



# NEWS RELEASE

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
United States Department of Agriculture • Northeastern Regional Field Office  
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## **USDA to Measure Quarterly Colony Loss and Honey Production**

**Harrisburg, PA** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be collecting information about colony loss in the honey industry and honey production throughout the United States. The Quarterly Colony Loss survey will be conducted December 2018 through January 2019. This survey collects information about colony inventory and loss from more than 400 producers with honey bee colonies in the Northeastern Region of the United States.

The Bee and Honey Production, Disposition, and Income (PDI) survey will be conducted December 2018 through February 2019. This survey collects information on the number of honey producing colonies, honey production, honey stocks, pounds of honey sold, and dollars received by honey color class and marketing channel from approximately 1,000 growers in the Northeastern Region of the United States.

“The information from these surveys directly impacts our region’s beekeepers and honey producers,” said King Whetstone, Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Northeastern Regional Field Office. “Beekeepers and producers can use the survey results when making business plans and marketing decisions. Cooperative Extension uses the data to provide needed outreach and education and State Departments and Agencies of Agriculture use the information to set insurance values.”

For their convenience, survey participants have the option to respond online. As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only State and National level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The annual *Honey Bee Colonies* publication is available online every August. The annual *Bee and Honey PDI* publication is available online every March. Previous publications are also available for review. These reports can be found online at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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*NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.*

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