

MINK PRODUCTION

Release:
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Pelts Produced in 1969: Estimated production of mink pelts in the United States in 1969 is 5,455,000, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Five States accounted for 67 percent of the United States production. Wisconsin, the leading State, produced 1,749,000 pelts, followed by Minnesota with 906,000; Utah, 442,000; Washington, 313,000; and Ohio, 261,000 pelts. Ten other States accounted for 30 percent of the U.S. production. Eight States, mostly in the South, produced no pelts in 1969.

The number of mink pelts produced in each color class and the percent of total production were: pastel -- 1,634,000 pelts, 30.0 percent; standard -- 1,400,000, 25.7 percent; pearl -- 910,000, 16.7 percent; violet type -- 681,000, 12.5 percent; sapphire -- 317,000, 5.8 percent; lavender-hope -- 177,000, 3.2 percent; white -- 145,000, 2.6 percent; pale brown -- 63,200, 1.2 percent; gunmetal -- 66,400, 1.2 percent; platinum -- 25,300, 0.5 percent; and miscellaneous -- 35,600 pelts, 0.6 percent.

Females Bred in 1970: The number of mink in the United States bred to produce kits in 1970 is estimated at 1,364,000. Females bred in the leading States are: Wisconsin, 370,000; Minnesota, 238,000; Utah, 135,000; Washington, 78,500; Ohio, 65,500 and Illinois, 65,500.

The number of females bred in each color class as a percent of total females are: standard, 33.6 percent; pastel, 28.1; pearl, 13.5; violet type, 11.6; sapphire, 5.6; lavender-hope, 2.3; white, 2.0; gunmetal, 1.4; pale brown, 0.9; platinum, 0.4; and miscellaneous, 0.6 percent.

Number of Mink Ranches in 1969: The number of mink ranches in the United States producing pelts in 1969 is estimated at 2,635. Wisconsin had the most mink ranches with 661; followed by Minnesota with 368 and Utah with 345 ranches.

Table 1.--Mink pelts produced in 1969 by color class, major States, and United States

State	Stand- ard	Pastel	Pale brown	Sap- phire	Gun- metal	Plati- num	Pearl	Lavender- hope	Violet type	White	Misc. & unclas- sified	Total pelts
Massachusetts ...	19.7	21.9	1/	4.3	1/	1.7	12.5	2.0	12.3	1.1	--	76.0
New York	63	56	1.0	5.9	1.6	2.7	39.0	6.7	30.0	8.1	--	214
Pennsylvania ...	31.0	32.0	.41	11.0	1/	1.5	81	7.2	54	1/	1/	223
Ohio	66	83	2.2	15.5	5.1	1/	46.0	3.0	33.7	4.3	1/	261
Indiana	12.2	22.0	2.7	1.6	1/	.05	6.7	1.0	7.0	2.1	1/	55.5
Illinois	69	64	5.2	9.1	2.9	.30	35.0	3.3	1/	1/	1/	231
Michigan	50	68	5.7	9.1	.60	.08	25.0	9.2	39.2	7.9	.13	215
Wisconsin	389	519	17.0	81	13.0	5.0	331	86	229	75	4.0	1749
Minnesota	224	355	13.0	55	4.3	3.0	113	27.0	91	1/	1/	906
Iowa	37.0	37.8	1.2	3.5	1.0	.25	41.5	5.1	27.0	1/	1/	156
South Dakota ...	26.5	20.5	1/	7.8	--	1.1	16.0	1/	14.0	--	1/	91.5
Idaho	39.5	56	1.3	7.0	1/	1/	21.6	1.7	9.7	4.9	--	143
Utah	151	135	2.4	25.3	1.8	1/	67	5.8	48.0	1.8	1/	442
Washington	102	76	2.6	20.0	20.0	1/	39.0	14.0	27.0	1/	10.1	313
Oregon	77	52	3.0	59	10.0	1/	10.0	2.9	31.0	1/	--	249
All other States:	43.0	36.2	1/	2.0	.67	4.5	25.5	1/	1/	10.9	--	130
United States ...	1400	1634	63.2	317	66.4	25.3	910	177	681	145	35.6	5455

1/ Included in totals to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Table 2.--Mink females bred to produce kits in 1970, by color class, major States and United States

State	Stand- ard	Pastel:	Pale brown	Sap- phire	Gun- metal	Plati- num	Pearl	Lavender- hope	Violet- type	White: unclas- sified	Misc. & Total females
Massachusetts ...	7.9	4.9	.11	.76	1/	.33	2.9	.51	2.0	1/	19.5
New York	19.0	12.5	.60	1.6	.80	.40	8.0	1.9	7.5	.20	52.5
Pennsylvania	9.5	9.8	.23	2.4	1/	.47	20.3	1.1	12.4	1/	58.0
Ohio	22.0	22.0	.40	2.5	1.5	1/	7.7	.30	7.3	.90	65.5
Indiana	3.7	6.1	.55	.68	.14	-	1.3	.22	1.7	.31	14.7
Illinois	24.0	16.0	1/	2.3	.80	.10	7.3	1.7	1/	1/	65.5
Michigan	18.7	13.0	.34	2.0	-	.01	5.1	.49	8.3	1.4	49.5
Wisconsin	105	108	4.0	19.0	3.6	.80	56	11.0	48.0	14.0	370
Minnesota	71	85	1.1	1/	1.2	.80	27.0	6.2	25.0	1/	238
Iowa	14.3	9.0	.14	1/	.31	.15	11.0	1.3	7.8	1/	45.5
South Dakota	8.7	4.7	1/	1.8	-	-	4.9	1/	3.3	-	25.0
Idaho	16.6	16.1	.40	2.4	1/	1/	4.5	.40	2.4	1.3	44.5
Utah	61	37.0	.34	7.0	.33	1/	14.8	1.7	12.0	.39	135
Washington	34.0	16.6	.34	4.0	5.2	1/	6.3	3.1	6.0	1/	78.5
Oregon	27.0	10.3	.27	11.6	3.6	1/	1.8	.60	6.1	1/	61.5
All Other States:	15.9	11.8	1/	.70	.22	1.0	5.3	1/	1/	2.6	40.5
United States....	458	383	12.8	75.8	19.7	5.0	184	31.1	158	27.2	1,364

1/ Included in totals to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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Table 3.--Number of mink ranches producing pelts in 1969,
major States and United States

State	: Ranches Producing : : Pelts in 1969 :	State	: Ranches Producing : : Pelts in 1969 :
	: <u>Number</u> :		: <u>Number</u> :
Massachusetts	43	Iowa	101
New York	117	South Dakota	39
Pennsylvania	143	Idaho	76
Ohio	135	Utah	345
Indiana	45	Washington	132
Illinois	79	Oregon	118
Michigan	96	All other States	136
Wisconsin	661		
Minnesota	368	United States	2,635

NOTICE: This is the first report on mink production published by the Statistical Reporting Service. Plans are to publish similar data annually. This report was made possible through the cooperation of the National Board of Fur Farm Organizations who assisted with compiling a list of mink ranches and with developing the survey questionnaire. Grateful acknowledgment is given to the mink ranchers who responded to the survey.