(D)	10,500	610	70,000
Washington	8,000	-	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	156,000	(D)	9,000	8,500	25,000	15,500
Other States ¹	20,390	10,320	9,520	2,770	11,360	10,260
United States	382,890	15,420	26,920	30,370	53,370	163,160

States	Pearl (number)	Lavender (number)	Violet (number)	White (number)	Other (number)	Total ² (number)
Idaho	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	81,220
Illinois	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	23,870
Iowa	-	-	-	(D)	-	26,760
Michigan	-	(D)	(D)	2,200	-	17,640
Minnesota	-	-	-	7,500	-	48,240
Montana	-	-	-	(D)	(D)	3,780
Ohio	-	(D)	-	(D)	-	17,640
Oregon	-	-	(D)	-	-	63,500
Pennsylvania	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	16,130
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	190,090
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	12,120
Wisconsin	-	5,000	7,500	27,000	(D)	254,490
Other States ¹	25,640	2,750	6,600	9,010	1,780	11,630
United States	25,640	7,750	14,100	45,710	1,780	767,110

- Represents zero.

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² Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits by Color Class – Selected States and United States: 2017

States	Black (number)	Demi/Wild (number)	Pastel (number)	Sapphire (number)	Blue Iris (number)	Mahogany (number)
Idaho	24,000	(D)	3,400	3,100	(D)	37,000
Illinois	15,000	-	-	(D)	-	(D)
Iowa	12,500	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	11,500
Michigan	14,500	-	-	-	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	15,500
Montana	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	-
Ohio	10,500	(D)	-	(D)	-	1,900
Oregon	42,000	-	(D)	2,200	12,500	(D)
Pennsylvania	5,500	(D)	(D)	3,600	1,600	(D)
Utah	65,000	6,500	6,500	10,000	510	65,000
Washington	6,000	-	-	-	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	155,000	(D)	9,500	10,500	22,000	14,000
Other States ¹	19,930	7,670	5,350	3,440	8,010	10,830
United States	369,930	14,170	24,750	32,840	44,620	155,730
States	Pearl (number)	Lavender (number)	Violet (number)	White (number)	Other (number)	Total ² (number)
Idaho	-	(D)	1,900	(D)	(D)	72,820
Illinois	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	23,900
Iowa	-	-	-	(D)	(D)	26,730
Michigan	-	(D)	(D)	2,100	-	19,900
Minnesota	-	-	(D)	7,000	(D)	47,060
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	2,870
Ohio	-	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	13,780
Oregon	-	-	(D)	-	-	62,300
Pennsylvania	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	14,680
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	178,030
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	10,100
Wisconsin	-	5,500	(D)	35,000	640	257,120
Other States ¹	24,700	3,790	10,450	6,660	1,030	11,520
United States	24,700	9,290	12,350	50,760	1,670	740,810

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Other States include New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, and some pelts from the above listed States that were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Mink production data are collected from early May through late May from all known producers. Individual NASS Field Offices maintain a list of all known mink producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. All known mink producers are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those who do not respond by mail are telephoned or enumerated in person. Care is exercised to account for all operations. Major auction houses, which handle producer sales, provide mink pelt price data in June. Prices are collected at the point of first sale, before marketing costs are deducted.

Estimation Procedures: 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 are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. Field 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: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year-to-year and item-to-item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made.

Reliability: Mink production estimates are based on a census of all known active producers and therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality control 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 mink pelts produced over the past 10 years is 0.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 3.32 million pelts by more than 0.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.4 percent.

Reliability of Mink Estimates

[Based on data for the past ten years]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Pelts produced	0.8	1.4	16	0	66	6	2
Females bred	0.9	1.7	4	0	15	5	2

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Aaron Cosgrove – Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Cold Storage	(202) 720-4751
Brenda Hill – Catfish Production, Trout Production	(202) 720-6147
Tom Kruchten – Census of Aquaculture	(202) 690-4870
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Joshua O’Rear – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies.....	(202) 690-3676
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Mink	(202) 720-3244

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