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Pelt Production Up 1 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 2004 totaled 2.56 million pelts, up 1 percent from 2003. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 768,000 pelts. Utah the second largest producing state, produced 580,000 pelts.

By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total U.S. production in 2004 follows: Black at 45.1 percent, Mahogany at 22.2 percent, Blue Iris at 11.7 percent, Demi/Wild at 6.1 percent, Sapphire at 5.3 percent, and White at 4.1 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 5.5 percent.

Value of Pelt Production Up 21 Percent

Mink pelts produced during the 2004 crop year were valued at 124 million dollars, up 21 percent from \$102 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2004 crop year was \$48.40, up from \$40.10 in 2003.

Females Bred Up 6 Percent

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2005 totaled 642,100, up 6 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2005 by color class are: Black at 46.8 percent, Mahogany at 20.0 percent, Blue Iris at 10.7 percent, Demi/Wild at 5.9 percent, Sapphire at 5.9 percent and white at 4.2 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 6.5 percent.

Number of Mink Farms Down 3 Percent

There were 296 mink farms producing pelts in 2004, down 3 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 80 farms, Wisconsin with 67 farms and Minnesota with 28.

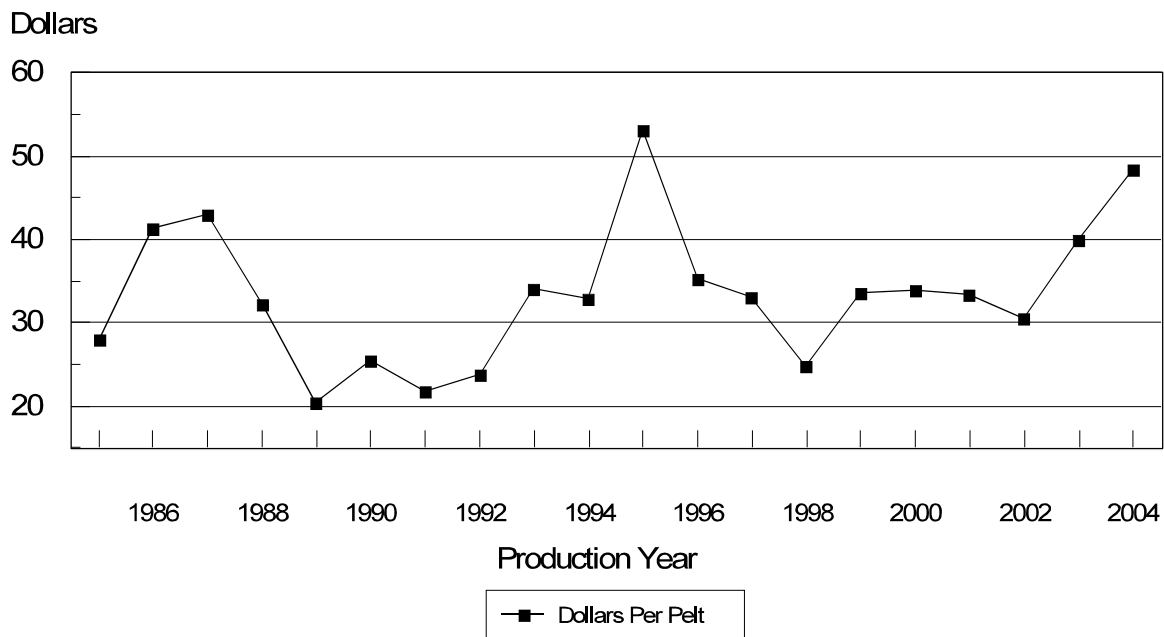
Fox

There were 17 mink farms which also raised fox in 2004, down from 18 the previous year.

Mink Pelts Produced 1985-2004



Mink Pelt Average Price 1985-2004



**Mink: Pelts Produced and Females Bred, by Color Class,
United States, 2003-2005**

Color Class	Pelts Produced		Females Bred to Produce Kits	
	2003	2004	2004	2005
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Black	1,025.7	1,155.8	277.5	300.7
Demi-Wild	164.4	156.0	34.8	38.0
Pastel	29.5	39.1	9.3	14.3
Sapphire	146.7	136.1	30.2	37.9
Blue Iris	409.5	299.6	71.7	68.7
Mahogany	548.3	568.3	127.1	128.5
Pearl	74.9	65.5	16.8	16.9
Lavender	4.2	4.6	1.5	1.6
Violet	18.7	22.3	6.1	6.6
White	117.0	105.2	26.3	26.9
Misc. & Unclassified	10.1	10.6	3.5	2.0
US ¹	2,549.0	2,563.1	604.8	642.1

**Mink: Farms, Pelts Produced, Price, and Value,
United States, 1985-04**

Year	Mink Farms	Pelts Produced	Average Marketing Price	Value of Mink Pelts
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Million Dollars</i>
1985	1,042	4,171	28.00	116.8
1986	989	4,096	41.30	170.0
1987	1,027	4,122	43.00	177.2
1988	1,027	4,453	32.30	143.8
1989	940	4,604	20.40	93.9
1990	771	3,366	25.50	85.8
1991	683	3,268	21.90	71.6
1992	571	2,900	23.80	69.0
1993	523	2,620	34.10	89.3
1994	484	2,623	33.00	86.6
1995	478	2,803	53.10	148.8
1996	449	2,783	35.30	98.2
1997	452	2,993	33.10	99.1
1998	438	2,938	24.80	72.9
1999	398	2,813	33.70	94.8
2000	350	2,666	34.00	90.6
2001	329	2,565	33.50	85.9
2002	324	2,607	30.60	79.8
2003	*305	2,549	40.10	102.2
2004	296	2,563	48.40	124.0

¹ Sum of color class may not add to U.S. total due to rounding.

* Revised

**Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 2003**

States	Black	Demi-Wild	Pastel	Sap-phire	Blue Iris	Mahog- any	Pearl
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	60,200			22,600	13,400	49,600	
IL	41,800						
IA	65,100				10,200	2,100	
MI							
MN	37,700	49,600	1,100	2,900	48,900	84,000	
OH	32,100			9,400		9,800	
OR	96,500			25,000	131,000	18,400	
PA	6,400			10,500	17,700		
SD							
UT	235,000			26,500	23,000	226,000	
WA	28,800	13,400			52,400		
WI	381,000		6,200	35,300	97,700	95,000	
Oth Sts ¹	41,100	101,400	22,200	14,500	15,200	63,400	74,900
	1,025,700	164,400	29,500	146,700	409,500	548,300	74,900
	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclass- ified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	
ID					168,700	24	
IL					52,300	7	
IA			16,700		129,100	15	
MI					51,000	8	
MN		700	16,300		245,200	31	
OH					63,000	9	
OR					273,000	23	
PA					44,600	9	
SD					78,700	3	
UT					590,000	80	
WA					94,600	10	
WI			63,400	2,100	706,300	69	
Oth Sts ¹	4,200	18,000	20,600	8,000	52,500	17	
US ²	4,200	18,700	117,000	10,100	2,549,000	305	

¹ "Other States" include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

² New color classes started in 2002. Reference page 8.

**Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 2004**

States	Black	Demi-Wild	Pastel	Sap-phire	Blue Iris	Mahog-any	Pearl
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	62,200			16,800	12,400	62,300	
IL	46,900						
IA	74,900				7,300		
MI							
MN	37,700	48,900		2,500	31,000	81,900	
OH	40,900			6,300		18,000	
OR	102,200			13,700	97,500	32,000	
PA	18,200			11,700	13,000		
SD							
UT	245,000	37,000			7,500	210,000	
WA	42,000				40,000		
WI	450,000		7,000	55,300	81,800	94,000	
Oth Sts ¹	35,800	70,100	32,100	29,800	9,100	70,100	65,500
US ²	1,155,800	156,000	39,100	136,100	299,600	568,300	65,500
	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclas-sified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	
ID					174,000	24	
IL					59,700	7	
IA					132,700	15	
MI					50,500	7	
MN		700	13,900		220,600	28	
OH					70,400	9	
OR					247,100	22	
PA					55,900	9	
SD					67,200	3	
UT			500		580,000	80	
WA					97,500	10	
WI			52,600		768,000	67	
Oth Sts ¹	4,600	21,600	38,200	10,600	39,500	15	
US ²	4,600	22,300	105,200	10,600	2,563,100	296	

¹ "Other States" include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

² New color classes started in 2002. Reference page 8.

**Female Mink Bred to Produced Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 2004**

States	Black	Demi-Wild	Pastel	Sap-phire	Blue Iris	Mahog-any
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	15,600			3,400	2,800	14,600
IL	11,900					
IA	18,900				2,600	600
MI						
MN	9,500	10,600	400	700	7,400	18,400
OH	9,400			2,000		3,600
OR	25,600			3,100	17,900	6,200
PA	5,200			3,200	2,900	
SD						
UT	61,000			5,000	5,400	51,900
WA	10,500	2,900			10,900	
WI	100,200		2,000	8,400	18,500	19,300
Oth Sts ¹	9,700	21,300	6,900	4,400	3,300	12,500
US ²	277,500	34,800	9,300	30,200	71,700	127,100
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclass-ified	Total
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						41,400
IL						14,800
IA				3,500		34,000
MI						11,700
MN				3,100		51,300
OH						18,400
OR						53,300
PA						14,900
SD						17,800
UT						143,000
WA						24,300
WI						168,900
Oth Sts ¹	16,800	1,500	6,100	19,700	3,500	11,000
US ²	16,800	1,500	6,100	26,300	3,500	604,800

¹ "Other States" include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

² New color classes started for female mink bred in 2003. Reference page 8.

**Female Mink Bred to Produced Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 2005**

States	Black	Demi-Wild	Pastel	Sap-phire	Blue Iris	Mahog-any
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID	17,500			3,800	2,500	15,600
IL	13,100					
IA	21,100				2,300	
MI						
MN	10,200	10,200		700	6,700	16,600
OH	10,200			1,400		5,300
OR	25,000			2,500	19,600	8,900
PA	4,900			3,400	3,300	
SD						
UT	63,100	10,400			2,800	50,800
WA	12,400				9,300	
WI	112,300		3,700	14,800	19,700	19,100
Oth Sts ¹	10,900	17,400	10,600	11,300	2,500	12,200
US ²	300,700	38,000	14,300	37,900	68,700	128,500
	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Misc. & Unclass-ified	Total
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
ID						44,900
IL						16,000
IA						35,400
MI						11,500
MN				4,300		49,900
OH						18,600
OR						56,500
PA						15,000
SD						17,100
UT						150,000
WA						25,100
WI		300		13,700	600	190,400
Oth Sts ¹	16,900	1,300	6,600	8,900	1,400	11,700
US ²	16,900	1,600	6,600	26,900	2,000	642,100

¹ "Other States" include some pelts from the above listed States which were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Published color classes may not add to the State total.

² New color classes started for female mink bred in 2003. Reference page 8.

Mink Color Classes, beginning with pelt production in 2002 and female mink bred in 2003:

Black - formerly Standard, includes Pure Dark.

Demi/Wild - includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff.

Pastel - includes Dawn, Orchid.

Sapphire - includes Pale Brown.

Blue Iris - formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.

Mahogany

Pearl

Lavender - formerly Lavender Hope.

Violet - includes Violet type, Cameo, Winterblue, Glacial.

White

Miscellaneous - Includes Pink.

Survey Procedures: Data for mink production are collected from all known producers. State Statistical Offices 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 that do not respond by mail are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person. Care is exercised to ensure that all operations are accounted for. Major auction houses which handle producer sales provide mink pelt price data in July. Prices are collected at the point of first sale by producers, before marketing costs are deducted.

Reliability: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. 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 inaccessible operations are accounted for through the expansion of the reported data or by imputation based on individual historical data. Survey data are subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by carefully reviewing all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

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