

Mink



**National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service**

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Washington, D.C.

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Pelt Production Down 11 Percent

Mink pelt production in the United States in 1992 totaled 2.89 million pelts, down 11 percent from 1991. Wisconsin, the major mink producing State, produced 696,500 pelts.

By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of the total U.S. production follows: Standard - 46.0 percent; Mahogany - 15.6 percent; Ranch Wild - 15.2 percent; Gunmetal - 7.6 percent; Demi-buff - 7.5 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 8.1 percent.

Value of Pelt Production Up Slightly

Mink pelts produced during the 1992 crop year were valued at \$71.8 million, up slightly from \$71.6 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 1992 crop year was \$24.80, compared with \$21.90 in 1991.

Females Bred Down 10 Percent

Female mink bred to produce kits in 1993 totaled 705,700, down 10 percent from the previous year. Many mink producers reported the mink price motivated them to "pelt out" and reduce or close out their mink operation.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 1993 by color class are: Standard - 50.9 percent; Ranch Wild - 13.0 percent; Mahogany - 12.7 percent; Gunmetal - 8.9 percent; Demi-buff - 6.2 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 8.3 percent.

Number Of Mink Farms Down 16 Percent

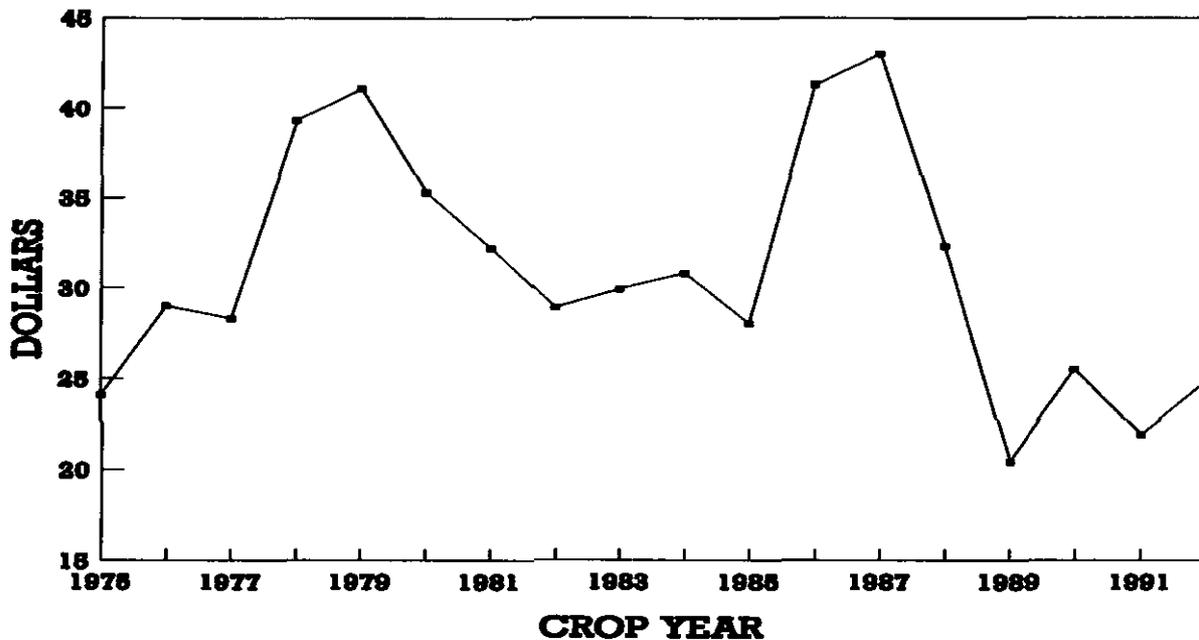
There were 571 mink farms producing pelts in 1992, down 16 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 150 farms, Wisconsin with 114 farms, and Minnesota with 72.

Fox

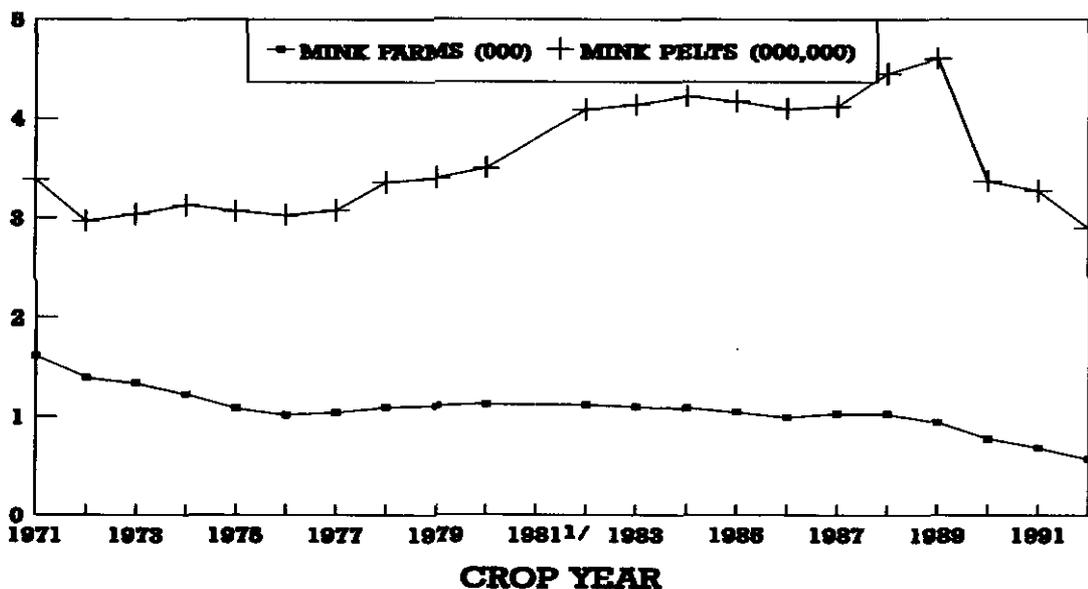
There were 57 mink farms which also raised fox in 1992, down 26 percent from the previous year.

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

MINK PELT AVERAGE PRICE 1975-1992



MINK PELTS AND NUMBER OF FARMS 1971-1992



1/ DATA NOT AVAILABLE

Mink: Pelts Produced and Females Bred by Color Class,
United States, 1991-1993 1/

Color Class	Pelts Produced		Females Bred to Produce Kits		
	1991 <u>2/</u> :	1992	1991	1992 <u>2/</u> :	1993
			1,000		
Standard	1,776	1,331	493.2	390.0	359.5
Ranch Wild	390	441	98.6	114.4	91.5
Demi-buff	264	216	69.0	58.1	43.5
Pastel	41	40	13.7	13.6	11.8
Pale Brown	14	3	0.8	0.2	0.1
Sapphire	96	78	24.5	21.1	19.6
Gunmetal	326	220	66.5	65.4	62.8
Mahogany	215	451	59.0	81.3	89.7
Pearl	18	17	6.3	5.0	5.4
Lavender-hope	8	6	2.6	1.7	1.8
Pink	24	16	7.9	4.5	4.6
Violet-type	53	37	16.8	16.2	6.4
White	44	36	13.3	10.6	8.9
Misc. & Unclassified	1	1	1.5	0.1	0.1
US Total	3,268	2,894	873.8	782.2	705.7

Mink: Farms, Pelts Produced, Price, and Value,
United States, 1971-92

Year	Mink Farms	Pelts Produced	Average Marketing Price <u>3/</u>	Value of Mink Pelts <u>3/</u>
	Number	1,000	Dollars	Million Dollars
1971	1,615	3,380		
1972	1,380	2,965		
1973	1,329	3,037		
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	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	32.20	<u>4/</u>
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 <u>2/</u>	683	3,268	21.90	71.6
1992 <u>5/</u>	571	2,894	24.80	71.8

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/ Preliminary.

Mink: Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms,
Major States and United States, 1991

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number of Pelts								
ID	95,500	34,000	34,900	2,400	1,000	12,500	18,900	21,700
IL	71,200	*	*				*	*
IA	54,200	2,100	12,900	8,600		6,800	6,600	2,700
MI	51,600	200	3,900	1,100		*	1,300	1,600
MN	148,400	146,100	6,500	1,800		*	26,200	*
NY	22,900	*	1,000	900		700	3,500	11,400
OH	63,200	*	*	600	*	1,700		8,300
OR	85,000	*	*	2,000		18,000	88,000	10,000
PA	29,700		*	*		9,500	17,700	9,100
SD	8,500	48,200	*	*				*
UT	426,800	30,200	101,200	1,300	12,100	18,100	71,000	1,300
WA	90,300	5,800	*	*			45,000	
WI	586,400	33,800	25,400	17,900		21,100	38,100	106,000
Oth Sts	42,200	89,100	78,100	4,300	500	7,700	9,500	42,500
US	1,775,900	389,500	263,900	40,900	13,600	96,100	325,800	214,600

	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
Number of Pelts								
ID	3,000	100					224,000	32
IL	*				*	*	80,900	20
IA	2,200			10,500	700	200	107,500	27
MI	3,400			3,800	1,900	*	69,300	22
MN	*		*	*	3,700	*	352,300	89
NY	300		2,400	500	*		45,100	15
OH				*			81,900	15
OR			*	3,500			214,000	32
PA			*	*	*		77,300	24
SD	*						74,000	8
UT				8,000			670,000	160
WA							167,500	36
WI	1,900	8,200	14,300	20,400	27,000		900,500	143
Oth Sts	6,800		7,100	6,300	11,100	600	203,900	60
US	17,600	8,300	23,800	53,000	44,400	800	3,268,200	683

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, 1992

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number of Pelts								
ID	74,900	39,500	12,700	500	3,000	5,500	17,800	35,200
IL	44,900	*	*				*	*
IA	37,000	6,100	17,400	9,700		5,800	6,300	3,300
MI	33,600	*	*	800		100	*	6,200
MN	121,000	143,100	15,200	3,900		*	19,700	15,600
NY	13,500	*	600	1,700		*	2,200	15,400
OH	40,000	*	*	*		*		13,600
OR	73,000	*	*	1,900		16,000	77,000	12,000
PA	24,500		3,900	*		9,400	19,900	8,600
SD	*	45,500		2,600				15,100
UT	358,200	24,100	107,300	1,000		20,200	11,700	120,300
WA	86,700	*	*	*			23,300	
WI	378,200	37,800	25,000	11,800		12,600	32,700	148,700
Oth Sts	45,900	145,100	33,500	6,300	100	8,200	9,400	56,900
US	1,331,400	441,200	215,600	40,200	3,100	77,800	220,000	450,900
Number of Pelts								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total Pelts	Number of Farms
ID	300	500	100				190,000	27
IL	*				*		56,700	15
IA	4,500			10,400	500		101,000	25
MI	*			*	*		53,300	15
MN	*		*	*	2,300		332,900	72
NY	200		1,800	700	*		38,000	12
OH				*			64,500	11
OR			*	*			191,900	29
PA	*		1,100	*	*		73,200	21
SD	*						76,000	7
UT	2,000			5,200		1,000	651,000	150
WA							136,000	28
WI	2,600	5,000	5,700	10,500	25,800	100	696,500	114
Oth Sts	7,200		7,300	10,600	7,800	100	232,500	45
US	16,800	5,500	16,000	37,400	36,400	1,200	2,893,500	571

1/ Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others.

* Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Females Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 1992

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-buff ^{1/}	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number								
ID	21,200	10,000	7,700	200		2,800	5,000	5,800
IL	15,900	*	*				*	*
IA	9,700	1,100	4,900	2,800		1,400	2,500	200
MI	12,200	100	1,500	300		*	1,000	500
MN	33,100	36,900	1,400	*		*	6,100	3,000
NY	5,200	*	100	900		200	1,100	6,100
OH	12,100	*	*	*	*	500		2,800
OR	20,400	*	*	700		4,000	20,500	2,900
PA	7,200		*	*		2,200	5,700	2,200
SD	2,800	12,200	*	*				*
UT	109,100	8,800	25,400	500		2,800	4,200	19,800
WA	20,800	*	*	*			6,200	
WI	106,000	9,400	6,400	5,300		4,900	10,300	23,900
Oth Sts	14,300	35,900	10,700	2,900	200	2,300	2,800	14,100
US	390,000	114,400	58,100	13,600	200	21,100	65,400	81,300

State	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total
Number							
ID	300						53,000
IL	*					*	18,500
IA	1,200			3,400	200	100	27,500
MI	900		*	1,400	400		18,400
MN	*		*	*	1,200		85,600
NY	200		700	300	*		15,300
OH				*			18,000
OR			*	*			52,000
PA	*		*	*	*		20,200
SD	*						18,300
UT	500			3,900			175,000
WA							33,500
WI	600	1,700	1,300	4,300	6,600		180,700
Oth Sts	1,300		2,500	2,900	2,200		66,200
US	5,000	1,700	4,500	16,200	10,600	100	782,200

^{1/} Demi-buff includes crossed of dark brown, violet, pastel, standard, pearl or others.

* Included in other States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Females Bred to Produce Kits: Number by Color Class,
Major States and United States, 1993

State	Standard	Ranch Wild	Demi-Buff <u>1/</u>	Pastel	Pale Brown	Sapphire	Gun Metal	Mahogany
Number								
ID	20,500	9,000	3,200	300		1,300	2,800	12,300
IL	12,800							*
IA	10,200	1,900	1,300	2,800		1,100	3,100	1,800
MI	8,700	*	700	400		100	*	1,900
MN	33,000	30,500	1,700	*		*	6,500	4,600
NY	7,800	*	100	1,000		*	900	1,300
OH	11,900	*	*	*		*		2,500
OR	18,000	*	*	700		3,700	22,000	*
PA	6,200		*	*		2,100	5,300	2,200
SD	*	9,100		*				4,300
UT	106,100	6,000	23,800	300		5,300	3,400	24,300
WA	15,800	*	*	*			5,900	
WI	95,000	7,600	5,000	3,700		3,200	10,000	16,300
Oth Sts	13,500	27,400	7,700	2,600	100	2,800	2,900	18,200
US	359,500	91,500	43,500	11,800	100	19,600	62,800	89,700
Number								
	Pearl	Lavender Hope	Pink	Violet Type	White	Misc. & Unclassified	Total	
ID	700	200	100				50,400	
IL	*					*	14,300	
IA	1,400			700	200		24,500	
MI	900			*	*		15,300	
MN	*		*		1,000		80,300	
NY	600		1,200	500			14,100	
OH			*	*			17,400	
OR			*	*			48,900	
PA	*		*	*	*		18,700	
SD	*						18,500	
UT	300			500			170,000	
WA							26,700	
WI	400	1,600	900	1,800	5,400	100	151,000	
Oth Sts	1,100		2,400	2,900	2,300		55,600	
US	5,400	1,800	4,600	6,400	8,900	100	705,700	

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 1,000 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 1994.

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