

# MINK



Crop  
Reporting  
Board

Released: July 7, 1978  
3:00 P.M. ET

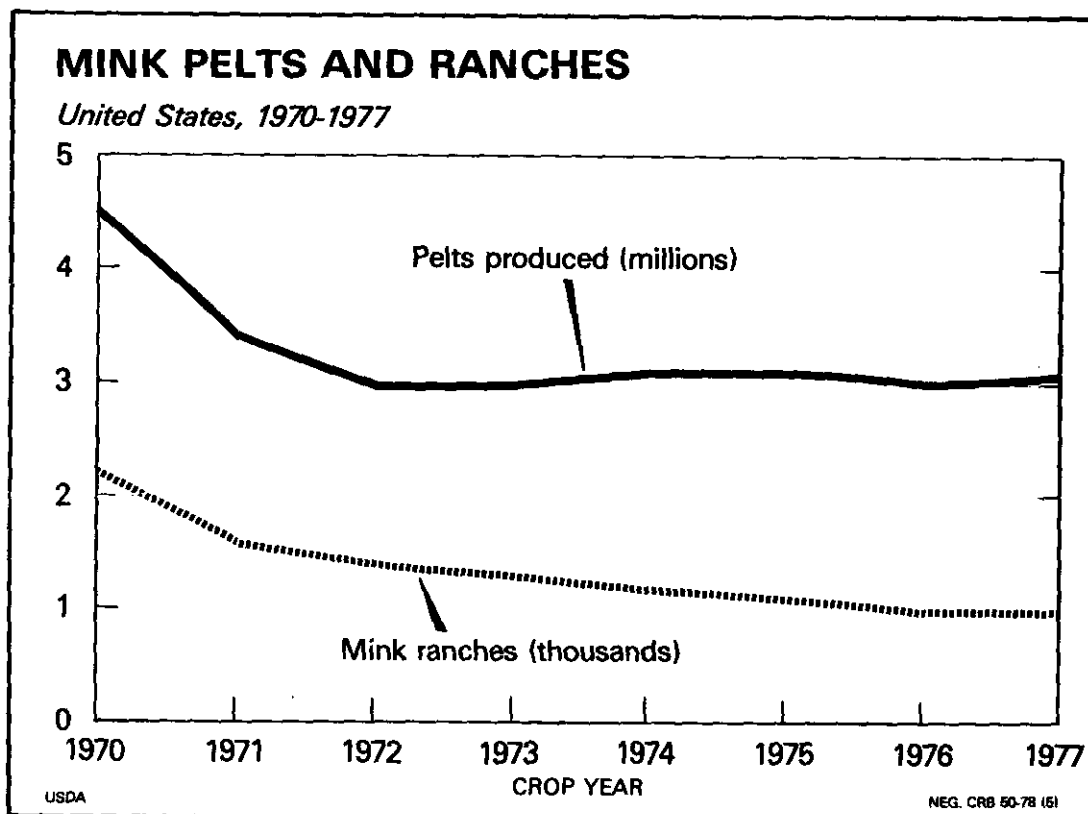
Economics, Statistics, &  
Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

Washington, D.C.  
20250

**PELT PRODUCTION UP:** Mink pelt production in the United States in 1977 totaled 3.1 million pelts, up 2 percent from 1976. Wisconsin, the major mink State, produced 928,000 pelts, slightly fewer than the 931,000 a year ago. By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total 1977 production was: Standard, 34.1 percent; demi-buff, 17.2 percent; pastel, 24.0 percent; pearl, 7.6 percent; violet, 6.7 percent and the remaining color classes accounted for 10.4 percent.

**VALUE OF PELT PRODUCTION DOWN:** Mink pelts sold during the 1977 crop year were valued at 87.3 million dollars. This compares with a value of 87.8 million dollars for pelts sold during the 1976 crop year. The average price per pelt for the 1977 crop year was \$28.40 compared with \$29.00 a year ago.



**INCREASE IN BRED FEMALES:** Mink females bred to produce kits in 1978 totaled 925,000, up 4 percent from the 887,000 the previous year. Bred females and percent changes from a year ago for the two major color classes are: Standard, 458,000 females bred, up 12 percent; pastel, 237,000, up 2 percent. Females bred in the leading mink States and percent changes from 1977 are: Wisconsin, 264,000, up 3 percent; Utah, 129,000, up 14 percent and Minnesota 116,000, up 12 percent.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 1978 by color class are: Standard, 49.5 percent; pastel, 25.6 percent; pearl, 6.9 percent; violet, 6.8 percent with the remaining color classes accounting for 11.2 percent.

**NUMBER OF RANCHES INCREASES:** There were 1,034 mink ranches producing pelts in 1977, up 2 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin with 255 ranches was down 2 percent, Utah with 185 ranches was up 10 percent and Minnesota with 129 was up 5 percent.

MINK PELTS PRODUCED AND FEMALES BRED, BY COLOR CLASS,  
UNITED STATES, 1976-78

COLOR CLASS	PELTS PRODUCED			FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS			
	1976 <sup>4/</sup>	1977	1977 AS %	1976 <sup>4/</sup>	1977 <sup>4/</sup>	1978	1978 AS %
	THOUSANDS		OF 1976	THOUSANDS			OF 1977
STANDARD	995	1,048	105	381	408	458	112
DEMI-BUFF <sup>1/</sup>	533	530	99				
PASTEL	661	739	112	210	233	237	102
PALE BROWN	9	11	122	3.2	2.4	2.7	113
SAPPHIRE	65	78	120	22.9	24.7	33.9	137
GUNMETAL	47	50	106	12.3	12.7	13.6	107
PLATINUM	6	5	83	2.8	2.8	1.3	46
PEARL	270	234	87	85	77.9	64.0	82
LAVENDER-HOPE	20	16	80	5	5.3	4.1	77
PINK	71	61	86	18.0	19.4	18.4	95
VIOLET TYPE	239	205	86	77.1	72	63	88
WHITE	90	83	92	27.0	25.5	26.0	102
MISC & UNCLASSIFIED	20	13	65	2.3	3.2	3.1	97
U S TOTAL	3,026	3,073	102	847	887	925	104

MINK RANCHES, PELTS PRODUCED AND VALUE OF MINK PELTS,  
UNITED STATES, 1969-77 <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	<sup>4/</sup> 29.00	<sup>4/</sup> 87.8
1977	1.0	3.1	28.40	87.3

<sup>1/</sup> THIS COLOR CLASS INCLUDED "RANCH WILD" TYPES IN 1977. <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 1976 BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND U S

STATE	STANDARD	DEMI-BUFF	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUNMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-SIFIED	TOTAL PELTS	NUMBER OF RANCHES
IDAHO	28.4	48.4	36.3	1/	2.7	1/	1/	6.1	1/	1.5	1.8	3.2	1/	127	34
ILL	52	1/	25.3	1/	1/	1/	1/	11	1/		2.8	1/	1/	173	29
IND	4.5	1/	6.7	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/			3.3	1/	1/	18	8
IOWA	40.3	10.8	20.5	1/	1/	1/	1/	25.2	.23		6.5			104	49
MASS	2/	3.6	6.5	1/	1/	1/	1/	11.5	1/	1.3	2/	8.6		16	9
MICH	36.8	19.7	16.7	1/	1/	1/	1/	24.4	1/	19.6	27.2	7.4		105	35
MINN	114	75	101	1/	8.8	3.3	1/	9.6	1/	1/	10.1	1/	1/	383	123
N Y	35.1	9.8	25.2	1/	1.4	3.1	1/	10.5	1/	1/	4.3	1/	1/	100	36
OHIO	40.7	19.4	42	1/	1.3	1/	1/	31.1	1/	1/	24.1	1/	1/	121	37
OREG	50.8	25.1	7.7	1/	13	15.4	1/	30.1	1/	1/	23.3	1/	1/	139	42
PA	15.3	21.8	20.8	1/	7.6	1.1	1/	11.9	1/	1/	3.8	1/	1/	126	49
S DAK	14.7	16.5	6.3	1/	9.7	1/	1/	30.1	1/	1/	22.5	.18	1.6	58	7
UTAH	141	49.7	65	.61	5	14.1	.64	3.6	1/	1.5	7.9	.11	1.6	323	168
WASH	73	26	18	1.3	12.2	4.8	.78	72	2.2	30	85	62	3.6	154	54
WIS	315	103	228	3					11.3					931	260
ALL OTH STS	32.9	38.7	35.1	.53	2	.37	1.1	19.5	1.1	4.1	5.2	6.9	.49	148	75
U S	995	533	661	9	65	47	6	270	20	71	239	90	20	3,026	1,015

1/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS. 2/ INCLUDED IN ALL OTHER STATES TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

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

STATE	STANDARD	DEMI-BUFF	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUNMETAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-SIFIED	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		132	38
ILL	55.0	2/	22.6	2/	2/	2/	2/	12.0	2/		2.0	1.8	2/	176	28
IND	5.3	2/	7.7	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/			4.6	1.5	1.8	18	8
IOWA	42.3	9.1	25.2	2/	2/	2/	2/	19.5	.05		2/	2/	2/	105	48
MASS	2/	4.4	6.9	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	.94	2/	2/	2/	18	12
MICH	30.0	21.5	23.9	2/	2/	2/	2/	10.6	2/	8.8	7.1	9.1	2/	104	37
MINN	112.2	77.6	122.9	3	3.6	2.3	.31	18.8	1/	2/	23.1	4.5		376	129
N Y	33.8	7.4	26.1	2/	1.7	3.0	1/	8.0	2/	2/	8.9	2/	2/	95	34
OHIO	39.2	19.9	39.2	.91	1.1	.24	.17	9.5	.22	1.8	4.5	2/	1.9	117	34
OREG	46.3	25.1	9.8	.65	17.4	17.5	2/	29.4	2/	4.2	21.1	2/	2/	141	36
PA	12.7	25.7	25.0	2/	14.0	1.3	2/	12.3	2/	2/	15.3	2/	.21	129	48
S DAK	12.8	22.5	6.3	2/	12.7	2/	.66	28.4	2/	2/	24.4	.23	1.3	59	9
UTAH	169	32.8	85.7	1.9	5.8	14.5	.35	2.6	1.8	1.2	6.2	.19	1.9	359	185
WASH	90.4	27.8	18.3	2.3	14.9	2.4	.66	57.2	9.2	31.0	75.3	54.1	1.8	928	255
WIS	332.6	107.9	239.0												
ALL OTH STS	36.9	37.3	39.1	.14	1.1	.34	.92	14.8	.5	3.7	4.6	7.6	.22	147	77
TOTAL	1,048	530	739	11	78	50	5	234	16	61	205	83	13	3,073	1,034

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

MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS IN 1977 BY COLOR CLASS, MAJOR STATES AND U S

STATE	STANDARD	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUN-METAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-SIFIED	TOTAL FEMALES
IDAHO	19.8	12.5		1.1		1.9	1.9			.59	.77		37.5
ILL	28.8	10.2	1/	1/	1/	4	4	1/	1/	.76	1/	1/	46.1
IND	1.6	1.8	1/	1/		7	7	.19		.84	1/	1/	4.6
IOWA	15.5	11.7	1/	.14		.64	.64		.01	2.9	1/	1/	38.1
MASS	1.5	1.8	1/	1/		2.6	2.6	1/	1/	2.8	1.9		5
MICH	16	5.1	1/	1/		6.5	6.5	.52	3.3	7.8	2	1/	29
MINN	47.5	33.6	1/	1.6	.54	2.8	2.8	1/	1/	3.5	1/	1/	104
N Y 2/	10.8	8.7	1/	.53	1.1	3	3	1/	1/	1.8	1/	1/	29.3
OHIO	16.7	12.3	1/	.65	4.1	10.1	10.1	1/	1/	6.3	.03		35.8
OREG	14.8	5.2	1/	4.4	4.1	2.5	2.5	1/	1/	5.9			35.6
PA	9.5	8.7	1/	3.4	.52	9.7	9.7	1/	1/	10.3	.07		40.3
S DAK	11.3	1.7	1/			2.5	2.5	1/	1/	1.6	.05		16.9
UTAH	64	23.9	1/	4.9	1/	19	19	1/	1/	25.8	.8		113
WASH	28	6.5	1/	2.3	4.1	.75	.75	1/	1/	1.6	.05		45.7
WIS 2/	103	73	1/	4.5	1.0	.22	.22	2.4	8.9	16.9	1.4		257
ALL OTH STS	18.8	16.3	.11	.72	.01	.16	.16	.23	1.4	.82	3.4	.03	49
U S	408	233	2.4	24.7	12.7	2.8	77.9	5.3	19.4	72	25.5	3.2	887

MINK PRODUCTION, JULY 1978

1/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS. 2/ THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS WERE MADE FOR MINK FEMALES BRED TO PRODUCE KITS IN 1976: N Y, PINK, 600; TOTAL, 28,000. U S, PINK, 18,000, TOTAL, 847,000. WIS, STANDARD, 100,000; PASTEL, 64,000; VIOLET TYPE, 27,300; WHITE, 18,100; TOTAL, 24,000. U S, STANDARD, 381,000; PASTEL, 270,000; VIOLET TYPE, 77,100; WHITE, 27,100; TOTAL, 84,000.

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

STATE	STANDARD	PASTEL	PALE BROWN	SAPPHIRE	GUN-METAL	PLATINUM	PEARL	LAVENDER-HOPE	PINK	VIOLET TYPE	WHITE	MISC & UNCLAS-SIFIED	TOTAL FEMALES
IDAHO	20.6	13.3	.2	1.5		2.2	2.2			.53	.71		39
ILL	27.8	9.5	1/	1/	1.3	2.9	2.9		1/	.91	1/	1/	43.7
IND	1.9	1.8	1/	1/		5.7	5.7	.01	1/	1.9	1/	1/	4.8
IOWA	15.2	7.5	1/	.26		.26	.26			2.9	.09	1/	32.6
MASS	7/	2.7	1/	1/		2.3	2.3	1/	1/	6.1			5
MICH	16.0	8.1	1/	1.5	.51	6.4	6.4	.51	4.5	6.1	1.9		32
MINN	58.9	36.3	1/	1.1	1.3	2.0	2.0	1/	1/	2.9	1.5	1/	116
N Y	14.8	7.2	1/	1.0	4.6	2.8	2.8	1/	1/	1.8	1/	1/	31.1
OHIO	16.7	12.6	1/	.36	4.6	7.5	7.5	1/	1/	5.3	1/	.06	35.4
OREG	18.4	4.0	1/	5.6	.41	1.2	1.2	1/	1/	4.7	1/		38.7
PA	10.3	9.6	1/	5.0		8.5	8.5	1/	1/	9.9	1/		40.8
S DAK	12.8	1.9	1/	1/		2.8	2.8	1/	1/	2.1	.06		16.6
UTAH	73.6	28.7	1/	7.3	1/	15.9	15.9	1/	1/	21.4	.21		129
WASH	30.7	5.6	1/	2.4	4.1	.28	.28	.3	8.1	2.1	.88		46.8
WIS	117.9	72.6	.45	6.8	1.3	.12	.12	2.1	16.4	16.4	.71		264
ALL OTH STS	20.7	15.2	.11	.81	.04	.24	.24	.1	1.1	1.6	3.5	.23	49
U S	458	237	2.7	33.9	13.6	1.3	64.0	4.1	18.4	63	26.0	3.1	925

CROP REPORTING BOARD, ESCS, USDA

1/ INCLUDED IN TOTAL TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.