

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Market News Branch

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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2008

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	\$1.26	
CALIFORNIA			
Orange Blossom	white	\$1.44	
Orange Blossom	light amber	\$1.39	
Sage/Buckwheat	extra light amber	\$1.50	
FLORIDA			
Galberry #	extra light amber	\$1.20	- \$1.40
Mangrove	extra light amber	\$1.25	
Orange #	extra light amber	\$1.40	
Palmetto	extra light amber	\$1.30	
Wildflower	light amber	\$1.13	- \$1.30
DAKOTAS			
Clover	white	\$1.40	- \$1.45
Clover	extra light amber	\$1.40	
Sunflower	white	\$1.45	
Sunflower	extra light amber	\$1.35	
LOUISIANA			
Wildflower	light amber	\$1.35	- \$1.38
MISSISSIPPI			
Wildflower	light amber	\$1.35	
MONTANA			
Clover	white	\$1.44	
TEXAS			
Tallow	light amber	\$1.13	- \$1.20
Wildflower	light amber	\$1.35	
WISCONSIN			
Basswood	white	\$1.50	
Clover	white		

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.

Province Not Reported

Canola	white	\$1.44
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Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

EAST COAST

Argentina

Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.44	-	\$1.47
Mixed Flowers	extra light amber	\$1.44	-	\$1.45
Mixed Flowers	light amber	\$1.44		

Brazil

Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.06	-	\$1.43
Mixed Flowers	extra light amber	\$1.35		
Mixed Flowers	light amber	\$1.24	-	\$1.26

India

Mixed Flowers	light amber	\$1.23		
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Uruguay

Mixed Flowers	extra light amber	\$1.45		
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Vietnam

Mixed Flowers	light amber	\$1.00	-	\$1.22
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COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER, 2008

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): Autumn arrived with daytime temperatures in the 70s and nighttime temperatures in the 60s most nights with occasional 50s some nights. There was plenty rain throughout the area this year. Colonies continued to do well and were in very good health. Honey stores were building for winter food and bees were able to continue to forage on nectar sources, which included asters, golden rod, milkweed, joe pye weed and various other fall perennials.

ALABAMA: Goldenrod and asters along with planted buckwheat were providing fall nectar and pollen for Alabama honey bees in September. Mites were at a peak in colonies but don't appear to be a serious problem. Most beekeepers were treating. Small hive beetles have been a serious problem for the beekeepers. Colonies have been lost and beekeepers were spending a lot of money on traps and treatments. New beekeepers seem to have been the most troubled by this pest. Honey appeared adequate in most colonies for overwintering and much goldenrod pollen was being stored.

ARIZONA: Except for the second week of the month, temperatures in Arizona were above normal during September. The range statewide in temperatures for the month was a high of 114 degrees Fahrenheit in Parker to a low of 30 degrees Fahrenheit at the Grand Canyon. Precipitation levels were well above normal the first third of the month, with as many as 18 of 22 reporting stations receiving precipitation during a one week reporting

period. However, precipitation levels were below normal for the duration of September. Four of 22 reporting districts are at above normal precipitation levels for the year. The main nectar and pollen sources were watermelon, cantaloupes, honeydews, and alfalfa. Demand for honey remains good.

ARKANSAS: Pollen and nectar sources were from smartweed, asters and golden rod. Conditions of the colonies were strong throughout the month. Producers were busy harvesting honey and medicating hives. The honey crop was good for most beekeepers. Demand for locally produced honey was very strong. Bulk prices continued to rise to levels not seen for 7-8 years. Retail prices were moving up as well. Weather conditions showed normal temperatures with adequate rainfall. Demand was strong for honey with some concern of adequate supplies.

CALIFORNIA: The month of September began with seasonably warm and dry conditions across the State. No significant precipitation was observed statewide. As the month progressed, generally warm daytime temperatures, mild overnight minimums, and no significant precipitation prevailed. Eventually, a trough of low pressure system formed off the coast moved inland, bringing some shower and thunderstorm activity to the North Coast and Northern Mountains. This also brought a nice breeze from the Pacific Ocean and took down daytime high temperatures from the mid 90s to the 80s in the Central Valley. The Southern California coast and mountains experienced the same cooling pattern. The central coast remained mostly in the mid 60s. Rainfall was expected throughout the state towards the end of the month and the beginning of October, which is highly welcomed by the beekeepers.

Honeybees were pollinating melon fields in the central area of the state and sunflower and vineseed crops in the northern area. Coastal bees have been feeding on tarweed and blue curl, although the plants are about finished. Some bees remained in holding areas. Most beekeepers have not had to supplement feed yet, as the bees have made enough honey eliminating the need for supplemental feeding for a while. Mite treatments have been given and beekeepers will start with the treatment regiment for *Apis Ceranae* very soon.

COLORADO: Within the next two weeks, most beekeepers in the state of Colorado will have completed extracting their honey from hives for the 2008 production season. This year has been a challenge for beekeepers in the State. The unusually cool wet spring was the start of a major delay for the crop growing season. Crops and their resulting blooming season were delayed between two and three weeks from normal. Coupled with a dry summer, honey production was reduced by up to 50 percent in some areas of the state. The primary crop utilized for honey production this season was alfalfa. Secondary crops included clover. Prices for honey this year are higher due to the lower overall production. Cost of production continue too skyrocket. One of the largest costs is the transportation of moving hives to their winter locations and then back to Colorado in the spring. One major concern in the future is that farmers in Colorado are moving away from alfalfa and clover towards grain crops with a potential higher return. Bee health is a constant concern for Colorado beekeepers. The importance of staying on top of the bees health at all times is highly critical towards survival of the colony according to several beekeepers. Most bees appeared to be in good health as the season finished this year. Few deformities were found. Both mites and *nocema* seem to be under control at this time. Some producers planned to keep their bees working until they go into dormancy so they have enough energy to survive dormancy. Others planned to use pollen patties as a means to keep the bees fat going into the dormancy period. Little progress has been seen regarding Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This continues to be an ongoing concern of beekeepers in Colorado. Various beekeepers will start moving their yards to Texas starting around October 1. These beekeepers and others will then start moving their hives to California starting in November and December. While in California these beehives will be utilized strictly for their pollination services in the almond groves. Several beekeepers mentioned that they would move the colonies out to the almond groves in January, if the almond growers did not use dormant spray. They just do not want to risk the chance of damage to the bee's health from spray. Hives will be spaced at around 2 hives per acre.

FLORIDA: Light supplies of pollen and nectar from a variety of minor sources were available. The major source of nectar was Brazilian Pepper in the southern part of the state. Due to spotty rain patterns this year Brazilian Pepper has been doing better on west coast of Florida than the east coast. Many colonies were still out of state, but most should return by the end of October. Goldenrod was the leading variety in the northern part of the state. Most colonies were in good condition. However, there were some signs that colony collapse disorder was still an issue.

GEORGIA: Colonies around the state were in mostly good condition. In South Georgia, some colonies were in need of feeding with sugar or corn syrup due to spotty production of food from the summer honey flow. In the Piedmont area, few colonies were also in need of feeding due to the limited spring honey flow and there were no significant food sources available in September. In the northern mountains, while there were no significant food sources available in September, colonies were generally able to sustain themselves during the month due to the flow from sourwood trees, which ended in July. Around the state at the end of September, colonies were in various degrees of population decline, depending on when significant honey flow ended. By the end of September, most beekeepers had completed extraction of their honey crop. After which, they have or soon will treat for Varroa mites and American Foulbrood. There were no significant pollen or nectar sources in September. In October, a flow from aster and goldenrod is expected on a statewide basis and should help provide the colonies with additional food for overwintering but no surplus. September featured warm to hot days with mild to warm nights in the first half of the month, and mild to warm days with cool to mild nights in the latter half of the month. Moisture levels were above average for the first half of the month in Central and South Georgia due to rain from Tropical Storm Fay. In the Piedmont and northern mountains, moisture levels remained below average. In the latter half of the month, drier than normal conditions prevailed statewide.

IDAHO: Bees were in good condition. With two to three weeks of honey extraction remaining, honey production appeared to be normal. Beekeepers noted increased demand for honey, especially among those with on-site retail outlets. There also appeared to be an increasing interest in buying large quantities of honey at the wholesale level. Cool temperatures with very few and spotty rain storms was the norm for Idaho in September. Harvest weather was good, but it certainly did not provide any new and fresh bloom. The lateness of summer weather coming put most crops two weeks behind this year. Thus, most alfalfa fields were showing bloom later than normal throughout the summer. These conditions really limited the developments and volume of pollen available for the bees to harvest. Though most Idaho producers don't harvest pollen they certainly are aware and concerned about it's availability to their bee colonies. Eastern Idaho and areas of Western Wyoming and Southwest Montana have fields of second crop alfalfa still being harvested as September comes to an end. Due to the maturity of any available bloom, much of the nectar and pollen that would normally be available is not. Very little new fresh bloom associated with third crop alfalfa was available in late September. These factors added up means most beekeepers are either leaving honey in each hive, as they extract; or they are feeding corn syrup products. Idaho bees are heading home for the winter season now. Beekeepers are preparing hives for a dormancy season prior to heading into California for the almond pollination season in February. Most beekeepers like to give their bees a rest for at least two months prior to the pollination season. So for the next couple of months Idaho producers will be going through each colony, treating for mites, foul brood, and nosema.

ILLINOIS: Rainfall was generally light during the month of September. Carbondale in southern Illinois reported only a quarter inch while Freeport in the northwest section reported half inch of rainfall. The southeastern section where earlier in the spring had heavy and frequent rainfall and flooding most had 1/10 of an inch or less of rainfall for the month. Most of the remaining sections reported no measurable amounts of rainfall. Temperatures were reported favorable in mid seventies and eighties. Southern areas had some reports of mid 80's to low 90's for the period. Floral sources honeybees had been working included Aster, Goldenrod, Mums, Queen Ann's Lace and fall Lavender. Due to dry conditions most pollen sources had little collection activity. Month's end some hobbyist beekeepers had moved hives to set aside program fields to increase overwintering stores. Many beekeepers had inspected hives and were taking advantage of the mild fall weather to treat their hives and prepare for overwintering. Beekeepers reported colonies were in generally good condition heading into fall and winter. Beekeepers reported honey sales at fall festivals were good while bulk movement was average.

INDIANA: Beekeepers reported most bees had been treated and were moving colonies into overwintering yards. Most honeybees were reported in good condition as the fall flow of Goldenrod, Aster and Wild flowers were heavier than expected in northern sections. The fall flow was limited in central and southern sections due to lack of rainfall and late spring planting due to heavy spring rains and flooding in some areas. Many beekeepers had been cleaning and repairing hives damaged due to the floods. Some areas of northern Indiana had received some heavy rains which had caused some Flooding. Honey sales were reported very good due to the mild temperatures attendance at fall festivals had been heavier than normal. Local honey had been moving well and some beekeepers had reported customer interest in organic honey. Bulk honey movement was reported fairly well with limited packer interest. Retail wax demand was reported stronger than normal with a few beekeepers reporting they had sold most of their inventory.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Temperatures were about normal for most of the Midwest, while precipitation was above normal. Most of the precipitation came as a result of Hurricane Ike. Beekeepers were promoting and selling honey at state fairs. Honey flow was below normal to fair. Beekeepers were dealing with mites, late swarming, and colonies without queens. Beekeepers reported that many brood boxes and supers were not used. Demand for queens was. Some producers had a 40-50% success rate with their queens. Bees were working Dutch Clover, Golden Rod, Basswood and fall foliage. Disaster assistance was extended due to the late passage of the 2008 Farm Bill.

KENTUCKY: Kentucky has been officially declared to be in a drought situation -- Eastern Kentucky in a severe drought status, Central Kentucky in moderate drought, and Western Kentucky in mild drought. The lack of rain has, without doubt, slowed or prevented a fall nectar flow. These conditions seemed to be getting rapidly worse. Numerous beekeepers reported hives with virtually no honey stores.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources during September were from aster, goldenrod, and other wild flowers. Colonies were in generally good condition. Temperatures were above normal and rainfall was adequate. Supply and demand were good.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures were at or slightly below normal levels for the month of September. Precipitation levels were heavy during the first part of the month, but ended on a light note. Goldenrod, honeysuckle, apples, and clover have been the main source for nectar and pollen in Michigan. Demand for honey was good.

MINNESOTA: The honey production season is complete for the 2008 season in Minnesota. Most Beekeepers are now cleaning up their yards in preparation for their next missions in California. It is expected that beekeepers in Minnesota will have most yards moved by November 1. At this point, there has not been a killing frost. Weather has been an extremely important factor in this year's production cycle. In May, it started out cooler and wetter than normal. This contributed to slow start to the vegetative processes. By the time that Basset Trees and the crop blooming season arrived in July, the weather changed towards a dryer than normal pattern. These factors all had an influence in creating a shorter than normal blooming season, specifically for the Basset Tree. The bee industry in Central Minnesota heavily depends upon the Basset Tree to provide the necessary bloom for a good production year. In the absence of a normal Basset Tree blooming season, final production of honey has been greatly reduced this year. Due to the reduced honey production this year, prices have steadily increased. According to several beekeepers, this has helped. With production costs on the rise and reduction of colony numbers, the immediate future economic outlook is weak at best. According to several beekeepers, financial assistance may be necessary in many cases to keep them economically afloat. Health of the hives is an ongoing concern as beekeepers continue to monitor the health of the bees. Mites and nocema seem to be of most concern, and are being treated with previously approved products. With careful testing and treatments these concerns are largely under control. Nocema is a fungus that attacks the intestinal tracks of bees. There still does not appear to be any remedies for Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). It will not be known until spring whether beekeepers will continue to see losses from this disorder. One of the major problems during the past growing seasons was the loss of worker bees from soybean growing areas. Soybean farmers sprayed pesticides on their fields to control the aphid infestations. However, the use of these pesticides had an extreme negative impact upon colony losses in the areas of the soybean crops. In some cases, it was reported that there was up to a 30 to 50 percent loss of worker bees in colonies. People using these pesticides were unaware of the ramifications regarding the impact upon the honey industry.

MISSISSIPPI: Colonies were in mostly good condition. A few colonies in southern Mississippi were being fed as their populations were too high for the available food supply. In central and northern Mississippi, no feeding was reported during September. However, food supplies were less than expected as the gathering of limited amounts of pollen and nectar that would have been available was curtailed by the presence of Hurricanes/Tropical Storms Gustav and Ike. No damage to hives was reported from these storms as the hives were located close to the ground. No food sources were available in southern Mississippi in September although a sustaining flow from goldenrod was expected in October. In central and northern Mississippi, wildflowers were an available food source but gathering of food was hampered by the storms until the latter half of September. A few additional food sources late in the month were boneset and goldenrod. Aster was expected to be an available sustaining food in October in central and northern Mississippi. The honey crop from summer sources in central and northern Mississippi was average except above average in the Delta region. Populations were still high through September except in southern Mississippi. There, populations continued to gradually decline except for a few colonies where the queens laid too many eggs, causing the need to feed these overpopulated colonies. Where extraction of honey has been completed, beekeepers have or soon will treat for Varroa mites and American Foulbrood. Weather around the state for September featured warm to hot days with mild to warm nights

in the first half of the month followed by mild to warm days with cool to mild nights in the latter half of the month. Moisture levels for September were close to average prior to the storms and above average after them.

MONTANA: Montana was warm and dry during August with above average temperatures and normal amounts of precipitation throughout the state. By month's end, seasonal weather changes were bringing night time temperatures low enough to produce light frosts. Although, a killing frost for home gardeners with protection had not yet occurred. Honey extraction for many keepers was a shortened process this year as yields were generally below average. Honey quality, however was reported as very good. Keepers were busy stripping down hives, applying treatments, and preparing colonies to be trucked to California wintering areas. Most wild sources of nectar and pollen were finished for the season with the exception of alfalfa. Demand for honey was good and prices were firm.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather for September was seasonally warm with average daytime temperatures generally normal with an extended period of mild conditions. Moisture levels were above normal for the year generally in all parts of the region. The current weather conditions have recently accelerated plant growth creating ample pollen and nectar flow. Bees have been working *celthra alnifolia*, Mexican bamboo, fall aster, staghorn sumac, white and sweet clover, thistle, purple loose strife, button brush, assorted wild weeds mostly knot weed, sweet pepper bush, various wild flowers and especially golden rod.

The New England cranberry crop pollination needs have been met by local beekeepers and looks to be prolific with very high yields. The favorable weather has given way to an unusually lengthy and strong nectar and honey flow with good reports on quality and quantity. Yields have been in the 30-60 lb range per super. Generally speaking, regional areas that had ample rain fall experienced high honey production yields. Some areas with poor moisture conditions suffered with low honey production numbers. There was a good harvest of honey in coastal areas which was above last years with excellent quality.

Beekeepers report colonies to be generally in good to very good condition with mite and disease problems under control. There were no major mite or parasite problems reported. Most of the regions colonies were in better condition than normal reportedly due to the pervasive use of Mite-Away-II (formic acid), apiguard, apilife var and the effect of the confectionary sugar technique in treating hives for mites.

At this time reportedly many keepers re-queen in the fall in order to have a strong queen and healthy brood for the spring. Additionally this procedure includes combining weak colonies to form strong ones as one strong colony has a better chance of survival then two weak ones.

Beekeepers were busy collecting pollen, raw honey, comb honey, wax molds, bees wax, propolis, royal jelly, bee bread, candles, honey candy, honey sticks and many other hive products for local county fairs and floral/garden shows. Samples collected from many New England Bee Keepers Associations indicate a wide range of honey quality. Reportedly sales of all bee producing products have been brisk at the shows, fairs, and farmers markets.

Natural honey and wax supply is good, demand very good, movement very active, and prices are about unchanged for new crop natural honey. Selling at local and farmer markets, prices reportedly are retail one pound bottle units \$5.00-\$8.00 mostly 8.00 occasional \$10.00 and 5 gallon units \$75.00-\$80.00 mostly \$80.00 occasional \$85.00 for dark and \$85.00-\$90.00 mostly \$90.00 occasional \$95.00 for light raw honey.

NEW YORK: Temperatures started out slightly above normal, but ended the month below normal levels. Precipitation levels were below normal for most of the month, but ended the month with above normal levels. Goldenrod, aster, alfalfa, soybeans and apples were reported as main sources for nectar and pollen. Controversy involving the State bee inspection program has been reported in the Times Union in New York. Over a year has passed since the state started rebuilding the program after being riddled with conflicts of interest and an unemployment insurance scam. Some beekeepers have criticized the program as a bureaucratic effort to police them. At this point, only 9 of 38 newly created inspector spots have been filled. The plan to create a beehive registry is also viewed by some as a possible prequel to the imposition of new fees at a later date. The state farm bureau is supportive of the efforts, hoping that it will help slow down the decline in New York's bee production. Demand for honey was good.

NORTH CAROLINA: The first couple of weeks of September were warmer than normal and the latter part averaged around normal to slightly below. Many counties in the eastern part of the state received much precipitation from Hurricane Hanna. Although those counties were still classified as abnormally dry, they were no longer considered to be in drought status. In the western part, 19 counties are still in extreme drought despite some precipitation during the month. Many municipalities continue to enforce water usage limitations. September 2008 was declared "Honey Month" by the Governor of North Carolina. The proclamation states the value of honey sold in North Carolina exceeds \$15 million each year and the value of honeybee pollination to North Carolina crops exceeds \$185 million. According to Gregory Clements, president of the N.C. Beekeepers Association, "North Carolina is a real hotbed of hobby beekeepers." The Association is the nation's largest with almost 2,000 members. Several county beekeeping associations have had to turn people away from their annual schools, due to the popularity of beekeeping. Beekeepers are getting hives ready for winter. Apiary Specialists encouraged beekeepers to be alert to any pest problems that might occur and treat as needed. Bees were working Goldenrod and Aster. Honey that will be available for sale during the fall season is expected to be excellent.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: Packers were busy extracting as the season wound down. Most should be done in the next week or so. Improved conditions, especially in the latter half of the season, have produced a fairly good crop of honey. As extracting was finishing, preparations were being made for moving bees to their winter homes when temperatures drop to more favorable levels.

OHIO: Ohio was hit by above normal precipitation levels during the month of September. These levels were in part related to the remnants of Hurricane Ike. The bee population of Ohio suffered no significant losses, as they were able to effectively cope with the storms. The main sources for pollen and nectar in Ohio included goldenrod, clover, corn, alfalfa and soybeans. Demand for honey has been good.

OKLAHOMA: In Southern Oklahoma, pollen and nectar sources during September were alfalfa, golden rod, rag weed and nut trees. Colonies were reported as strong. There has been an unusual cool spell and very little rain resulting in very little surplus of honey. Supplies were short and demand remained very high. Hive beetles were bad this year in the southern part of the state and moderate in central Oklahoma. In Northern Oklahoma, ragweed was the main source of pollen and nectar. Condition of the colonies was good. Temperatures were above normal and the state was very dry. Supply and demand were good. Hive beetles were also affecting the Northern areas of Oklahoma.

OREGON: During the month of September, keepers reported most bees and hives were in good condition, although some mites were reported. Keepers had completed most of their fall honey extraction and were applying mite and other treatments before the cooler, wetter fall weather and temperatures set in. Colonies to be trucked to wintering sites in California were being fed and readied, while wintering over hives were being fed and wrapped for protection against the upcoming winter weather. Keepers reported honey crop yield to be average and quality as mostly good. Honey demand was good with perhaps less competition from imports because of the weaker dollar. Bulk prices paid by receivers were quoted at 1.30-1.55 per pound.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Colonies across the state were reported to be in mostly good conditions during the month of September. No major pests' problems were reported. Small Hive Beetles posed problems for some across the state. Some reported hives with enough stores to sustain, but throughout the midlands keepers reported that stores were not holding up. Floral sources for parts of the state consisted of Aster, Goldenrod and wildflowers which provided both nectar and pollen. Much needed rainfall was received across the state mainly from the midlands to the coast during the month. The piedmont to the northern midlands of South Carolina still remains in extreme to severe drought conditions. Temperatures for the month of September were below normal.

TENNESSEE: The state of Tennessee has been experiencing a very dry season resulting in very little in the way of nectar flow. Robbing behavior has been a major obstacle for beekeepers opening their colonies. Honey production for the year so far has been slightly better than last year.

TEXAS: Maximillian sunflower, broom weed, goldenrod, snow on the mountain, and aster served as pollen and nectar sources. Colonies were building brood and collecting nectar and pollen. General conditions started fair and were building up to good by the end of the month. No significant problems with Varro mites were noted. Weather continued dry and warm. Small rains from Gustav and Ike improved flowering conditions. However, without additional rains soon, spring flowers will be reduced. Honey demand continued to be very good, and supply was short. Some beekeepers on the coast lost significant numbers of colonies and foraging areas during Ike. This may impact overall honey production next year.

UTAH: Utah beekeepers are going through their bee colonies getting them ready for winter and collecting any honey left from the summer honey production season. They have been through approximately 80 percent of their Utah hives. They say their Utah bees were in good to really good health. However, they are finding low numbers in some colonies. They thought 2/3 of their colonies were really good and 1/3 just so-so condition. Most Utah bees go to California or Southern Nevada for the winter to rest and build numbers. However, many still spend the winter months, prior to the February almond pollination season, in Utah. Those bees wintered in-state are either kept in a building or put in yards outside. Beekeepers are going through their bee colonies as September comes to a close, preparing them for the winter. Most producers are either feeding corn syrup or are leaving honey in each hive as they extract the summer's honey crop. Beekeepers are treating their bees for foul brood, varroa mites and other calamities currently associated with bees. More beekeepers are reported to be using a natural product called Apiguard for mites. It is a sophisticated slow release gel matrix, ensuring correct dosage of the active ingredient Thymol. Thymol is a naturally occurring substance derived from the plant thyme. It has a proven high efficacy against the varroa mite and is also active against both tracheal mite and chalkbrood. The pollination of the California almond crop continues to be a huge portion of the beekeepers yearly income and is apparently on the rise as costs related to the bee industry, mainly fuel costs, continues to rise. Utah beekeepers are being quoted as high as \$175 for pollination fees for the coming season. Some have agreed to and committed to contracts with long term customers at \$155 with the agreement of receiving the "ups" if the market is higher. Most beekeepers and almond producers have formed close working relationships with each other over the years and are able to readily agree to terms. However, as almond acreage increases bees are more in demand, and fewer in numbers forcing relationships with unknown business partners. Many brokers are now being used to act as go-betweens in the deal.

WASHINGTON: Good weather around the state in September had things generally looking good. Good early fall weather with many warm, sunny days has kept things moving late in the season. Bees have been working various floral sources and some were beginning to feed in preparation for overwintering. Most reported decent honey flows. There has been a little rain on the West side, and more is expected throughout the state as fall weather approached.

WISCONSIN: Beekeepers reported most of the month was favorable for fall activities. Some varied amounts of rainfall had fallen over the state. Many migratory colonies had been inspected and due to a mild fall had left the state. Most beekeepers moved colonies had moved their hives into overwintering yards or protected areas while temperatures were mild and rainfall had been favorable for outdoor activities. Fall treatment for Tracheal and Varroa mites were underway due to the mild weather. Retail honey sales had been good due to many fall festivals throughout the state. Bulk honey sales were reported fairly well with limited movement due to beekeepers holding some in loan programs.

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

	July 2008		Year to Date	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Aruba	0	0	4,914	23,518
Barbados	850	4,555	1,710	8,645
Bermuda	1,185	6,746	3,428	19,458
Cayman Islands	0	0	505	2,523
China; Peoples Republic of	0	0	10,999	40,269
Guyana	0	0	762	4,831
Hong Kong	0	0	5,217	16,728
Iceland	0	0	725	7,975
India	0	0	1,685	6,514
Japan	19,332	69,208	68,553	255,860
Korea; Republic of	94,180	293,535	94,928	296,179
Kuwait	2,123	8,775	58,139	274,375
Malaysia	0	0	4,692	11,390
Netherlands	0	0	2,268	10,180
Pakistan	0	0	9,570	41,775
Panama	1,730	9,109	1,730	9,109
Philippines	18,064	83,403	75,181	355,293
Qatar	0	0	2,637	9,353
Saudi Arabia	30,291	163,636	65,044	320,782
Singapore	0	0	9,923	24,086
Taiwan	9,660	29,203	24,467	84,234
United Arab Emirates	0	0	67,550	298,414
Yemen	0	0	48,165	202,325
SUBTOTAL	177,415	668,170	562,792	2,323,816

NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED - - -

Antigua and Barbuda	0	0	997	11,250
Aruba	1,222	2,966	1,222	2,966
Australia	0	0	43,425	112,312
Bahamas; The	1,882	5,390	8,503	24,347
Bahrain	0	0	22,255	54,016
Barbados	0	0	3,507	15,800
Belgium	0	0	22,978	65,410
Belize	0	0	20,948	50,845
Bermuda	0	0	1,161	6,576
Brazil	0	0	1,960	3,189
Brunei	0	0	69,320	177,832
Cambodia	0	0	1,131	5,683
Canada	68,771	269,720	349,606	1,258,322
Cayman Islands	0	0	1,917	9,481
China; Peoples Republic of	0	0	11,523	32,459
Colombia	0	0	680	2,916
Costa Rica	2,504	7,949	5,008	14,794
Guatemala	14,514	31,520	29,691	60,320
Hong Kong	0	0	19,585	79,173
India	0	0	29,707	66,299
Indonesia	0	0	92,119	299,658
Israel	0	0	93,198	268,500
Japan	32,894	79,840	100,474	250,033
Korea; Republic of	1,097	2,517	26,380	65,302
Kuwait	0	0	16,289	78,087
Malaysia	0	0	31,702	66,977
Netherlands	0	0	3,717	9,089

	July 2008		Year to Date	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED - - - Cont'd				
Pakistan	0	0	25,975	67,978
Panama	0	0	1,552	3,766
Philippines	0	0	31,217	146,368
Saudi Arabia	0	0	80,903	277,564
Singapore	10,064	24,426	10,064	24,426
South Africa; Republic of	0	0	10,000	52,200
Taiwan	1,327	7,000	6,339	19,165
Thailand	5,197	12,615	45,142	118,785
United Arab Emirates	0	0	771	3,467
Venezuela	0	0	3,629	8,346
Yemen	0	0	1,000	3,000
SUBTOTAL	139,472	443,943	1,225,595	3,816,701
GRAND TOTAL	316,887	1,112,113	1,788,387	6,140,517

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

	July 2008			Year to Date		
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars
WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Argentina	452,621	1,234,741	1,272,082	1,583,679	4,581,466	4,717,070
Australia	0	0	0	19,499	58,497	60,497
Brazil	74,920	215,298	225,279	510,131	1,325,603	1,398,808
Canada	942,242	2,935,640	2,944,340	11,453,741	32,493,170	32,634,356
China; Peoples Republic of	637,444	197,876	324,800	900,687	268,817	418,867
Egypt	0	0	0	1,020	2,830	2,831
India	28,724	87,398	92,998	4,564,422	9,071,549	9,746,560
Indonesia	229,100	359,109	372,709	934,670	1,479,900	1,565,800
Italy	0	0	0	6,256	28,083	29,938
Japan	0	0	0	30,543	101,048	111,733
Malaysia	0	0	0	964,860	1,340,237	1,518,187
Mexico	19,023	55,512	56,512	130,294	370,861	379,175
Mongolia	0	0	0	18,166	22,049	27,249
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	2,000	15,600	19,100	2,000	15,600	19,100
Poland	0	0	0	819	7,340	7,341
Russian Federation	0	0	0	4,416	14,456	14,457
Taiwan	0	0	0	74,400	104,160	114,592
Thailand	95,700	76,560	89,960	572,480	471,948	548,658
United Kingdom	0	0	0	7,618	95,765	98,199
Uruguay	0	0	0	38,228	110,861	114,861
Vietnam	55,800	108,810	118,980	265,150	483,190	526,255
SUBTOTAL	2,537,574	5,286,544	5,516,760	22,083,079	52,447,430	54,054,534
EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Argentina	1,712,016	5,132,321	5,279,035	4,002,046	11,717,771	12,063,103
Brazil	407,975	1,141,584	1,186,856	2,106,766	4,888,239	5,114,930
Canada	74,359	227,268	227,768	355,819	1,031,869	1,035,877
China; Peoples Republic of	1,540,480	770,240	1,034,840	3,350,626	1,694,834	2,184,754
Germany	0	0	0	18,517	34,256	34,822
India	341,849	760,761	795,193	1,488,749	2,776,585	2,929,636
Indonesia	0	0	0	228,520	362,877	381,877
Malaysia	278,640	449,526	499,821	873,570	1,349,050	1,500,465
Mexico	81,817	250,821	260,212	255,771	723,479	739,761
Mongolia	0	0	0	254,324	375,491	386,048
Pakistan	57,000	105,450	112,050	133,000	237,175	252,685
Russian Federation	0	0	0	2,625,950	3,833,777	4,041,589
Singapore	0	0	0	269,250	363,488	393,488
Taiwan	153,120	243,078	265,320	153,120	243,078	265,320
Ukraine	0	0	0	18,850	50,895	52,895
Uruguay	0	0	0	77,106	222,212	230,144
Vietnam	288,300	564,105	606,075	1,257,380	2,178,223	2,361,265
SUBTOTAL	4,935,556	9,645,154	10,267,170	17,469,364	32,083,299	33,968,659
LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Argentina	0	0	0	380,303	1,041,674	1,082,551
Austria	0	0	0	949	2,786	2,959
Brazil	669,323	1,649,239	1,733,536	4,882,164	10,151,160	10,822,378
Canada	111,213	342,387	343,587	246,426	724,583	727,806
Chile	0	0	0	1,317	17,121	17,485
China; Peoples Republic of	18,850	32,422	34,988	18,850	32,422	34,988
Dominican Republic	1,010	3,168	3,349	1,658	5,664	5,938
Germany	0	0	0	36,000	72,000	73,221

	July 2008			Year to Date		
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars
LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE --- Cont'd						
Hungary	0	0	0	4,182	17,944	18,644
India	268,144	657,195	702,361	3,964,621	7,677,922	8,121,932
Italy	12,428	26,351	28,691	68,543	122,112	130,523
Malaysia	185,880	283,128	322,603	520,250	773,120	881,145
Mexico	18,343	40,687	42,687	338,343	755,344	782,476
Mongolia	0	0	0	54,498	81,747	81,830
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	6,782	31,976	34,509	21,195	89,097	94,635
Peru	0	0	0	3,783	20,155	20,970
Russian Federation	0	0	0	475,020	712,530	720,881
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	6,150	12,300	14,002
Spain	209	2,901	3,027	7,003	38,355	39,821
Taiwan	76,560	111,012	118,376	310,065	468,242	498,740
Thailand	0	0	0	289,800	391,140	429,370
United Kingdom	0	0	0	109	2,085	2,185
Uruguay	19,009	45,622	48,472	92,780	259,615	269,785
Venezuela	0	0	0	5,095	21,384	27,642
Vietnam	2,025,529	4,025,560	4,321,229	9,231,780	16,813,322	18,032,686
SUBTOTAL	3,413,280	7,251,648	7,737,415	20,960,884	40,303,824	42,934,593

NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED HONEY ---

Argentina	0	0	0	115,987	360,879	372,974
Australia	3,947	16,920	25,591	49,382	241,554	268,065
Brazil	0	0	0	560,735	1,194,942	1,278,075
Canada	172,552	531,111	531,120	228,734	657,218	657,610
Dominican Republic	11,160	20,000	21,230	103,860	89,600	96,060
France	0	0	0	2,814	9,647	11,014
Germany	0	0	0	394	3,797	4,117
Hong Kong	0	0	0	4,686	11,868	11,973
Israel	0	0	0	536	2,098	2,251
Italy	331	3,632	3,672	2,967	27,560	29,008
Mexico	41,003	112,757	114,673	408,210	970,198	977,176
Moldova; Republic of	0	0	0	4,888	14,043	14,045
Morocco	0	0	0	1,257	8,382	8,532
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	49,277	86,908	87,116	99,192	210,716	213,016
Russian Federation	1,176	2,141	2,147	1,176	2,141	2,147
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	650	2,349	5,349
Spain	0	0	0	7,572	40,376	41,976
Switzerland	0	0	0	16,136	143,332	149,701
Taiwan	0	0	0	63,515	115,315	122,137
Thailand	36,300	71,511	78,461	36,300	71,511	78,461
United Kingdom	0	0	0	63,721	112,382	113,382
Vietnam	0	0	0	333,619	606,645	668,498
SUBTOTAL	315,746	844,980	864,010	2,106,331	4,896,553	5,125,567

COMB & RETAIL HONEY ---

Argentina	17,648	61,075	63,075	35,296	120,651	124,651
Australia	0	0	0	33,571	225,640	233,351
Austria	15,428	47,469	52,021	62,636	287,767	311,989
Brazil	2,130	15,663	16,188	36,229	125,672	129,102
Bulgaria	11,692	37,754	39,804	73,429	221,702	237,668
Cambodia	94,544	137,344	139,044	94,544	137,344	139,044

	July 2008			Year to Date		
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars
COMB AND RETAIL HONEY --- Cont'd						
Canada	43,553	200,135	201,517	882,435	3,680,471	3,700,139
Dominican Republic	13,170	21,268	21,422	41,612	75,337	77,205
Egypt	580	2,415	2,665	1,907	7,945	8,445
Fiji	0	0	0	1,872	13,880	16,662
France	847	9,614	10,238	30,553	283,926	295,874
Germany	25,297	96,530	100,530	124,505	532,410	558,626
Greece	0	0	0	41,981	210,640	213,972
Hungary	1,092	8,299	8,599	56,451	125,796	141,672
India	14,362	43,699	46,599	184,033	413,048	441,063
Iran	1,656	4,039	4,629	4,717	10,197	11,489
Israel	2,311	12,230	13,617	24,016	102,528	107,171
Italy	708	5,527	5,809	20,222	102,892	109,991
Lebanon	300	4,488	4,757	300	4,488	4,757
Lithuania	1,994	10,280	11,308	24,204	84,630	92,123
Mexico	0	0	0	792	5,793	5,799
Moldova; Republic of	0	0	0	3,375	14,031	15,435
Monaco	460	4,756	5,041	4,198	46,672	48,481
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	20,943	115,177	119,715	216,464	761,565	787,846
Peru	3,026	18,070	19,082	3,026	18,070	19,082
Poland	3,110	12,442	13,119	24,800	59,942	62,993
Portugal	0	0	0	7,140	43,248	44,641
Russian Federation	0	0	0	36,067	164,693	181,131
Spain	0	0	0	5,710	26,719	28,921
Switzerland	6,791	31,572	33,452	39,100	287,035	300,715
Taiwan	254,201	464,029	499,906	1,092,821	1,864,066	2,011,050
Thailand	0	0	0	660	2,500	2,716
Turkey	0	0	0	15,138	61,530	64,938
Ukraine	4,698	14,257	15,689	25,436	70,373	77,417
United Kingdom	6,216	10,963	11,919	7,371	16,363	17,982
Vietnam	183,457	256,506	278,256	721,385	936,687	1,035,437
SUBTOTAL	730,214	1,645,601	1,738,001	3,977,996	11,146,251	11,659,578
FLAVORED HONEY - - -						
Canada	232	3,600	3,601	2,336	28,869	29,133
China; Peoples Republic of	20,708	79,586	84,285	22,574	91,250	96,884
Germany	0	0	0	17,600	242,001	250,044
Italy	300	3,741	4,161	932	11,181	12,202
Japan	0	0	0	7,603	76,809	80,731
Korea; Republic of	0	0	0	2,524	18,470	19,375
Mexico	10,400	147,600	148,601	58,026	707,343	714,014
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	0	0	0	22	2,132	2,320
Thailand	15,714	62,210	63,826	48,920	168,362	176,031
United Kingdom	0	0	0	142	2,277	3,208
SUBTOTAL	47,354	296,737	304,474	160,679	1,348,694	1,383,942
GRAND TOTAL	11,979,724	24,970,664	26,427,830	66,758,333	142,226,051	149,126,873

2007 Honey Loan Summary Report
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Price-Support Loan Activity
As of October 09, 2008 – Honey in Pounds

Loans Made				Loans Outstanding		
State	Count Original	Quantity Original	Amount Original	Count Out	Quantity Out	Amount Out
AZ	2	31,560.00	\$18,936.00			
AR	14	371,500.00	\$222,900.00			
CA	25	947,635.00	\$568,581.00	1	24,235.00	\$14,541.00
CO	2	38,080.00	\$22,848.00			
FL	14	487,320.00	\$292,392.00	4	56,820.00	\$34,092.00
GA	7	99,130.00	\$59,478.00			
ID	24	452,235.00	\$271,341.00			
IA	8	680,080.00	\$408,048.00			
KS	6	167,440.00	\$100,464.00	1	47,956.00	\$28,773.60
LA	5	56,070.00	\$33,642.00			
MI	22	709,513.00	\$425,707.80	2	45,300.00	\$27,180.00
MN	22	886,155.00	\$531,693.00	4	98,000.00	\$58,800.00
MS	4	60,500.00	\$36,300.00			
MO	1	15,942.00	\$9,565.20			
MT	51	1,973,495.00	\$1,184,097.00			
NE	16	926,669.00	\$556,001.40			
NY	8	194,430.00	\$116,658.00	1	31,500.00	\$18,900.00
ND	33	2,079,875.00	\$1,247,925.00			
OK	2	2,720.00	\$1,632.00			
OR	5	270,000.00	\$162,000.00			
PA	1	41,540.00	\$24,924.00			
SD	45	2,918,860.00	\$1,751,316.00			
TN	3	13,750.00	\$8,250.00			
TX	6	180,300.00	\$108,180.00			
UT	4	79,880.00	\$47,928.00			
WA	9	356,870.00	\$214,122.00	1	2,147.00	\$1,288.20
WI	8	252,512.00	\$151,507.20			

2007 National Loan Totals

Loans Made			Loans Outstanding		
Count	Quantity	Amount	Count	Quantity	Amount
347	14,294,061.00	\$8,576,436.60	14	305,958.00	\$183,574.80

2008 Honey Loan Summary Report
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Price-Support Loan Activity
As of October 09, 2008 – Honey in Pounds

Loans Made				Loans Outstanding		
State	Count Original	Quantity Original	Amount Original	Count Out	Quantity Out	Amount Out
AL	1	50,400.00	\$30,240.00	1	49,140.00	\$29,484.00
AZ	2	27,720.00	\$16,632.00	2	27,720.00	\$16,632.00
AR	1	22,240.00	\$13,344.00	1	22,240.00	\$13,344.00
CA	18	486,650.00	\$291,990.00	16	315,050.00	\$189,030.00
FL	2	57,800.00	\$34,680.00	2	57,800.00	\$34,680.00
GA	5	27,870.00	\$16,722.00			
ID	11	170,167.00	\$102,100.20	9	144,167.00	\$86,500.20
IA	8	483,240.00	\$289,944.00	7	477,660.00	\$286,596.00
LA	4	24,160.00	\$14,496.00	2	11,700.00	\$7,020.00
MI	3	273,479.00	\$164,087.40	3	273,479.00	\$164,087.40
MN	12	466,380.00	\$279,828.00	11	422,860.00	\$253,716.00
MS	1	36,000.00	\$21,600.00	1	36,000.00	\$21,600.00
MT	47	1,834,211.00	\$1,100,526.60	47	1,834,211.00	\$1,100,526.60
NE	6	157,513.00	\$94,507.80	5	119,178.00	\$71,506.80
ND	14	531,740.00	\$319,044.00	13	512,240.00	\$307,344.00
OR	2	101,220.00	\$60,732.00	2	101,220.00	\$60,732.00
SD	18	941,980.00	\$565,188.00	18	898,910.00	\$539,346.00
TN	2	18,750.00	\$11,250.00	2	18,750.00	\$11,250.00
TX	1	57,600.00	\$34,560.00	1	57,600.00	\$34,560.00
WA	2	40,241.00	\$24,144.60	2	40,241.00	\$24,144.60
WI	3	53,420.00	\$32,052.00	3	53,420.00	\$32,052.00

2008 National Loan Totals					
Loans Made			Loans Outstanding		
Count	Quantity	Amount	Count	Quantity	Amount
163	5,862,781.00	\$3,517,668.60	148	5,473,586.00	\$3,284,151.60