

Mink



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Washington, D.C.

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Pelt Production Down 1 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 1994 totaled 2.5 million pelts, down 1 percent from 1993. Wisconsin, the major mink producing State, produced 611,000 pelts.

By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total U.S. production follows: Standard - 46.1 percent; Mahogany - 18.9 percent; Ranch Wild - 11.0 percent; Gunmetal - 9.7 percent; Demi-buff - 6.9 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 7.4 percent.

Value of Pelt Production Down 4 Percent

Mink pelts produced during the 1994 crop year were valued at \$82.6 million dollars, down 4 percent from \$86.2 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 1994 crop year was \$33.00, compared with \$34.10 in 1993.

Females Bred Down 1 Percent

Female mink bred to produce kits in 1995 totaled 708,300, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 1995 by color class are: Standard - 49.6 percent; Mahogany - 17.5 percent; Gunmetal - 10.6 percent; Ranch Wild - 8.2 percent; Demi-buff - 5.9 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 8.2 percent.

Number Of Mink Farms Down 8 Percent

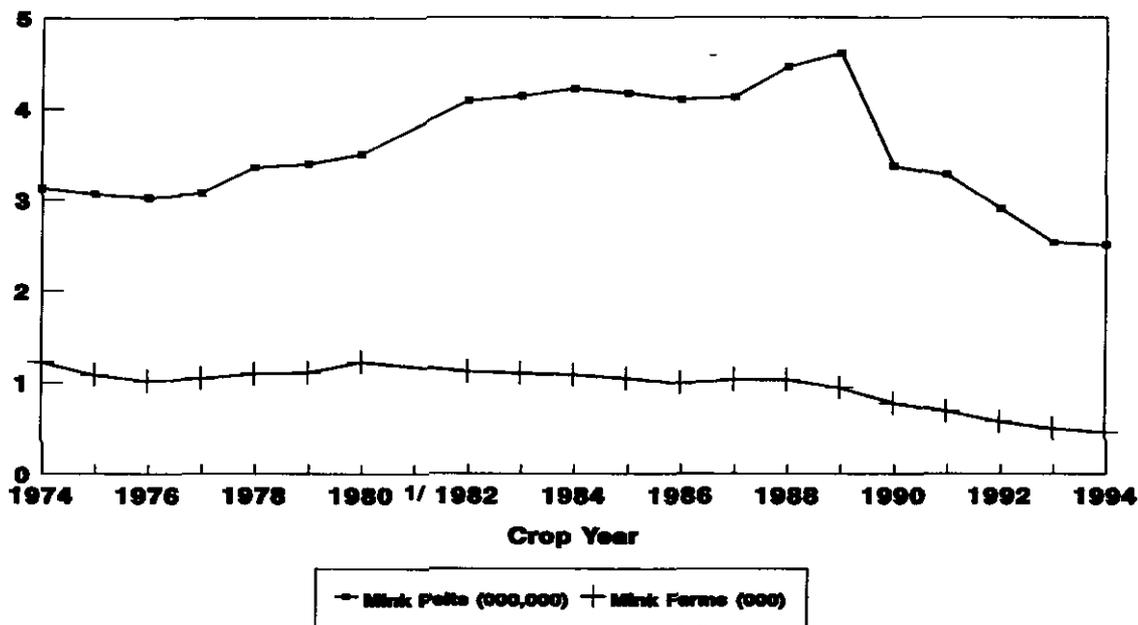
There were 457 mink farms producing pelts in 1994, down 8 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 130 farms, Wisconsin with 78 farms, and Minnesota with 53.

Fox

There were 47 mink farms which also raised fox in 1994, compared to 58 for the previous year.

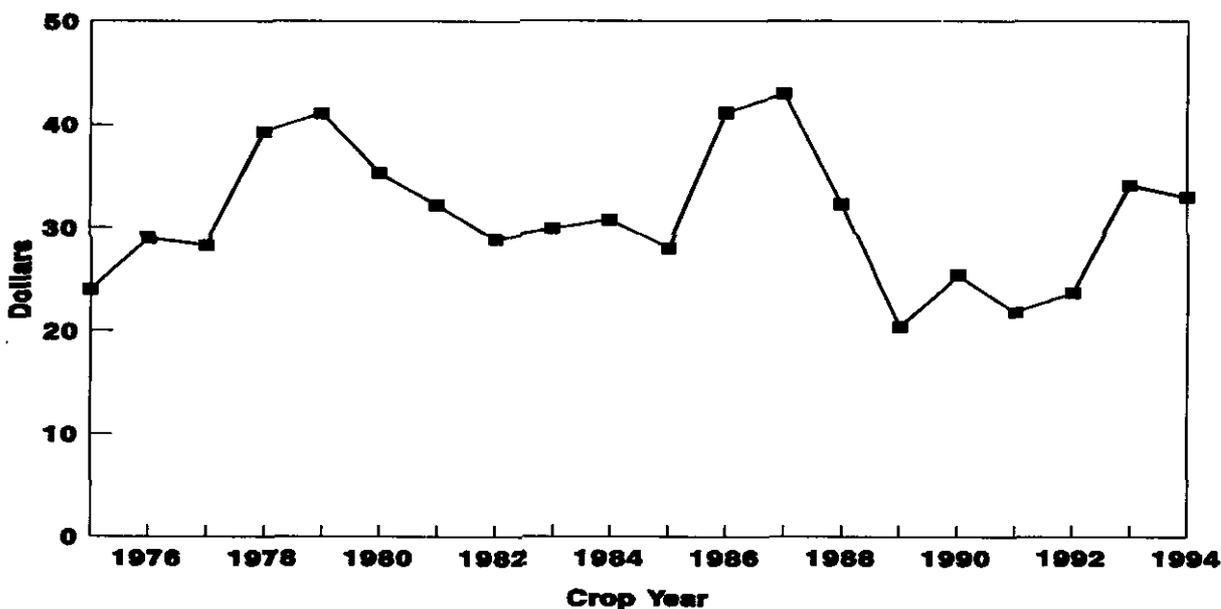
For information call Tom Kruchten at (202) 690-4870. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Mink Pelts and Number of Farms 1974-1994



1/Data Not Available

Mink Pelt Average Price 1975-1994



Mink: Pelts Produced and Females Bred, By Color Class,
United States, 1993-1995 1/

Color Class	Pelts Produced		Females Bred To Produce Kits		
	1993 2/:	1994	1993	1994 2/:	1995
			1,000		
Standard	1,144	1,153	359.3	365.3	351.5
Ranch Wild	348	276	89.8	84.4	57.8
Demi-buff	215	174	45.1	43.4	41.8
Pastel	35	32	11.4	9.7	10.0
Pale Brown	1	3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Sapphire	71	61	19.4	20.7	21.9
Gunmetal	230	243	64.7	60.9	75.0
Mahogany	380	473	90.8	102.8	123.6
Pearl	15	17	4.7	5.5	5.5
Lavender-hope	7	6	1.7	1.9	2.7
Pink	12	17	4.6	4.3	4.9
Violet-type	26	14	6.0	6.3	3.9
White	42	31	8.9	7.9	8.7
Misc. & Unclassified	1	2	0.1	--	0.9
US	2,527	2,502	706.7	713.2	708.3

Mink: Farms, Pelts Produced, Price, and Value,
United States, 1974-94

Year	Mink Farms	Pelts Produced	Average Marketing Price 3/	Value of Mink Pelts 3/
	Number	1,000	Dollars	Million Dollars
1974	1,221	3,128		
1975	1,084	3,067	24.10	73.9
1976	1,015	3,026	29.00	87.8
1977	1,040	3,076	28.30	87.1
1978	1,095	3,358	39.30	132.0
1979	1,105	3,394	41.10	139.5
1980	1,122	3,501	35.30	123.6
1981	4/	4/	32.20	4/
1982	1,116	4,085	28.90	118.1
1983	1,098	4,137	29.90	123.7
1984	1,084	4,220	30.80	130.0
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 2/	498	2,527	34.10	86.2
1994 5/	457	2,502	33.00	82.6

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

2/ Revised based on additional information.

3/ Data not available prior to 1975.

4/ Data not available for 1981.

5/ Data are Preliminary.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 1993

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff 1/	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany any
Number of Pelts								
ID	63,400	32,500	36,500	1,400		4,000	*	20,500
IL	36,100						*	*
IA	33,700	4,300	5,900	8,700		3,000	3,700	7,900
MI	33,500	*	1,800	1,600		*	500	8,400
MN	104,100	125,300	11,500	3,100		*	21,600	27,200
NY	17,800	*	1,800	2,400		*	2,800	8,400
OH	36,700	*	*	*		1,400	*	4,600
OR	65,000	*	*	*		9,200	91,000	11,000
PA	*		*	*		8,000	18,800	5,000
SD	*	32,700	*	*				*
UT	310,000	30,000	99,000	1,000		24,000	11,000	121,000
WA	62,700	*	*	*			22,200	
WI	314,300	25,300	15,600	10,200		15,000	36,400	108,100
Oth Sts	66,300	98,100	43,200	6,600	500	6,200	22,100	58,300
US	1,143,600	348,200	215,300	35,000	500	70,800	230,100	380,400
Number of Pelts								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
ID	*	*					169,000	24
IL					*	*	41,800	11
IA	4,500			8,500	*	*	81,000	21
MI	2,900			3,300	3,400		55,800	16
MN	*		*	*	2,200		302,200	59
NY	600		2,500	900	*		38,300	12
OH			*	*	*		57,800	12
OR			*	2,000			189,000	27
PA	*		*	*	*		61,400	17
SD	*						68,400	6
UT	2,000			1,000		1,000	600,000	140
WA							102,700	24
WI	1,100	6,000	2,800	6,800	29,400		571,000	87
Oth Sts	3,500	1,100	6,300	3,900	7,000	400	188,600	42
US	14,600	7,100	11,600	26,400	42,000	1,400	2,527,000	498

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others. * Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 1994

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff 1/	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number of Pelts								
ID	74,000	28,600	*	*		*		44,400
IL	44,200		*					*
IA	36,700	2,800	4,500	*		2,800	10,100	11,500
MI	31,000		3,200	1,900		*	700	6,500
MN	82,500	107,500	*	*		*	21,500	41,000
NY	20,300	*	700	1,900		*	500	13,800
OH	*	6,500				3,000	*	*
OR	69,000	8,700	*	1,000		9,000	90,000	8,000
PA	24,900		*	*	*	8,800	20,200	4,200
SD	8,200	26,500	*	*				24,200
UT	275,000	20,000	66,000	1,000		14,000	17,000	133,000
WA	66,000	*	*				22,500	
WI	343,100	20,200	8,600	11,200		14,300	52,400	127,000
Oth Sts	78,300	54,800	90,600	15,400	2,600	9,000	8,500	59,000
US	1,153,200	275,600	173,600	32,400	2,600	60,900	243,400	472,600

	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
Number of Pelts								
ID	1,300	*					186,500	23
IL	*				*		50,300	10
IA	*			2,900	*		83,100	19
MI	*			2,200	*		52,500	12
MN	*		*	*	2,500		283,500	53
NY	1,800		2,200	1,100			45,600	12
OH			200				60,500	12
OR			*	*			189,000	27
PA	*		*	*	*	*	68,800	17
SD	*						71,300	4
UT	1,000			1,000		2,000	530,000	130
WA							108,700	23
WI	1,500	3,400	8,100	2,800	18,300	100	611,000	78
Oth Sts	11,800	2,500	6,200	4,400	10,400	200	161,400	37
US	17,400	5,900	16,700	14,400	31,200	2,300	2,502,200	457

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others. * Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class.
Major States and United States, 1994

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-buff 1/	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number								
ID	19,700	6,000	6,100	100		900		10,700
IL	13,300		*					*
IA	12,400	1,100	1,000	2,600		1,100	1,800	2,900
MI	10,300		800	300		*	400	1,400
MN	31,800	23,900	*	*		*	5,400	7,100
NY	8,500	*	500	900		*	700	1,700
OH	12,100	*	*	*		700	*	1,700
OR	18,000	1,800	*	400		*	23,000	*
PA	6,900		*	*		2,500	5,800	1,700
SD	3,800	9,300	*	*				*
UT	95,000	11,700	18,500	200		6,900	3,000	28,700
WA	19,300	*	*				6,100	
WI	99,900	5,200	4,500	3,100		3,900	12,000	21,000
Oth Sts	14,300	25,400	12,000	2,100	100	4,700	2,700	25,900
US	365,300	84,400	43,400	9,700	100	20,700	60,900	102,800
Number								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total	
ID	*	*					44,700	
IL	*					*	14,700	
IA	1,000		*	2,400	*	*	26,500	
MI	*			700	*	*	15,500	
MN	*		*	*	1,000		74,000	
NY	700		1,100	500			15,000	
OH			*		*		19,000	
OR			*	*			48,700	
PA	*		*	*	*		19,800	
SD	*						19,800	
UT	700			300			165,000	
WA							29,900	
WI	300	1,300	800	900	4,100		157,000	
Oth Sts	2,800	600	2,400	1,500	2,800		63,600	
US	5,500	1,900	4,300	6,300	7,900	--	713,200	

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others. * Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 1995

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff 1/2	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number								
ID	22,000	5,400	*	*		1,400		11,900
IL	12,300							*
IA	12,900	600	1,000	*		1,000	3,900	3,600
MI	7,700		700	400		*	400	2,000
MN	32,500	17,500	*	*		*	5,500	12,000
NY	4,300	*	200	300		*	1,000	1,000
OH	*	1,500		100		*	200	*
OR	18,000	*		*		*	24,000	1,600
PA	6,300	*	*	*		2,500	5,700	1,500
SD	*	*	*	*				5,200
UT	89,800	5,200	14,200	1,400		6,800	7,600	35,600
WA	16,700	*					6,500	*
WI	102,100	5,200	2,200	2,800		4,300	17,100	24,000
Oth Sts	26,900	22,400	23,500	5,000	100	5,900	3,100	25,200
US	351,500	57,800	41,800	10,000	100	21,900	75,000	123,600
Number								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified		Total
ID	800	*		*				52,200
IL	*					*		13,400
IA	*			1,000	*			28,100
MI	*	*		900	*			13,500
MN	*		*		1,500			75,500
NY	100		500					7,600
OH			100	100				20,000
OR								49,000
PA	*		*	*	*			19,000
SD	*							18,500
UT	400			200		800		162,000
WA								25,600
WI	300	1,300	2,300	800	4,500	100		167,000
Oth Sts	3,900	1,400	2,000	900	2,700			56,900
US	5,500	2,700	4,900	3,900	8,700	900		708,300

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others. * Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Survey Procedures: Data for mink production are collected from all known producers. State Statistical Offices use all known sources of producers to ensure that their lists are as complete as possible. Data collection from the approximately 460 producers begins in February. 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. Great care is exercised to ensure that all operations are accounted for. Major auction houses which handle virtually all producer sales provide mink pelt price data in June. 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.

Revision policy: Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. Revisions are the result of late or corrected data and are generally within one-half percent.

The next **"Mink"** report will be released in July 1996.

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