

mink production



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Pelts Produced in 1971: Mink pelt production in the United States in 1971 totaled 3,380,000 pelts, down 25 percent from 1970, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Fifteen States accounted for 94 percent of U. S. production with five major States producing 63 percent of the total. The production and percentage decrease from a year earlier in the five States were: Wisconsin 974,000 pelts, 27 percent; Minnesota 459,000, 25 percent; Utah 340,000, 14 percent; Washington 195,000, 24 percent; and Ohio 169,000 pelts, 20 percent.

By color class, the number of pelts as a percent of total 1971 production was: Standard, 36.3 percent; pastel, 31.3; pearl, 11.7; violet, 10.2; sapphire, 5.1; white, 1.5; gunmetal, 1.5; lavender-hope, 1.2; pale brown, 0.6; platinum, 0.4; and miscellaneous and unclassified, 0.2 percent.

Mink pelts produced and females bred, by color class,
United States, 1970-72

Color class	Pelts produced			Females bred to produce kits		
	1970		1971	1971 as:		1972 as
	:		:	:		:
	:		:	:		:
	1970	1971	% of	1971	1972	% of
			1970			1971
	1,000 pelts		Percent	1,000 females		Percent
Standard	1,591	1,226	77	356	286	80
Pastel	1,351	1,059	78	299	281	94
Pale Brown	57.7	19.6	34	9.8	6.5	66
Sapphire	219	171	78	53.8	45.6	85
Gunmetal	64.0	50.1	78	14.3	13.8	97
Platinum	20.7	12.7	61	2.7	2.1	78
Pearl	587	397	68	127	100	79
Lavender-Hope	95.0	40.7	43	13.2	8.5	64
Violet Type	455	345	76	116	98.7	85
White	79.3	50.5	64	16.8	14.1	84
Misc. & Unclassified	12.3	8.5	69	2.4	1.4	58
U. S. Total	4,532	3,380	75	1,011	858	85

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Crop Reporting Board, SRS, USDA

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1/ Included in totals to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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Crop Reporting Board, SRS, USDA

Mink females bred to produce Kits in 1972
by color class, major States and United States

State	Standard: Pastel:	Brown:	Pale:	Sap- phire:	Gun- metal:	Plati- num:	Pearl:	Lavender- hope:	Violet- type:	White: unclass:	Misc. & Females	Total
Massachusetts	1.6	3.4	1/	1/	1/	1/	.74	.44				6.7
New York	11.2	9.7	1/	.87	1.9	1.9	3.4	.94	4.3	1/	1/	32.5
Pennsylvania	6.9	7.9	1/	1.3	.65		13.2	.27	7.7	1/	1/	38.0
Ohio	11.5	13.8	1/	2.4	1/	1/	3.6	1/	3.8	.15		36.0
Indiana	1.5	3.7	1/	1/			.59	1/	1.5	.33	1/	8.5
Illinois	14.5	14.3	1/	2.3	.98	1/	3.4	1/	2.7	1/	1/	39.0
Michigan	10.2	10.0	1/	1.4		1/	4.3	.15	5.9	1.5	1/	34.5
Wisconsin	66	87	1.1	12.0	2.1	.30	30.0	3.2	30.3	8.5	.50	241
Minnesota	34.8	46.5	1/	6.1	1.6	1/	12.3	1.2	14.4	1.5		119
Iowa	10.5	9.9	1/	.52	.15	1/	6.4	.74	4.4	.18	1/	33.0
South Dakota	6.6	2.6	1/	1.5			2.9		2.7	1/		16.5
Idaho	14.0	14.5	.15	1.2	1/	1/	2.6		1.7	.66		35.0
Utah	45.1	29.0	.62	4.0	.14	1/	7.7	1/	7.7	1/		94.5
Washington	20.9	7.5	1/	2.6	2.6		2.4	.60	3.3	1/	1/	40.0
Oregon	13.2	6.3	.47	7.4	2.4	1/	.70	1/	5.0	1/		36.0
All Other States	17.3	14.8	2.2	1.3	.70	.30	6.1	.80	2.9	1.0	.10	47.5
United States	286	281	6.5	45.6	13.8	2.1	100	8.5	98.7	14.1	1.4	858

1/ Included in totals to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Number of mink ranches producing pelts, major States and
United States, 1970 and 1971

State	Ranches producing pelts	
	1970	1971
	Number	
Massachusetts	45	24
New York	90	65
Pennsylvania	106	68
Ohio	99	69
Indiana	32	22
Illinois	64	44
Michigan	82	53
Wisconsin	497	366
Minnesota	290	193
Iowa	89	71
South Dakota	28	16
Idaho	58	49
Utah	308	261
Washington	109	91
Oregon	91	62
All other States	239	161
United States	2,227	1,615

Females Bred in 1972: Mink females bred to produce kits in 1972 totaled 858,000, down 15 percent from 1971. This reduction of 15 percent compared with the 29 percent drop between 1970 and 1971 indicates a slowing of the sharp downward trend which occurred in 1969 and 1970. Females bred in the leading States and the percentage decline from 1971 are: Wisconsin 241,000 females, 12 percent; Minnesota 119,000, 13 percent; Utah 94,500, 12 percent; Washington 40,000, 24 percent; and Illinois 39,000, 10 percent.

By color class, 33.3 percent of the females were standard; 32.8 percent, pastel; 11.7, pearl; 11.5, violet type; 5.3, sapphire; 1.6, white; 1.6, gunmetal; 1.0, lavender-hope, 0.8, pale brown; 0.2, platinum; and 0.2 percent miscellaneous and unclassified.

Ranch Numbers in 1971: An estimated 1,615 mink ranches were producing pelts in 1971, 27 percent fewer than the 2,227 in 1970. Wisconsin with 366 ranches had 26 percent fewer than in 1970; Utah with 261 was down 15 percent; Minnesota with 193, down 33 percent; Washington with 91, down 17 percent; and Iowa with 71 ranches was down 20 percent.

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