

honey production



September 1, 1972

Release:
September 26, 1972
3:00 P. M. EDT

Commercial apiaries (300 or more colonies) in 20 major honey producing States expect to produce 106,050,000 pounds of honey in 1972, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is an increase of 13 percent from the 93,982,000 pounds of honey produced by commercial apiaries in 1971. Commercial apiaries had 1,563,000 colonies compared with 1,558,000 a year ago. The average yield is expected to average 68.0 pounds per colony, compared with 60.0 pounds in 1971.

California, the largest producing State, expects to produce 14,720,000 pounds of honey, about 14 percent of the 20 State total. The highest yields, however, are expected in North Dakota. An average of 124 pounds per colony is expected from the 58,000 commercial colonies in North Dakota.

In a number of States low temperatures and excessive rains in June and July curtailed the honey flow. Late summer rains in North and South Dakota, however, brought on sunflowers and other late blossoms and made possible an excellent crop.

Colonies of bees and commercial honey production in 20
major producing States 1971-72 ^{1/}

State	Colonies of bees			Yield per colony		Honey production		
	1971	1972	1972 as % of 1971	1971	1972	1971	1972	1972 as % of 1971
	1,000 colonies		Percent	Pounds		1,000 pounds		Percent
New York	51	52	102	70	42	3,570	2,184	61
Illinois	12	11	92	80	70	960	770	80
Michigan	61	61	100	70	55	4,270	3,355	79
Wisconsin	58	55	95	104	72	6,032	3,960	66
Minnesota	79	90	114	84	98	6,636	8,820	133
Iowa	42	41	98	95	85	3,990	3,485	87
North Dakota	55	58	105	77	124	4,235	7,192	170
South Dakota	106	115	108	97	120	10,282	13,800	134
Nebraska	102	104	102	56	80	5,712	8,320	146
North Carolina	6	6	100	79	45	474	270	57
Georgia	67	67	100	55	30	3,685	2,010	55
Florida	130	128	98	80	92	10,400	11,776	113
Texas	66	70	106	52	92	3,432	6,440	188
Montana	72	75	104	55	97	3,960	7,275	184
Idaho	91	86	95	39	49	3,549	4,214	119
Colorado	37	32	86	55	68	2,035	2,176	107
Arizona	41	43	105	60	46	2,460	1,978	80
Washington	70	76	109	26	30	1,820	2,280	125
Oregon	28	25	89	40	41	1,120	1,025	92
California	384	368	96	40	40	15,360	14,720	96
20 States	1,558	1,563	100	60.0	68.0	93,982	106,050	113

^{1/} Colonies and honey production from apiaries with 300 or more colonies.