

# Mink



United States  
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Agriculture

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## Pelt Production Up 7 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 1995 totaled 2.69 million pelts, up 7 percent from 1994. Wisconsin, the major mink producing State, produced 676,000 pelts.

By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total U.S. production follows: Standard - 45.3 percent; Mahogany - 21.1 percent; Gunmetal - 10.6 percent; Ranch Wild - 9.8 percent; Demi-buff - 5.9 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 7.3 percent.

## Value of Pelt Production Up 72 Percent

Mink pelts produced during the 1995 crop year were valued at \$143 million dollars, up 72 percent from \$83.3 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 1995 crop year was \$53.10, up \$20.10 from the 1994 price of \$33.00. The 1995 average price is the highest since the current price data series began in 1975.

## Females Bred Down 4 Percent

Female mink bred to produce kits in 1996 totaled 678,300, down 4 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 1996 by color class are: Standard - 49.4 percent; Mahogany - 17.7 percent; Gunmetal - 13.5 percent; Ranch Wild - 6.5 percent; Demi-buff - 4.1 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 8.8 percent.

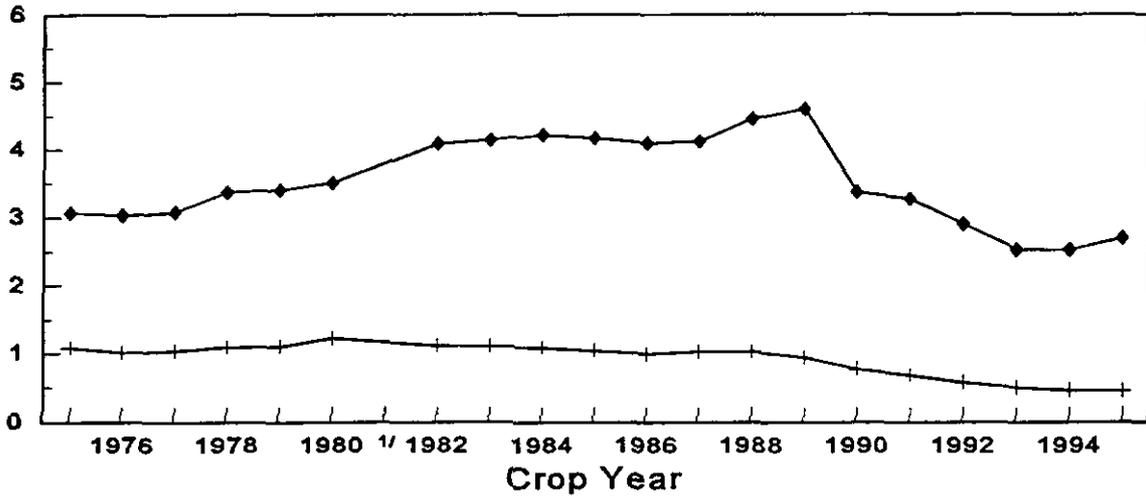
## Number of Mink Farms Down 3 Percent

There were 446 mink farms producing pelts in 1995, down 3 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 130 farms, Wisconsin with 77 farms and Minnesota with 52.

## Fox

There were 49 mink farms which also raised fox in 1995, compared to 47 for the previous year.

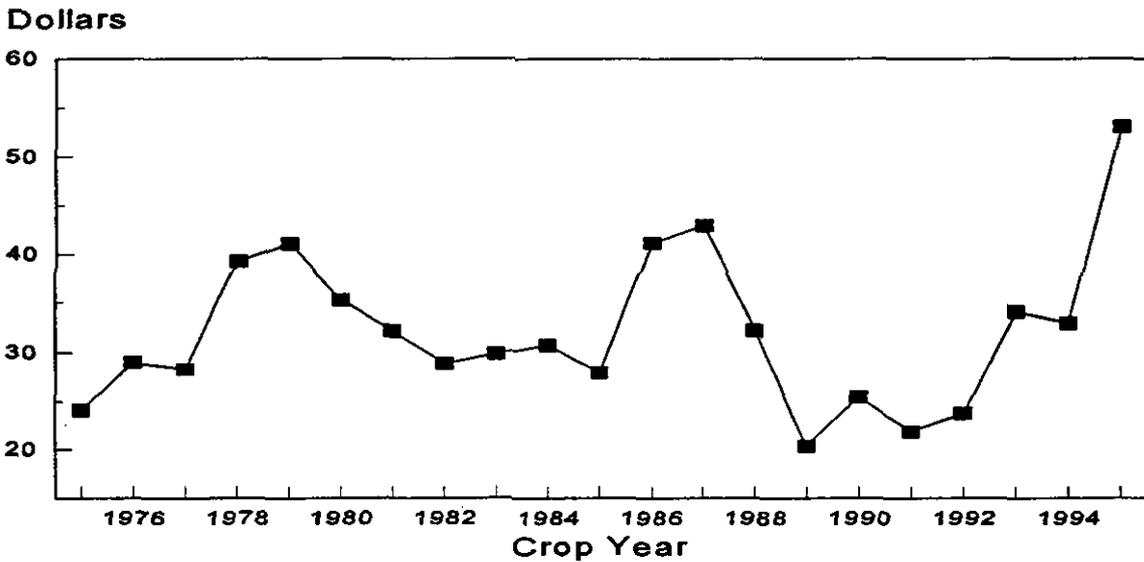
## Mink Pelts and Number of Farms 1975-1995



Mink Pelts (000,000)    Mink Farms (000)  
◆+

1/Data Not Available

## Mink Pelt Average Price 1975-1995



Mink: Pelts Produced and Females Bred, By Color Class,  
United States, 1994-1996 1/

Color Class	Pelts Produced		Females Bred To Produce Kits		
	1994 2/	1995	1994	1995 2/	1996
	Thousands		Thousands		
Standard	1,183	1,218	365.2	351.8	335.0
Ranch Wild	275	265	84.4	57.8	43.7
Demi-buff	174	159	43.4	41.8	27.9
Pastel	32	35	9.7	10.1	9.4
Pale Brown	3	1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Sapphire	61	66	20.7	21.9	25.9
Gunmetal	243	284	60.9	75.0	91.6
Mahogany	472	569	102.8	123.6	120.2
Pearl	17	33	5.5	8.0	7.1
Lavender-hope	6	6	1.9	2.7	2.6
Pink	11	10	4.3	3.0	0.8
Violet-type	14	13	6.3	4.1	4.2
White	31	33	7.9	8.7	7.4
Misc. & Unclassified	2	1	--	0.9	2.2
US Total	2,525	2,692	712.8	709.5	678.3

Mink: Farms, Pelts Produced, Price, and Value,  
United States, 1975-95

Year	Mink Farms	Pelts Produced	Average Marketing Price	Value of Mink Pelts
	Number	1,000	Dollars	Million Dollars
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	3/	3/	32.20	3/
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	498	2,527	34.10	86.2
1994 2/	458	2,525	33.00	83.3
1995 4/	446	2,692	53.10	142.9

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 for 1981.

4/ Data are Preliminary.

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

States:	Stan- dard	Ranch Wild	Demi- Buff 1/	Pas- tel	Pale Brown	Sap- phire	Gun Metal	Mahog- any
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	104,000	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	349,000	20,200	8,600	11,200		14,300	52,400	127,000
Oth Sts	80,300	54,600	90,600	15,400	2,600	9,000	8,500	58,600
US	1,182,600	275,400	173,600	32,400	2,600	60,900	243,400	472,200

	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclass- ified	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		305,000	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	2,200	2,800	18,300	100	611,000	78
Oth Sts	11,800	2,500	6,200	4,400	10,400	200	162,800	31
US	17,400	5,900	10,800	14,400	31,200	2,300	2,525,100	458

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

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,  
Major States and United States, 1995

States:	Stan- dard	Ranch Wild	Demi- Buff 1/2	Pas- tel	Pale Brown	Sap- phire	Gun Metal	Mahog- any
Number of Pelts								
ID	68,400	36,100	*	*		*		40,000
IL	43,500		*					*
IA	42,900	2,100	*	*		*	10,900	*
MI	32,100	*	3,400	1,600		1,500	1,300	6,000
MN	115,000	74,000	3,800	*		*	28,000	71,500
NY	12,700	*		300		*	600	3,100
OH	*	6,000	2,100	100		2,900	800	*
OR	73,000	*		1,100		*	101,000	5,500
PA	*	*	*	*		8,900	21,600	2,500
SD	*	*	*	*				29,000
UT	267,000	13,000	68,000	4,000		16,000	22,000	168,000
WA	67,100	*					25,500	*
WI	377,900	27,700	9,700	10,600		15,200	64,800	140,300
Oth Sts	118,400	106,100	72,000	16,800	500	21,400	7,900	103,100
US	1,218,000	265,000	159,000	34,500	500	65,900	284,400	569,000
Number of Pelts								
	Pearl	Lavender: Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclass- ified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
ID	*	*					170,500	22
IL	*				*		48,400	10
IA	*			3,900	*		91,300	21
MI	2,100		*	1,400	2,500		52,100	12
MN	*		*		3,300		306,000	52
NY	200		1,000	1,000		*	20,800	11
OH				100			68,000	12
OR				*			198,000	27
PA	*	*	*	*	*		63,200	13
SD	*						80,700	4
UT	11,000			1,000			570,000	130
WA							105,000	20
WI	1,400	3,800	2,500	2,100	19,600	400	676,000	77
Oth Sts	18,400	2,100	6,400	3,600	7,300	300	241,700	29
US	33,100	5,900	9,900	13,100	32,700	700	2,691,700	446

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

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

States:	Stan- dard	Ranch Wild	Demi- buff 1/2	Pas- tel	Pale Brown	Sap- phire	Gun Metal	Mahog- any
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	87,300	5,200	14,200	1,400		6,800	7,600	35,600
WA	16,700	*					6,500	*
WI	104,000	5,200	2,200	2,800		4,300	17,100	24,000
Oth Sts	27,800	22,400	23,500	5,100	100	5,900	3,100	25,200
US	351,800	57,800	41,800	10,100	100	21,900	75,000	123,600
Number								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclass- ified		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				*				49,300
PA	*		*	*	*			19,000
SD	*							18,500
UT	2,900			200		800		162,000
WA								25,600
WI	300	1,300	400	800	4,500	100		167,000
Oth Sts	3,900	1,400	2,000	1,100	2,700			57,800
US	8,000	2,700	3,000	4,100	8,700	900		709,500

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

Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits: Number By Color Class,  
Major States and United States, 1996

States:	Stan- dard	Ranch Wild	Demi- Buff 1/2	Pas- tel	Pale Brown	Sap- phire	Gun Metal	Mahog- any
Number								
ID	13,000	7,300	1,700	*		*	*	9,000
IL	13,200							*
IA	13,000	*	*	*		1,400	4,700	3,600
MI	7,700			300		700	600	2,100
MN	31,000	13,000	*	*		*	6,500	15,500
NY	4,100	*		300		*	100	500
OH	*	1,100	800	100		1,300	400	*
OR	18,000	*		400		3,000	27,000	1,100
PA	*	*	*	*		2,700	6,000	1,100
SD	*	*	*	*				6,700
UT	86,400	3,300	14,000	700	100	6,200	8,200	45,900
WA	16,400	*	*			*	8,200	*
WI	99,100	4,900	1,900	2,300	100	5,500	25,300	24,200
Oth Sts	33,100	14,100	9,500	5,300	100	5,100	4,600	10,500
US	335,000	43,700	27,900	9,400	300	25,900	91,600	120,200
Number								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclass- ified		Total
ID	*	*				100		37,400
IL	*					*		14,300
IA	*			1,300	*			29,600
MI	800			500	700			13,400
MN				*	*			68,500
NY						*		7,200
OH				100				20,500
OR				*				51,000
PA	*		*	*	*			19,200
SD	*							22,800
UT	2,000			200				167,000
WA								27,500
WI	200	1,100	400	800	4,500	200		170,500
Oth Sts	4,100	1,500	400	1,300	2,200	1,900		29,400
US	7,100	2,600	800	4,200	7,400	2,200		678,300

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others. \* Included in other States in each respective color class 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 450 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 1997.

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