

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Market News Division

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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2012

IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

(# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

ARKANSAS			
Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.60	
CALIFORNIA			
COLORADO			
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.85	
DAKOTAS			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.95	
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	- \$1.95
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.95	
Buckwheat	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.55	- \$1.83
Buckwheat	Amber	\$1.35	- \$1.44
Canola	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
Clover	White	\$1.95	- \$2.00
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
Sunflower	White	\$1.95	
Western	White	\$1.95	
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
FLORIDA			
Pepper	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
Wildflowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
IOWA			
Clover	White	\$1.95	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
MICHIGAN			
Wildflowers	White	\$1.95	
Wildflowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95	
MINNESOTA			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.95	
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.55	
Canola	White	\$1.95	
Clover	White	\$1.95	
MONTANA			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.95	
Canola	White	\$1.98	
Clover	White	\$1.90	- \$2.00
MISSISSIPPI			
Soybean	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.70	
NEBRASKA			
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.90	
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.90	

Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.50	
TEXAS			
Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.55	
WYOMING			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.95	
Clover	Light Amber	\$1.70	
WISCONSIN			
Clover	White	\$2.00	

Prices paid to Canadian Beekeepers for unprocessed, bulk honey by packers and importers in U. S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty and crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

Canola	White	\$1.75	- \$1.84
Clover	White	\$1.73	- \$1.87

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

ARGENTINA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.46	- \$1.62
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.43	- \$1.58
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.31	- \$1.39

BRAZIL

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.37	
Orange	White	\$1.88	- \$1.89
Orange	Extra Light Amber	\$1.88	

ORGANIC	White	\$1.86	
ORGANIC	Extra Light Amber	\$1.66	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.55	

CHILE

Mixed Flowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.37	
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.37	

INDIA

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.21	- \$1.35
Mustard	Extra Light Amber	\$1.39	
Mustard	Light Amber	\$1.39	

URUGUAY

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.35	- \$1.37
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VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.28	- \$1.31
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COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING DECEMBER, 2012

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): December temperatures started out warmer than normal and by the end of the month were near normal with below average precipitation. The first measurable snow (1-2 inches) of the season for the lower elevations fell on Christmas eve. Beekeepers continue to provide supplemental feeding and monitor colonies for disease and insects. Varroa control is becoming increasingly hard to accomplish and local universities are working closely with beekeepers to experiment with new, chemical free control methods. Many beekeepers will be participating in the North American Beekeeping Conference and Tradeshow which is being held in Hershey, Pennsylvania January 8-13.

ALABAMA: Rainy cold weather has kept honeybees in clusters and is creating a lot of stress on colonies. Some fall and early winter losses were blamed on the dry August weather but may have been due to mite loads since mite levels were quite high in inspected colonies towards the end of the summer. Bees seem to be holding their own at present. Continued confinement will most likely lead to heavier than usual losses. Some beekeepers fed in the fall and there has been some disease and mite treatments and some protein patties were put on in December. Honey is still available but beekeepers have less to sell than last year this time.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at above normal levels for the first half of December, while for the second half of the month were at below normal levels. The range statewide in temperatures for the month was a high of 83 degrees Fahrenheit in Yuma to a low of 10 degrees below zero Fahrenheit at Grand Canyon. There was precipitation at 0 of the 21 reporting stations in Arizona the first week of December, all 21 stations the second week, 20 stations the third week, and 11 stations the last week of the month. For the year, 13 of the 21 reporting stations received less than 75 percent of normal precipitation levels for the year. The main nectar and pollen sources for bees in the state were desert plant bloom, citrus, cantaloupes and honeydews. Bee activity in the state was limited during the month of December. Beekeepers have been or are continuing to make preparations to move colonies to other locations for pollination of nut and fruit trees. Demand for honey remains good.

ARKANSAS: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of December were from various trees and winter plantings. Colonies were in generally poor to fair condition. Weather has seen above average temperatures with adequate rainfall. Demand is high as supply is low.

CALIFORNIA: The month of December in the Golden State began with a series of relatively warm and wet storms, with the heaviest precipitation in the north. Temperatures were relatively warm and snow levels were quite high. As the month progressed, several weather systems moved through the state. Rain and snowfall was consistent through the month, with very cool morning temperatures across much of the state. California's snowpack, which supplies much of the state's water, has been pushed to well above normal levels. California's snowpack is 146 percent above normal for this time of year and the early storms have also replenished many of the state's reservoirs. Out-of-state bee hives are being moved into the State in preparation for the upcoming almond bloom. The California bees are wintering well and beekeepers are feeding pollen substitutes and sugar water. Where available, bees are feeding on wild mustard, rosemary, borage, eucalyptus and manzanita as they are currently the main sources of food.

COLORADO: The weather across Colorado during December according to the National Weather Service was warmer than normal, across most of the State, with the exception of colder than normal temperatures in the west central area. Alamosa was 6.3 degrees colder than normal during the month. Also in the west central area of the State, there was above normal precipitation in the form of snow. The rest of Colorado continued in a drought pattern with below normal precipitation. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, an area in the north central part around Boulder, Greeley and Fort Collins, Colorado, continues to be listed in a moderate drought. The rest of the State continues to be in a severe to extreme drought. The exceptional drought area in southeastern Colorado is considered a long term situation. The pollination services that Colorado beekeepers provide to the almond growers of California have been valued around \$155.00 per 7 to 8 frame hive. It is expected that Colorado beekeepers that made the journey to California for the almond pollination will have their bees working on pollination services until mid-March or the first part of April. Beekeepers are hoping that the multitude of problems that plagued the bee industry in Colorado this past year will not repeat themselves in 2013. Colorado commercial honey from the 2012 season, available on the open market, remains in very short supply. Supplies of honey are either sold or committed at this time. Wholesale and retail demand for honey continues to be very good in Colorado with a specific push to promote local grown honey. Recent prices received in Colorado by commercial beekeepers for wholesale white honey and extra light amber averaged \$2.00 per pound. The current commercial price received for light capping wax was \$2.50 per pound. There have been reports of prices reaching \$5.00 per pound for light capping wax. Retail honey prices from private and commercial beekeepers average from \$5.25 to \$6.25 per pound depending upon the specific variety and container size.

FLORIDA: No report available.

GEORGIA: The weather for December was fairly mild and slightly warmer than in previous years, with a few freeze warnings the latter part of the month. Rain in the beginning of the month and towards the end kept the drought conditions under control in most areas. Most of the beekeepers are keeping a careful watch over the hives after losing a higher percentage than normal of bees from the fall. The remaining bees appear to be recovering fairly well. Treatment for Nosema Serena has been continued throughout the state as well as treatment for hive beetles and mites in the warmer southern regions. The beekeepers are working to keep the bees healthy until the early spring months coming up. Supplemental feeding is required while the bees have been prepared for the winter months as best as possible with good management. In the southern part of the state the Red Maple is about to start blooming. Some beekeepers are attending various meetings throughout the country to study and learn more about the various treatment programs that may be beneficial for their hives and to discuss other options of loss prevention and management.

IDAHO: Temperatures were above normal in all areas of the State during December. Idaho Falls, in the southeastern part of the Idaho, recorded temperatures 8.60 degrees higher than normal during the month of December. Precipitation was varied across the State during the same period. The central part of the State received more precipitation when compared to the drier areas in the rest of Idaho. The U.S. Drought Monitor currently indicates that the upper panhandle and central parts of Idaho are near normal on precipitation. However, the southern part of the State is still listed as being in a long term moderate drought. Currently most commercial beekeepers have their hives stored in controlled temperature sheds in Idaho. They plan on transporting their hives to California for the almond pollination in the middle of January. It is anticipated that the bees will be able to start foraging around the first part of February while in California. The bees that have survived this winter appear to be somewhat weaker due to the persistent mite problems and the residual effect from the drought issues from the summer of 2012. Besides utilizing honey stores, some beekeepers stated they are also

supplementing hives with pollen patties and corn syrup. Wholesale and retail demand for honey continues to be very good in Idaho. Idaho commercial honey from the 2012 season, available on the open market, remains in very short supply. Supplies of honey are either sold or committed at this time. Current prices received in Idaho by commercial beekeepers for wholesale white honey averaged from \$2.05 to \$2.10 per pound, extra light amber averaged \$1.80 to \$1.85 per pound, and light amber averaged \$1.55 to \$1.60 per pound. Retail honey prices from private and commercial beekeepers average from \$3.00 to \$5.42 per pound depending upon the specific variety and container type. Beekeepers indicated that they anticipate retail honey prices to increase in early 2013.

ILLINOIS: The weather for the month of December was good to fairly good during the beginning and middle of the month with fair to moderate moisture with temperatures ranging in the upper 30s and lower 50s for most of the central part of the state, but even more favorable for the eastern and southern part of the state. However Beekeepers reported their bees being able to take moderate amount of cleansing flights while temperatures remained in the high 30s and 50s during the first 3 weeks of the month, but ended as the temperatures dropped during the latter part of the month. One particular beekeeper reported that while the temperatures were in the 40-50s he reported that his bees were gathering orange and yellow pollen. Most Beekeepers reported their bees wintering well as they cuddle together keeping each other warm. Beekeepers also report that on January the 8th the American Beekeepers Federation will be holding meeting in Pennsylvania and the honey production association will be holding meetings in San Diego, California for those interested in beekeeping and hobbyist. Demand for honey at the retail level is fairly good to good and prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Temperatures continued to be above normal. Precipitation was above normal as well. Drought conditions continued, but adequate amounts of rainfall and snow provided good ground soaking that allowed soil moisture levels to increase. Some beekeepers reported that mites have cause a lot of colony losses, while others report good colony conditions. Warm weather has allowed for flight cleansing. Beekeepers are in discussion of the Russian honeybee. This bee has a strong resistance to mites.

INDIANA: Temperatures for the month of December were moderate during the early part of the month but became somewhat cooler with rain, sleet, ice and then moderate amounts of snow during the latter part of the month for the northern and central part of the state, while warmer for the southeastern and southwestern part of the state. Beekeepers report their bees in good health as they were able to take moderate amounts of cleansing flights during the earlier part of the month. Beekeepers also report that their bees are in good condition. Demand for honey is moderate to fairly good as prices are generally unchanged.

KENTUCKY: The bees are in cluster. There is nothing blooming for pollen or nectar, so some beekeepers are feeding by candy board on the top of the hives or the mountain camp method. Some early winter die-off are being reported and will be investigated as to the cause.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of December were from various trees. Colonies were in generally in good condition. Weather has seen above normal temperatures with adequate rainfall. Supply and demand are both good.

MICHIGAN: There were a few cleansing flights reported during the first half of the month. The average temperature was above normal, yet cool enough to keep bees quiet in clusters much of the time. Beekeepers hope the quiet time helped to conserve food supplies for the hive. Many beekeepers sold out of honey supplies across much of the southern regions of the state. Therefore, beekeepers have turned to education and hosting classes and seminars on beekeeping. There has been increased interest in learning about bees and beekeeping activities by the general public.

MINNESOTA: Many areas of the State received up to 15 inches of snow during the month of December. According to the National Weather Service, the entire State was warmer than normal during the month. Despite the snow in most areas of the State, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the northeast area of Minnesota is listed as being in a moderate drought. The rest of Minnesota is listed as being in a severe to extreme drought even with the snow. Most commercial bees are now in Southern States and California for the duration of the winter months. There is a persistent bee die off that is killing many of the new brood. Beekeepers have indicated that they are quite sure that it is not Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). The die off of bees is believed to be result of summer pesticide residue that was carried into the hives by the worker bees. One management practice that helped save bees in California during the 2012 almond pollination season was when agricultural producers sprayed their crops at night. There is hope for the upcoming 2013 growing season among Minnesota beekeepers, that some sort of better management practices, such as the one in California, can be utilized to prevent the bee die off that is currently occurring in Minnesota bees. Some beekeepers indicated that they have lost up to one third of their bees as a result of misapplication of pesticides from the summer of 2012. Currently bees are just showing up dead, even though they are looking healthy in every other way. Due to the warmer temperatures this fall in Minnesota, beekeepers were able to reduce early supplemental feeding. This has been a very large monetary savings to beekeepers considering the high cost of corn syrup. The pollination services that Minnesota beekeepers provide to the almond growers of California, will range from \$135.00 to \$150.00 per 7 to 8 frame hive. Some beekeepers have indicated that a good 12 frame hive could receive even higher prices for their pollination services. As the pollination time gets closer for the almond trees in California, reality is soaking in throughout the bee industry. At this point of time, the number of viable hives available for almond tree pollination services in California appears to be reduced from previous years due to industry wide problems with mites and early premature bee die off. Wholesale and retail demand for honey continues to be very good in Minnesota. Recent prices received in Minnesota by commercial beekeepers for wholesale white honey averaged \$1.85 per pound. Retail honey prices from private and commercial beekeepers average from \$3.33 to \$6.00 per pound depending upon the specific variety and container size.

MISSISSIPPI: A wet and cold December was reported throughout the state as beekeepers are trying to prevent further losses of bees in the hives. Treatment for Nosema Serena has been reported by some beekeepers to have prevented more losses, along with a vigilant management program to keep things under control. Supplemental feeding is needed at this time, while the hives and bees are being prepared for the winter months ahead.

MONTANA: Much of Montana experienced some snowfall during the month of December with low temperatures dipping well below zero and average low temperatures in the lower teens to lower 30s. High temperatures ranged from the upper 40s to lower 60s, with the state-wide high temperature of 64 degrees recorded in Hardin and Joliet. The coldest reported low of -29 degrees was recorded in Scobey followed by Chester with -27 degrees. Several southeastern Montana counties remained in severe drought conditions according to the U.S. Drought monitor. Topsoil moisture measurements at the end of December measured 16 percent very short, compared with 23 percent last year; 28 percent short, compared to 27 percent last year; 53 percent

adequate, 47 percent adequate last year; and 3 percent surplus, compared to 3 percent last year. Subsoil moisture measured 57 percent short and very short, while 43 percent of subsoil moisture measurements were adequate or surplus. Bee keepers reported migratory colonies wintering in California staging yards to be in generally good condition. Mite problems were under control with the bees clustered tightly in the cool, wet weather that has been experienced later in California during December. Keepers anticipated beginning to move their colonies into early almond orchards later in January with good demand for strong colonies. Rental prices were reported to be similar to last year. Honey demand was good.

NEW ENGLAND: In New England overall, the month of December exhibited mild, seasonal temperatures. This weather pattern offered periodic rain or snowfall with only measureable snowfall in high level terrain. Early December weather was erratic with on and off cold and mild weather, whereby the bees early on had a chance to reorganize themselves, haul out the dead and go on cleansing flights. Bees are pretty much in cluster conditions and flying on warmer days. Nectar and pollen sources have all but ended with just a few late pollen sources, amazingly bringing some bright orange pollen in presumably from fall aster, heath, mum blossoms, perennial bachelor buttons and Johnny jump ups. Rapidly colder conditions have finished all floral food sources for this season. Over wintering procedures entails installing mouse guards, entrance reducers and insulation boards between inner and outer covers and/or boards under the bottom screens to ensure proper ventilation. In New England, beekeepers have closed up their hives for the winter. Bees are snuggled in their hives but reportedly the clusters are smaller than desired. Keepers report that as much as 70% of colonies are light in stores with just enough to fill the brood chambers. Low stores coupled with the usual cold, harsh weather of winter in the future will surely mean a high mortality rate for the over wintered population. As needed, colonies are being feed with fondant, protein patties, sugar candy, sugar water syrup, high fructose corn syrup and using frame feeders. In order to add to the stored food that was left after surplus honey was drawn off. In New England, the average consumption is 60 lbs. of honey throughout the winter. Steady cold weather lowers the rate at which honeybees consume honey stores. If the weather pattern stays cold, it won't hurt the bees as long as the hives have good ventilation. In New England, hives normally lose 5 to 10% of their population due to winter related issues. Cold weather will not adversely affect bees as much as condensation will. Colonies should be ventilated to abate this problem. Many keepers report that bees have exhibited the usually late winter pattern of clustering just under the inner cover. However, clusters are tight enough to keep the bees safe. The warm weather exhibited in November and throughout December has created heavy brood rearing beyond normal and will most likely create a need to feed early in January and February. All of New England has experienced mild weather this fall and a very late frost. This New England warming translates to affecting plant nectar levels and whether bees will have enough winter food. Late hatching brood will directly contribute to increased consumption of winter honey reserves. November and December have been very mild so all we have left is January and February as winter months. This makes it easy to survive for honeybee colonies that are healthy and well provisioned. Hives with sufficient honey stores, low varroa mite loads, and nosema levels, should do well entering and surviving through a cold winter. Many keepers reported finding drones still in their hives thus the eviction process started very late this year. The most important thing in a healthy hive is nutrition. Hives weaken under the stress of protein deficiency. Limited pollen and nectar means less brood and poor nutrition. This year's honey stores on brood frames are very small although in many cases large quantities of pollen are found. This will likely contribute to creating a greater winter loss as many colonies are light and their winter bees were not developed under the best of conditions. Many keepers are seriously concerned about viral infections in queens coupled with a stronger disease laden varroa mite population that could carry over to next season with another season of queen problems especially underperforming weak queens. Harvesting and extracting honey is virtually completed. This year's honey crop figures have not been finalized as some locations have exhibited very low production numbers. Reportedly some yields are half what they usually are. Keepers are giving estimates at 30 to 35 lbs. per colony verses estimates from keepers that experienced a good honey fall flow with estimates of 50 lbs. per colony. Honey sales have been excellent going into the holiday season. Keepers have crafted many products from the fruits of their hives to sell for the holiday season primarily as stocking stuffers such as decorative honey decanters, candles, creams, lip balms and many edible holiday treats. The holiday season brings on an increase demand for local honey with the supply a bit lower than normal. Demand at farmers markets and all retail/wholesale outlets are strong. Reportedly, honey sales remains very good and continues to grow. Supplies of new crop locally produced honey are in some places very short. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were steady at \$7.00 to \$10.00 mostly \$9.50 occasionally higher inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations prices were steady with 5 gallon units at \$175.00 to \$215.00 mostly \$210.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality. Current wholesale prices quoted exclusively for white, cleaned beeswax are steady and for 1lb block units at \$5.50 to \$5.75 mostly \$5.50 and for 50lb block units at \$4.50 to \$5.00 mostly \$4.75. Price quotes taken for bulk orders above 50lbs are \$2.20 to \$3.50 mostly \$3.50 for white/light, cleaned beeswax. Retail white and cleaned beeswax prices reported are \$16.00 to \$20.00 per pound mostly \$18.00.

NEW YORK: Bee losses have been steep in recent weeks around the state. Some high levels of chemical residue have been found in affected hives, which point to the heavy losses. Commercial bee keepers who moved hives to Florida expect an earlier February bloom on oranges in Central Florida due to warmer temperatures. Honey demand remains strong with prices ranging from \$1.95-2.15 for bulk supplies.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures varied in North Carolina during December with averages ranging from 38 degrees to 60 degrees. Precipitation was mostly below normal. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 14 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. The North Carolina Drought Council reported 31 counties as abnormally dry; 40 counties as experiencing moderate drought conditions; and 2 counties, Mecklenburg and Union, as experiencing severe drought conditions. Bees continued to appear mostly healthy and populations in the hives were normal though there have been some reported losses in extreme western counties of the State where some hives are lacking adequate stores. Beekeepers continued to monitor hives, providing supplemental feed as weather permitted. Demand for honey is good.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: The weather has been fairly normal, although growers are still contending with shortages of water in some areas. For bees overwintered in California, they are have been applying dormant oil sprays in almonds in preparation for the upcoming season.

OHIO: No report available.

OKLAHOMA: In Southern Oklahoma supplemental feeding is needed due to drought like conditions and late winter temperatures that forced bees not to cluster. Conditions of the colonies are in good condition, and bees are strong. No prevalent pests or diseases. Weather has been dry and unusual high temperatures for December. Since the days have been cool there is very little clustering going on. Temperatures have seen days in the 40s, and only cooling slightly over night. Supply is excellent, while demand is 10% above last December. Prices average \$13.00 a quart or 3 pounds.

OREGON: Generally below average temperatures and above average amounts of precipitation were experienced over Oregon during December. Bee keepers reported migratory colonies wintering in California staging yards to be in generally good condition. Mite problems were under control with the bees clustered tightly in the cool, wet weather. Keepers anticipated beginning to move their colonies into early almond orchards later in January with good demand for strong colonies. Rental prices were reported to be similar to last year. Honey demand was good. Wild plant and irrigated farm crop pollen and nectar sources were finished for the season. Honey demand was said to be good.

SOUTH CAROLINA: No report available.

TENNESSEE: December in Tennessee was mostly dryer and warmer than average. There were minimal nectar and pollen sources available to the bees. Beekeepers reported having to feed more and earlier this year than in the past. We have had some reports of fall die-offs of otherwise strong colonies with no apparent disease, pest or pesticide causes. These die-offs may be nutritional/drought related.

TEXAS: Pollen and nectar sources received during December were from asters, goldenrod, French arugula, Yankee weed, basil, Greg's mist flower, wandering Jew, and wild poinsettia and various other flowers. Colonies are in generally fair to good condition. Weather conditions have been above normal temperatures with very little rainfall to report. Honey demand is high as supply is only adequate.

UTAH: Temperatures were above normal in all areas of the State during December. According to records from the National Weather Service, precipitation was slightly below normal in the Salt Lake City area and slightly above normal in southern parts of the State. Even though it was drier in the northern areas of Utah during December, Salt Lake City still recorded over 13 inches of snow for the month. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the area around Salt Lake City and the southwestern part of the State continue to be listed as being in a moderate drought. The rest of the State is still listed as being in a severe to extreme drought. There is a wide difference among Utah beekeepers on supplemental feeding. Some were forced into early supplemental feeding due to the drought and smaller amount of foraging plants, while other commercial beekeepers in the Delta area of Utah have had enough honey stores available to supply their needs through the month of December. Commercial beekeepers that moved bees to California have indicated that it has been so much warmer than normal in the Golden State. According to beekeepers, the warmer weather was great for allowing bees to fly. Beekeepers also indicated that they plan to go through their hives in January to check for mites and to assess any needs for supplemental feeding at that time. The pollination services that Utah beekeepers provide to the almond growers of California have been valued around \$150.00 to \$155.00 per 7 to 8 frame hive. Higher prices have been reported for hives up to 12 frames. Beekeepers continue to be concerned about darker imported honey from foreign sources placing downward pressure on the prices they receive domestically. Commercial supplies of Utah honey are all sold or committed at this time. Wholesale and retail demand for honey continues to be very good in Utah. Recent prices received in Utah by commercial beekeepers for wholesale white honey averaged \$1.85 per pound and extra light amber averaged \$1.65 per pound. Retail honey prices from private and commercial beekeepers average from \$4.00 to \$8.00 per pound depending upon the specific variety and container size.

WASHINGTON: This winter has been mixed weather with no extreme cold or warm. There have only been a few sunny days. Snow continues in the mountains lessening the concerns for moisture for this upcoming summer. Beekeepers have generally moved bees to their various overwinter locations. Hives were generally looking good.

WISCONSIN: Weather for the central and northern part of the state was fairly good during the earlier part of the month of December, but ended rapidly as the state was hit with a foot of snow the latter part of the month. Most Beekeepers reported good activity for the bees during the early part of the month as they were able to take moderate amount of cleansing flights. However beekeepers report their bees are in good condition as they cuddle together to keep each other warm for the winter. Demand for honey is moderate to fairly good as honey prices are higher.

U.S Exports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

	Year to Date		November 2012	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Angola	395	3,137	395	3,137
Bahamas, The	20,263	71,791	1,236	5,727
Bahrain	42,060	102,092	1,830	4,441
Barbados	13,715	84,679	1,366	9,593
Bermuda	3,625	25,330	0	0
Brazil	21,328	52,736	0	0
Cayman Islands	2,149	13,418	0	0
China	77,099	240,000	56,500	190,000
Germany(*)	6,949	25,222	0	0
Guyana	14,775	61,441	0	0
Hong Kong	53,096	253,376	4,788	11,623
Iceland	6,615	18,559	0	0
India	3,708	9,000	0	0
Indonesia	370,942	900,395	25,983	63,069
Ireland	1,285	3,119	0	0
Israel(*)	81,200	411,684	0	0
Japan	379,052	1,577,087	35,561	138,990

Korea, South	382,787	1,711,553	160,048	696,948
Kuwait	295,838	910,858	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	1,883	7,920	0	0
Malaysia	19,445	54,997	474	2,957
Mexico	49,869	121,049	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	8,805	46,202	871	5,233
New Zealand(*)	14,425	35,014	0	0
Pakistan	32,684	79,335	0	0
Panama	17,394	105,728	1,742	10,466
Philippines	330,599	838,191	1,418	8,593
Poland	22,944	55,692	0	0
Saudi Arabia	53,341	129,475	0	0
Singapore	34,467	91,235	2,125	5,158
Taiwan	66,966	326,623	1,688	8,920
Thailand	12,907	46,767	0	0
United Arab Emirates	286,506	708,755	52,767	137,927
Uruguay	2,966	7,200	0	0
Vietnam	18,967	46,040	0	0
Yemen(*)	645,391	2,733,354	39,873	208,468

**NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED
OR SPECIFIED - - -**

Australia(*)	2,280	7,038	0	0
Bahamas, The	25,584	117,237	2,353	11,743
Bahrain	3,674	7,128	0	0
Barbados	10,612	26,370	0	0
Bermuda	20,023	90,592	1,540	7,274
Cambodia	2,564	17,175	1,037	7,123
Canada	373,274	1,481,984	59,811	238,866
Cayman Islands	555	3,273	0	0
China	16,242	90,322	0	0
Colombia	2,435	7,700	0	0
Hong Kong	18,716	87,044	4,137	20,309
India	356,655	834,600	0	0
Israel(*)	225,400	871,855	0	0
Jamaica	16,982	68,900	0	0
Japan	335,044	1,023,039	29,887	95,817
Korea, South	32,833	157,888	31,643	155,000
Kuwait	105	2,627	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	2,418	7,920	1,217	3,960
Netherlands Antilles(*)	12,432	59,251	0	0
New Zealand(*)	285	3,662	0	0
Nigeria	1,378	3,345	0	0
Panama	1,216	7,476	0	0
Philippines	37,864	275,434	0	0
Saudi Arabia	54,000	290,347	0	0
Singapore	24,451	77,893	22,090	59,782
Taiwan	2,483	13,260	0	0
Thailand	235,079	507,214	0	0
United Arab Emirates	51,762	342,847	672	4,248
United Kingdom	19,382	40,000	0	0
Vietnam	99,751	266,940	19,971	78,624
Yemen(*)	10,987	84,000	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	5,392,906	18,783,415	563,023	2,193,996

U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

Year to Date			November 2012		
Quantity	Value	CIF Value	Quantity	Value	CIF Value

	Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars
WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Argentina	7,969,804	23,162,305	23,893,403	375,367	1,097,614	1,137,867
Brazil	264,939	897,205	941,682	17,973	75,163	78,385
Canada	13,570,555	51,103,980	51,422,248	1,015,837	4,077,613	4,091,399
Chile	96,512	277,000	285,000	0	0	0
Egypt	5,137	11,226	11,867	0	0	0
France(*)	1,023	13,286	14,294	0	0	0
Germany(*)	1,306	8,672	9,254	234	3,076	3,384
Hungary	614	7,728	8,367	0	0	0
India	1,519,354	4,185,535	4,445,541	0	0	0
Italy(*)	14,107	102,739	105,647	0	0	0
Kenya	57,600	188,352	191,352	57,600	188,352	191,352
Mexico	663,773	2,354,646	2,369,344	114,088	372,075	373,287
New Zealand(*)	23,164	46,328	46,599	0	0	0
Poland	2,650	20,442	21,057	0	0	0
Spain	14,960	82,910	87,326	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	3,191	21,516	21,924	0	0	0
Tanzania	38,400	121,344	124,344	0	0	0
United Kingdom	5,990	47,059	49,433	847	9,268	9,529
Uruguay	113,987	343,381	352,005	0	0	0

EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	21,738,121	63,304,093	65,332,133	2,275,018	6,578,879	6,759,411
Australia(*)	38,993	140,375	143,375	0	0	0
Austria	1,830	10,406	11,035	0	0	0
Brazil	2,450,834	8,138,481	8,421,199	98,229	332,417	346,843
Canada	402,431	1,713,086	1,722,862	26,855	107,643	107,893
Chile	543,810	1,478,291	1,536,170	0	0	0
China	18,734	56,449	59,949	0	0	0
France(*)	12,208	58,165	63,144	0	0	0
Guatemala	341,700	820,080	858,485	0	0	0
India	6,787,286	17,713,017	18,672,119	38,340	93,933	100,845
Indonesia	241,280	524,320	547,721	0	0	0
Italy(*)	28,592	140,437	143,885	0	0	0
Japan	10	2,871	2,970	0	0	0
Malaysia	89,900	220,255	220,265	0	0	0
Mexico	1,612,233	5,157,624	5,195,356	154,920	536,620	542,117
Pakistan	95,000	241,300	257,300	19,000	49,400	52,900
Switzerland(*)	9,912	30,779	33,188	0	0	0
Thailand	72,560	162,400	170,101	0	0	0
Ukraine	928,920	2,450,747	2,498,027	227,496	615,110	622,977
Uruguay	1,978,617	5,377,648	5,573,887	37,552	104,515	112,438
Vietnam	940,410	2,313,281	2,445,656	95,760	231,354	247,092

LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE –

Argentina	8,278,799	24,109,508	25,049,848	1,005,247	3,142,722	3,260,076
Australia(*)	2,858	21,843	22,061	0	0	0
Austria	17,084	156,068	165,051	1,109	10,329	11,244
Brazil	4,944,497	14,182,163	14,733,614	375,683	1,094,362	1,144,169
Canada	63,648	215,609	216,601	10,602	41,368	41,418

Chile	1,009,017	2,697,372	2,780,772	19,174	53,687	56,672
Dominican Republic	435,403	1,159,010	1,215,414	31,214	89,830	95,057
France(*)	1,474	16,273	17,943	0	0	0
Germany(*)	163,411	718,971	747,982	25,193	134,389	141,329
Greece	1,545	15,627	16,057	0	0	0
Guatemala	67,862	199,335	205,335	0	0	0
Hong Kong	11,628	72,327	73,644	4,788	29,762	30,324
India	10,775,861	27,175,393	28,834,925	390,398	1,062,601	1,134,864
Indonesia	121,996	267,989	288,989	0	0	0
Ireland	292	3,114	3,177	0	0	0
Italy(*)	6,534	83,863	90,046	1,373	9,698	10,232
Japan	4,654	11,403	11,880	0	0	0
Lithuania	768	4,069	4,555	0	0	0
Malaysia	1,917,222	4,666,970	4,829,145	0	0	0
Mexico	2,830,926	8,150,167	8,194,992	156,829	452,648	452,672
New Zealand(*)	58,377	566,203	575,357	0	0	0
Pakistan	535	2,120	2,332	0	0	0
Peru	3,021	22,977	23,707	3,021	22,977	23,707
Poland	2,964	20,677	22,587	1,733	13,083	14,519
Romania	1,728	9,359	9,888	0	0	0
Russia	2,360	38,638	42,188	0	0	0
Spain	15,747	110,539	113,347	4,623	24,300	25,063
Switzerland(*)	13,281	79,257	79,547	4,761	24,461	24,496
Taiwan	57,420	127,229	133,382	0	0	0
Thailand	36,600	86,560	86,924	0	0	0
Turkey	828,453	1,984,740	2,160,743	93,000	223,200	243,200
Ukraine	59,183	157,428	165,626	21,983	56,616	56,814
Uruguay	8,481,322	22,759,740	23,325,632	0	0	0
Vietnam	15,139,692	37,428,119	39,266,923	1,993,830	4,959,905	5,227,437

NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED ---

Argentina	618,588	1,802,052	1,848,984	19,098	56,082	57,569
Armenia	452	3,510	4,123	0	0	0
Australia(*)	3,904	26,141	26,693	2,854	9,947	10,249
Austria	1,663	15,494	16,567	1,663	15,494	16,567
Brazil	324,258	866,395	915,630	0	0	0
Canada	282,667	998,607	999,035	14,049	51,825	51,829
Chile	56,265	149,309	153,956	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	260,779	510,369	528,661	28,020	62,250	65,078
Egypt	1,500	3,560	4,056	0	0	0
France(*)	1,419	20,047	22,785	164	2,777	2,811
Germany(*)	2,248	23,436	25,172	1,009	11,150	12,264
Greece	5,031	46,206	52,725	0	0	0
Hungary	3,252	16,985	17,985	0	0	0
India	1,740,996	5,387,204	5,653,571	56,700	127,575	136,575
Indonesia	94,540	183,048	195,048	0	0	0
Israel(*)	8,544	68,569	70,924	0	0	0
Italy(*)	10,784	125,212	131,066	303	2,426	2,513
Japan	1,958	6,306	6,534	0	0	0
Lithuania	5,372	21,079	23,762	0	0	0
Mexico	401,763	1,044,402	1,059,092	59,268	157,476	157,521
Moldova	8,333	22,726	25,665	2,135	3,145	3,379
New Zealand(*)	620,284	3,592,102	3,712,654	114,357	604,231	630,087
Poland	14,585	79,301	89,089	0	0	0
Russia	7,317	46,012	48,628	5,721	29,320	30,810
Saudi Arabia	6,000	5,400	6,132	0	0	0

Spain	5,755	41,245	43,797	0	0	0
Taiwan	1,018,350	2,387,398	2,490,608	95,700	210,349	219,549
Thailand	92,630	203,786	206,841	0	0	0
Ukraine	45,849	126,005	132,682	0	0	0
United Kingdom	10,266	37,318	40,504	0	0	0
Uruguay	245,578	625,516	639,102	0	0	0
Vietnam	1,779,140	4,248,255	4,457,386	136,500	327,600	355,600

COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –

Argentina	6,001	28,710	31,210	0	0	0
Armenia	9,362	79,074	81,505	0	0	0
Austria	6,941	87,594	91,661	456	4,536	4,821
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	3,275	24,753	25,881	0	0	0
Brazil	76,880	244,909	258,290	0	0	0
Bulgaria	108,574	411,468	432,873	0	0	0
Canada	546,437	3,047,255	3,058,806	51,096	261,675	263,388
Chile	294	3,828	3,831	0	0	0
Croatia	3,645	29,738	30,386	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	5,961	11,812	13,259	0	0	0
Egypt	2,511	11,770	12,716	0	0	0
France(*)	94,801	1,004,962	1,057,324	6,067	74,968	81,046
Germany(*)	107,551	605,393	632,025	12,491	73,690	76,187
Greece	33,767	323,109	335,377	1,510	16,677	17,321
Guatemala	3,616	8,258	8,779	1,089	2,752	2,909
Hungary	13,365	98,687	102,245	3,645	39,648	40,526
India	269,283	961,896	999,979	12,000	39,120	41,620
Ireland	440	2,905	3,656	0	0	0
Israel(*)	4,377	20,798	20,877	0	0	0
Italy(*)	16,752	177,680	181,563	1,336	17,739	18,001
Lebanon	5,631	68,925	71,225	0	0	0
Lithuania	14,616	68,904	75,795	0	0	0
Malaysia	59,601	60,935	60,938	0	0	0
Mexico	55,608	178,201	195,360	1,118	7,200	7,400
Moldova	14,636	67,194	74,010	2,528	14,602	16,052
New Zealand(*)	184,697	1,562,689	1,596,082	57,173	462,858	469,358
Poland	71,796	67,964	74,061	0	0	0
Portugal	9,298	62,432	64,896	0	0	0
Romania	432	3,451	3,647	0	0	0
Russia	57,280	380,015	417,196	2,415	23,752	25,490
Saudi Arabia	95	3,240	3,340	0	0	0
Serbia	4,835	35,153	36,949	0	0	0
Slovenia	700	4,613	4,760	0	0	0
Spain	114,407	773,772	798,295	1,607	10,378	10,802
Switzerland(*)	63,234	471,601	492,810	4,116	22,930	24,028
Taiwan	151,914	236,416	254,994	22,919	33,796	36,656
Thailand	37,320	84,286	91,154	0	0	0
Turkey	60,355	336,253	347,914	10,665	60,494	64,290
Ukraine	37,408	130,965	144,051	0	0	0
Uruguay	38,400	105,216	110,103	0	0	0
Uzbekistan, Republic of	2,881	10,083	11,070	0	0	0
Vietnam	45,200	118,577	124,205	0	0	0
Zambia	2,985	44,145	44,386	0	0	0

FLAVORED HONEY –

Australia(*)	11,900	121,633	124,133	0	0	0
Canada	14,939	184,052	185,875	572	12,156	12,163
China	193,972	353,500	390,949	208	9,450	10,300

Egypt	2,400	5,250	5,500	0	0	0
Estonia	1,800	11,509	11,776	0	0	0
France(*)	12,965	65,461	67,831	3,455	13,677	14,220
Germany(*)	11,809	139,643	145,407	359	5,797	6,377
Greece	240	3,815	4,051	0	0	0
India	1,427	6,630	6,955	0	0	0
Israel(*)	453	2,587	2,774	0	0	0
Italy(*)	5,892	95,454	98,140	192	5,034	5,107
Japan	826	32,145	33,283	576	9,242	9,791
Korea, South	102,828	2,488,717	2,585,079	14,341	240,416	248,515
Malaysia	20,430	56,960	56,961	20,430	56,960	56,961
Mexico	212,548	2,046,263	2,059,743	22,136	220,058	221,211
Norway(*)	30,406	912,138	919,239	15,203	456,069	459,270
Peru	894	45,890	49,390	0	0	0
Poland	3,015	23,507	24,403	2,000	19,037	19,487
Portugal	2,559	14,219	14,672	579	3,100	3,253
Spain	6,361	37,281	41,186	0	0	0
Taiwan	30,496	50,352	54,700	1,820	3,250	3,385
Thailand	67,970	308,545	320,334	17,243	82,910	85,717
United Kingdom	264	3,454	3,461	0	0	0
Vietnam	4,608	26,300	26,963	0	0	0

ORGANIC HONEY –

Australia(*)	19,218	173,579	184,510	0	0	0
Brazil	2,342,125	7,380,880	7,597,433	245,149	787,421	821,579
Canada	296,815	1,464,931	1,476,869	21,778	148,029	149,129
Dominican Republic	72,697	161,737	161,937	22,320	47,520	47,521
Greece	8,368	113,582	116,566	0	0	0
Israel(*)	900	5,832	7,032	0	0	0
Italy(*)	11,895	147,914	151,929	767	11,231	11,547
Mexico	242,305	781,278	785,895	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	20,621	127,904	130,786	0	0	0
Taiwan	3,150	12,390	12,743	0	0	0

GRAND TOTAL

131,842,937	392,568,375	405,807,174	9,818,577	30,888,789	31,908,841
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Notes:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General.
3. (*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.
4. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure. QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.
5. The CIF Value is not included within the 13th month data loads. This means that the CIF Value will be zero (0) for any records that are inserted during this process.
6. Product Group : Harmonized