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## United States Honey Production Down 8 Percent

Honey production in 2002 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 171 million pounds, down 8 percent from 2001. There were 2.52 million colonies producing honey in 2002, up 1 percent from 2001. Yield per colony averaged 67.8 pounds, down 8 percent from the 74.0 pounds in 2001. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 39.0 million pounds on December 15, 2002, down 40 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

## Honey Prices Record High

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2002 to 128.6 cents, up 83 percent from 70.4 cents in 2001. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op and private channels. U.S. honey prices for each color class are derived by weighing quantities sold for each marketing channel at the U.S. level. Honey prices for 2002 were higher than the previous year for all color classes. Some 2001 crop honey was sold at the higher prices in 2002, which caused some revisions to the 2001 crop prices.

**Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2001-02**

| Color Class                          | Price                  |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                                      | Co-op and Private      |                        | Retail                 |                        | All                    |                        |
|                                      | 2001                   | 2002                   | 2001                   | 2002                   | 2001                   | 2002                   |
|                                      | <i>Cents per Pound</i> |
| Water White,<br>Extra White, White   | 68.7                   | 136.1                  | 133.6                  | 146.3                  | 70.6                   | 136.4                  |
| Extra Light Amber                    | 66.9                   | 123.0                  | 132.0                  | 131.0                  | 70.5                   | 123.5                  |
| Light Amber,<br>Amber, Dark Amber    | 62.3                   | 115.1                  | 150.8                  | 149.9                  | 69.5                   | 118.7                  |
| All Other Honey,<br>Area Specialties | 64.5                   | 111.1                  | 160.4                  | 187.9                  | 80.9                   | 120.6                  |
| All Honey                            | 66.6                   | 127.5                  | 142.0                  | 145.4                  | 70.4                   | 128.6                  |

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,  
and Value by State and United States, 2001<sup>1</sup>**

| State                     | Honey<br>Producing<br>Colonies | Yield<br>per<br>Colony | Production          | Stocks<br>Dec 15 <sup>2</sup> | Average<br>Price per<br>Pound <sup>3</sup> | Value<br>of<br>Production |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
|                           | <i>1,000</i>                   | <i>Pounds</i>          | <i>1,000 Pounds</i> | <i>1,000 Pounds</i>           | <i>Cents</i>                               | <i>1,000 Dollars</i>      |
| AL                        | 14                             | 73                     | 1,022               | 235                           | 72   | 736                       |
| AZ                        | 43                             | 59                     | 2,537               | 1,142                         | 72   | 1,827                     |
| AR                        | 58                             | 98                     | 5,684               | 1,876                         | 65   | 3,695                     |
| CA                        | 425                            | 65                     | 27,625              | 7,735                         | 69   | 19,061                    |
| CO                        | 26                             | 55                     | 1,430               | 529                           | 71   | 1,015                     |
| FL                        | 220                            | 100                    | 22,000              | 3,432                         | 64   | 14,080                    |
| GA                        | 55                             | 57                     | 3,135               | 188                           | 70   | 2,195                     |
| HI                        | 8                              | 87                     | 696                 | 84                            | 87   | 606                       |
| ID                        | 100                            | 46                     | 4,600               | 1,610                         | 67   | 3,082                     |
| IL                        | 6                              | 76                     | 456                 | 251                           | 158  | 720                       |
| IN                        | 7                              | 76                     | 532                 | 186                           | 92   | 489                       |
| IA                        | 33                             | 51                     | 1,683               | 875                           | 75   | 1,262                     |
| KS                        | 13                             | 51                     | 663                 | 530                           | 96   | 636                       |
| KY                        | 3                              | 78                     | 234                 | 94                            | 141  | 330                       |
| LA                        | 45                             | 106                    | 4,770               | 572                           | 60   | 2,862                     |
| ME                        | 11                             | 20                     | 220                 | 106                           | 79   | 174                       |
| MD                        | 4                              | 46                     | 184                 | 55                            | 160  | 294                       |
| MI                        | 76                             | 60                     | 4,560               | 2,827                         | 81   | 3,694                     |
| MN                        | 135                            | 81                     | 10,935              | 1,859                         | 65   | 7,108                     |
| MS                        | 17                             | 66                     | 1,122               | 224                           | 89   | 999                       |
| MO                        | 25                             | 61                     | 1,525               | 381                           | 71   | 1,083                     |
| MT                        | 136                            | 102                    | 13,872              | 4,578                         | 67   | 9,294                     |
| NE                        | 43                             | 48                     | 2,064               | 1,115                         | 72   | 1,486                     |
| NV                        | 9                              | 50                     | 450                 | 36                            | 214  | 963                       |
| NJ                        | 11                             | 34                     | 374                 | 71                            | 85   | 318                       |
| NM                        | 10                             | 70                     | 700                 | 350                           | 66   | 462                       |
| NY                        | 53                             | 70                     | 3,710               | 1,781                         | 79   | 2,931                     |
| NC                        | 13                             | 44                     | 572                 | 172                           | 148  | 847                       |
| ND                        | 280                            | 96                     | 26,880              | 9,408                         | 69   | 18,547                    |
| OH                        | 16                             | 81                     | 1,296               | 505                           | 101  | 1,309                     |
| OK                        | 4                              | 47                     | 188                 | 105                           | 143  | 269                       |
| OR                        | 44                             | 44                     | 1,936               | 1,200                         | 74   | 1,433                     |
| PA                        | 17                             | 57                     | 969                 | 514                           | 92   | 891                       |
| SC                        | 7                              | 40                     | 280                 | 67                            | 79   | 221                       |
| SD                        | 235                            | 65                     | 15,275              | 12,220                        | 71   | 10,845                    |
| TN                        | 8                              | 59                     | 472                 | 131                           | 139  | 656                       |
| TX                        | 97                             | 79                     | 7,663               | 1,533                         | 65   | 4,981                     |
| UT                        | 23                             | 38                     | 874                 | 315                           | 65   | 568                       |
| VT                        | 7                              | 81                     | 567                 | 249                           | 92   | 522                       |
| VA                        | 9                              | 52                     | 468                 | 94                            | 126  | 590                       |
| WA                        | 42                             | 52                     | 2,184               | 917                           | 72   | 1,572                     |
| WV                        | 7                              | 65                     | 455                 | 410                           | 142  | 646                       |
| WI                        | 67                             | 81                     | 5,427               | 3,419                         | 82   | 4,450                     |
| WY                        | 38                             | 77                     | 2,926               | 468                           | 65   | 1,902                     |
| Oth<br>Sts <sup>4,5</sup> | 6                              | 41                     | 246                 | 107                           | 233  | 574                       |
| US <sup>5</sup>           | 2,506                          | 74.0                   | 185,461             | 64,556                        | 70.4                                       | 132,225                   |

<sup>1</sup> For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State.

<sup>2</sup> Stocks held by producers. <sup>3</sup> Prices weighted by sales. <sup>4</sup> CT, DE, MA, NH, and RI not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. <sup>5</sup> Total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

**Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price,  
and Value by State and United States, 2002 <sup>1</sup>**

| State                     | Honey<br>Producing<br>Colonies | Yield<br>per<br>Colony | Production          | Stocks<br>Dec 15 <sup>2</sup> | Average<br>Price per<br>Pound <sup>3</sup> | Value<br>of<br>Production |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
|                           | <i>1,000</i>                   | <i>Pounds</i>          | <i>1,000 Pounds</i> | <i>1,000 Pounds</i>           | <i>Cents</i>                               | <i>1,000 Dollars</i>      |
| AL                        | 12                             | 86                     | 1,032               | 103                           | 111  | 1,146                     |
| AZ                        | 38                             | 63                     | 2,394               | 1,197                         | 110  | 2,633                     |
| AR                        | 55                             | 88                     | 4,840               | 1,065                         | 124  | 6,002                     |
| CA                        | 440                            | 53                     | 23,320              | 3,498                         | 129  | 30,083                    |
| CO                        | 24                             | 60                     | 1,440               | 576                           | 122  | 1,757                     |
| FL                        | 220                            | 93                     | 20,460              | 2,026                         | 112  | 22,915                    |
| GA                        | 50                             | 52                     | 2,600               | 52                            | 110  | 2,860                     |
| HI                        | 7                              | 136                    | 952                 | 29                            | 110  | 1,047                     |
| ID                        | 100                            | 57                     | 5,700               | 1,653                         | 135  | 7,695                     |
| IL                        | 9                              | 80                     | 720                 | 130                           | 142  | 1,022                     |
| IN                        | 8                              | 62                     | 496                 | 233                           | 114  | 565                       |
| IA                        | 33                             | 70                     | 2,310               | 901                           | 137  | 3,165                     |
| KS                        | 17                             | 52                     | 884                 | 407                           | 156  | 1,379                     |
| KY                        | 3                              | 54                     | 162                 | 47                            | 165  | 267                       |
| LA                        | 35                             | 124                    | 4,340               | 347                           | 114  | 4,948                     |
| ME                        | 11                             | 41                     | 451                 | 266                           | 121  | 546                       |
| MD                        | 3                              | 46                     | 138                 | 21                            | 175  | 242                       |
| MI                        | 72                             | 77                     | 5,544               | 1,885                         | 134  | 7,429                     |
| MN                        | 117                            | 73                     | 8,541               | 1,110                         | 142  | 12,128                    |
| MS                        | 18                             | 78                     | 1,404               | 281                           | 118  | 1,657                     |
| MO                        | 18                             | 53                     | 954                 | 200                           | 137  | 1,307                     |
| MT                        | 134                            | 63                     | 8,442               | 1,097                         | 135  | 11,397                    |
| NE                        | 43                             | 75                     | 3,225               | 1,161                         | 145  | 4,676                     |
| NV                        | 9                              | 62                     | 558                 | 61                            | 227  | 1,267                     |
| NJ                        | 10                             | 35                     | 350                 | 74                            | 98   | 343                       |
| NM                        | 11                             | 44                     | 484                 | 252                           | 109  | 528                       |
| NY                        | 60                             | 98                     | 5,880               | 2,470                         | 117  | 6,880                     |
| NC                        | 14                             | 51                     | 714                 | 86                            | 136  | 971                       |
| ND                        | 320                            | 75                     | 24,000              | 8,160                         | 142  | 34,080                    |
| OH                        | 16                             | 81                     | 1,296               | 518                           | 140  | 1,814                     |
| OK                        | 3                              | 53                     | 159                 | 51                            | 160  | 254                       |
| OR                        | 39                             | 49                     | 1,911               | 803                           | 128  | 2,446                     |
| PA                        | 18                             | 57                     | 1,026               | 513                           | 130  | 1,334                     |
| SC                        | 5                              | 94                     | 470                 | 14                            | 125  | 588                       |
| SD                        | 225                            | 51                     | 11,475              | 2,410                         | 140  | 16,065                    |
| TN                        | 8                              | 61                     | 488                 | 137                           | 137  | 669                       |
| TX                        | 114                            | 67                     | 7,638               | 985                           | 109  | 8,325                     |
| UT                        | 22                             | 59                     | 1,298               | 208                           | 129  | 1,674                     |
| VT                        | 7                              | 89                     | 623                 | 274                           | 119  | 741                       |
| VA                        | 7                              | 38                     | 266                 | 69                            | 186  | 495                       |
| WA                        | 44                             | 51                     | 2,244               | 494                           | 125  | 2,805                     |
| WV                        | 9                              | 51                     | 459                 | 151                           | 137  | 629                       |
| WI                        | 70                             | 95                     | 6,650               | 2,461                         | 130  | 8,645                     |
| WY                        | 38                             | 63                     | 2,394               | 383                           | 139  | 3,328                     |
| Oth<br>Sts <sup>4 5</sup> | 8                              | 51                     | 408                 | 188                           | 218  | 891                       |
| US <sup>5</sup>           | 2,524                          | 67.8                   | 171,140             | 39,047                        | 128.6                                      | 221,638                   |

<sup>1</sup> For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State.

<sup>2</sup> Stocks held by producers. <sup>3</sup> Prices weighted by sales. <sup>4</sup> CT, DE, MA, NH, and RI not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. <sup>5</sup> Total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

The next "Honey" report will be released in 2004.

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