

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Market News Branch

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www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf

Number XXIX - #2

Issued Monthly

March 13, 2009

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF February, 2009

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)

CALIFORNIA			
Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.19	- \$1.31
FLORIDA			
Pepper	light amber	\$1.13	- \$1.15
DAKOTAS			
Clover	white	\$1.22	- \$1.40
Clover	extra light amber	\$1.25	
MONTANA			
Clover	white	\$1.27	- \$1.35
WISCONSIN			
Clover	white	\$1.50	

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	\$1.25	
Mixed Flowers	extra light amber	\$1.14	- \$1.40
Brazil			
Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.36	
Mixed Flowers	extra light amber	\$1.14	- \$1.19
Mixed Flowers	light amber	\$1.06	- \$1.22

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	\$1.23	- \$1.24
Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.33	- \$1.35

COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY, 2009

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): February was another cold month with temperatures hovering 6-10 degrees lower than normal for several days during the month and there was plenty of wind. Precipitation was lacking resulting in the driest February for the state of Maryland along with other states in the district. The month ended with a couple of slightly warmer days. Beekeepers continued to monitor colonies as weather permitted and attended state and local association meetings.

ALABAMA: Cold temperatures across North Alabama continued to delay brood expansion. Losses were low. However, beekeepers were finding it necessary to feed. Maple, elm, and ag alder along with some henbit were providing some pollen for brood rearing but bees were not able to provide for themselves unless they had plenty of honey stored. Little to no honey was left to sell. South Alabama beekeepers were getting ready to put on supers. Wild mustard as well as landscape plants and winter honeysuckle were providing lots of pollen for bees. Beekeepers were conducting swarm prevention measures. Honey has been very short.

ARIZONA: Temperatures were above normal for the first week of February in Arizona, but were below normal for the rest of the month. The range of temperatures for the month was a high of 85 degrees Fahrenheit in Marana to a low of 7 degrees below zero Fahrenheit at the Grand Canyon. Precipitation levels were above normal, as over 2/3 of the 22 reporting stations received precipitation in any given week during the month. There were 21 of 22 stations which reported precipitation just past the middle of February. For the year, 5 of 22 stations were reporting above normal precipitation levels in Arizona. Many Arizona bee colonies remained out of state for the purposes of pollinating fruit and nut trees elsewhere. Alfalfa, as well as desert and plant bloom was the main source for nectar and pollen in the state. According to figures from the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), for 2008 Arizona had 25,000 honey producing colonies (down 5,000 from the previous year), 1,600,000 pounds of honey produced with a total production value of \$2,000,000 (both down from 2007). The average per pound price for honey in Arizona in 2008 was \$1.25, up from the 2007 average of \$1.18 per pound. Demand for honey remained good.

ARKANSAS: Pollen and nectar sources were from maple and alder trees. Colonies were generally in average to good condition. Some beekeepers were starting to feed. Temperatures have been slightly below normal and rainfall was adequate. Retail sales of honey were strong with excellent demand. Wholesale demand was down with some prices 10-20 cents per pound from last fall. A number of beekeepers sent hives to California for the almond crops. Many expressed concern over price cutting and water shortage affecting almond acres.

CALIFORNIA: At the start of the month, the final remnants of a Pacific storm system were moving out of the state. The weather in California was warm and dry, with gusty offshore breezes over Southern California and across the higher terrain of the northern parts of the state. The dry and warm daytime conditions continued through the early part of the month. While daytime highs were well above normal, overnight lows were very cool. Mid-month, two Pacific storm systems reached coastal California. The first system brought wide-spread rainfall and cooler temperatures to most of the state, while the second system brought most moisture to Southern California. The month ended with a series of Pacific storms moving through northern California, bringing significant precipitation to the northern two-thirds of the state. While the brunt of these systems fell across the Pacific Northwest, they were strong enough to spread good rainfall amounts across the coastal areas and to the Sacramento Valley and its adjacent mountains. Southern California remained dry through most of the period, with most of the week's rainfall staying north. Temperatures across the state were very mild, due to the subtropical nature of the storms.

Flower buds developed on nectarine and apricot trees. Almonds were in full bloom, but wet weather hampered pollination. Placement of hives in orchards was complete, and honeybees were readied for pollination. Because of the economic downturn, it appears there will be a surplus of bees for pollination purposes this year. Almond growers without enough water did not hire beekeepers to pollinate their trees. This caused an oversupply of bees for pollination with some significant price wars on pollination fees in the negative direction. Some beekeepers have had nowhere to place their bees due to the water situation.

Bees that did not make it to almond pollination were working various wildflowers and some eucalyptus. The bees were in great shape. However, beekeepers were seeing a Varroa mite build up and treating colonies for it. There also seemed to be less colony collapse disorder in honeybee hives this year, according to bee specialists.

COLORADO: Beekeepers will be leaving their hives in the California almond groves at least until the second or third week of March. Cool weather in late January and early February has created a later than normal bloom in the almond groves. In late February, bloom was anywhere from almost finished to just beginning, depending upon the variety and the location. Blue Diamond's web cams in late February showed that some of Northern California's varieties are still less than 10% full bloom. The cool weather earlier also caused health deterioration in some hives. The beekeepers were feeding their hives to improve health and vigor in them. Health seemed to be generally good by the time bloom was beginning and the bee colonies were needed for pollination. Many beekeepers had their colonies inspected, for their peace of mind, and also at the request of grove owners. There is a wide price spread in pollination contracts this year, ranging from \$80-\$145, with an estimate of \$120 as an average. Price is dependent upon a combination of bee health and demand in the area. Some areas are reportedly tearing out almond groves because of a lack of water. The lack of irrigation water in other areas will result in lower yields and less demand for pollination, resulting in an oversupply of bees and lower contract prices. White honey prices are reported to be in the \$1.40 per pound range, F.O.B. When the almond season ends in California many beekeepers will return to Colorado and to honey production.

FLORIDA: The citrus flow will be starting in March. Most nectar and pollen were from wildflower sources. Blueberries, strawberries and winter vegetables supplemented the wild sources. Many hives from Florida have relocated to California for almond pollination.

GEORGIA: Bees are beginning to show some activity and blooms continue to build up starting the Spring feeding cycles. Weather has been anything from cold evenings to warm days with temperatures fluctuating. No serious management of hives has started yet, but a good start for development and buildup in the hives has occurred with the warm weather in parts of December and January. What little activity that has occurred has been used for winter feed by the bees keeping the hives in mostly good condition. So far it appears to be a normal to average amount of winter loss as some have indicated potential losses from a low of 10 percent up to 25 percent, dependent upon conditions that would affect the hives. Most of the beekeepers have expressed a hopeful optimism in anticipation of a good spring buildup for the year. The Red Maple blossoms are finishing up in the Southern part of the state and other blooms from Tai Tai, Hen Bit and Wild Clover are now taking place and appear to be in good shape for the beginning of the feeding cycles. Some needed rainfall was reported in various areas of the Northern part of the state. It is still in a slightly drought like state and more rain is needed throughout the state to prevent dry conditions for maximum production from the hives.

IDAHO: Idaho's bees are all pollinating almond groves in the San Joaquin Valley of California. Beekeepers report the 2009 bloom is running behind schedule. Many beekeepers were forced to artificially feed California bees in early February, prior to the almond bloom. Early blooming varieties are at or near their peak bloom in many groves around the region are moving at an accelerated pace by month's end. Later developing varieties are all advancing aggressively into bloom with good overlap between the varieties. Late blooming varieties are now presenting an increasing number of flowers for pollination, with the majority of the buds in these varieties moving quickly through the pink tip and popcorn stages. As the 2009 bloom begins, many of the record producing orchards from the last three years are not expected to be as productive in 2009, even with desirable bloom conditions. Besides weather concern, water availability will become another constraint as California enters the third drought year in a row. Approximately 215,000 acres of almond orchards depend upon water flowing out of the Delta that may be significantly curtailed during the growing season. Bearing acres for the 2009 crop are estimated to increase by approximately 40-45,000 acres bringing the total above 700,000 acres. While this growth potential will offset some of the bloom and water concerns, almond tree resiliency after three record crops, bloom weather and water availability for irrigation are expected to be the major issues that will restrict 2009 crop supply. Beekeepers are feeling predatory pollination pricing as the almond producers try to hold production costs in line with almond prices. Most Idaho beekeepers indicate that on a normal year the bloom is over by March 5-10. This year is certainly going to be later. Some of the Idaho bees will stay in California for the orange pollination season, others will move on to the apple pollination in Washington State (usually start blooming by April 1-10), while most will either go back home to dandelion bloom in western Idaho or to the summer honey production areas of Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. Most beekeepers will utilize the time between almond pollination and honey production to go through their bee colonies; either re-queens hives, fill boxes, start new colonies, etc.

ILLINOIS: Beekeepers had continued supplemental feeding activities of sugar syrup and candy boards. Some beekeepers had checked their hives and had hoped late in the month temperatures would moderate to allow bees cleansing flights. Most of the month temperatures had been below freezing while overnight temperatures had been in the single digits or mid teens.

After a midmonth warm-up for a few days winter returned bringing ten to twelve inches of snowfall to most of the central and southern areas of the state while northern region had received substantially more accumulation.

The last of the month beekeepers had expressed future plans for treating their hives in the near spring.

Beekeepers had expressed hives were generally strong however Honeybee hives were in need of moderating temperatures for cleansing flights.

The beekeepers had reported good demand for package bees and queen orders. . Honey demand continued to be good as beekeepers had little stores on hand. Bulk movement had been very little.

INDIANA: Beekeepers reported temperatures were generally seasonal for overwintering. There were wide temperature swings during the month with highs in the 60s and lows from 0°F to -3°F. Beekeepers reported spot checks of hives revealed the bees were in clusters and overwintering well. Many of the beekeepers placed orders for package bees and queens with some stronger than usual demand for locally raised packages and queens. Precipitation in the form of snowfall fell over much of the state. The ten to twelve inches reported in central and southern regions was much more than usual. Most beekeepers hoped some moderation in temperatures at the last of the month would allow their hives to have cleansing flights. Honey movement was good.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Temperatures across the lower Midwest were about two degrees above normal. Precipitation was about an inch below normal. Beekeepers were busy attending meetings and classes, feeding bees, and preparing for spring activity.

KENTUCKY: February continued to be mostly very cold with little activity by bees and little flowering. There was emergency winter feeding reported in many hives. This was due to a shortfall of stored honey related to poor nectar flow last fall. There were some early reports of winter losses due to starvation.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources were from various trees. Colonies were in generally good condition. Weather has seen normal temperatures with adequate rainfall. Supply was low and demand remained high.

MICHIGAN: Many bee colonies from Michigan remained in other states for pollination purposes. According to figures from the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), for 2008 Michigan had 71,000 honey producing colonies (down 1,000 from the previous year), 5,183,000 pounds of honey produced with a total production value of \$7,412,000 (both up from 2007). The average per pound price for honey in Michigan in 2008 was \$1.43, up considerably from the 2007 average of \$1.14 per pound. Demand for honey remained good.

MINNESOTA: Most late February days saw early morning clouds, held over from nighttime showers, gracing the sunrise over the Valley. Clouds receded quickly during the morning, producing clear blue skies for the most of the day, with scattered clouds reappearing late in the afternoon. Morning low temperatures were reported in the mid and upper 40s throughout the Valley while daytime highs rose into the lower 60s. Warm temperatures and bright sun have increased growth rates in the region's orchards, pushing bud development in most all varieties aggressively forward. The early blooming varieties are now at or near its peak bloom in many groves around the Valley and are beginning to shed petals in advanced areas. Observers, almond growers and beekeepers alike, continue to comment on the variable bud sets found on most varieties. While the variability has been observed for some time it is particularly obvious now that the trees are blooming and lower portions of the trees appear dark in contrast to the bloom found at the tops. Most observers estimated overall bloom to be between 3 to 85 percent as the month comes to an end. Many beekeepers were concerned with declining bee demand. With weakening almond prices in light of declining market activity and the end of a string of record monthly shipments caused some in the trade to think that prices would continue to fall as a result of a good 2009 bloom and that persistent drought will not prevent the production of another bumper crop in the coming year. Predictors also proclaimed that sellers in California would offer product for sale at ever-lower prices, even though almond prices in Europe, the almond industry's largest export market, have already breached all-time historical lows. Beekeepers were also concerned that almond producers were spreading bee boxes over more acres using 2 per acre as opposed to the normal 3 boxes.

MISSISSIPPI: The colonies appeared to be ahead of schedule with buildup starting to show and management of the hives was expected to start a week or two early; mostly around mid March, weather permitting. Temperatures have fluctuated up and down with little effect to the hives. Blooms from the Red Maple blossoms, other trees and Hen Bit have showed up giving a jump start to a good buildup. So far any losses seemed to be average for this time, and the bees appeared to be in good condition. General conditions appeared to be normal for this time of year, with beekeepers expecting a good flow of honey for this upcoming season. Moisture appeared to be adequate with normal rainfall reported so far. Retail prices for Spring Wild \$5.00 lb, Sour Wild Type \$7.00 lb.

MONTANA: Montana State generally received less than normal amounts of rain and snow during the month of February, while temperatures were slightly lower than normal for much of the month. Keepers reported their home bound colonies to be in generally good security. These colonies will remain wrapped in their winter protective layers thru March into April. Cold temperatures and snow fall will also continue thru March into April in Montana before pussy willows buds and dandelions break as nectar sources. Within migratory colonies in California, bee drop out or losses were noted to be significant. Strong, eight frame colonies were moved into the early blooming almond or citrus groves in late February or early March for pollination. Keepers and brokers noted pollination booking rates for strong colonies were similar to last year, although some orchardists were trying to save money by spacing colonies further apart within orchards.

NEW ENGLAND: In New England the month of February experienced cold, seasonal temperatures with precipitation mainly from snowfall which has resulted in high moisture levels for the entire region. In February there has been reportedly a dramatic change in colony conditions. Beekeepers reported widespread heavy colony losses due to severe weather conditions. It's been a hard winter on the bees coupled with a long confinement period. Evidence shows that starvation was the biggest killer so far this season. The weather has pushed experienced keepers to put in place ten full frames (80 lbs) of honey and provide at least seven frames in the middle/center of the hive box being arranged in the fall before going into winter. In New England, hives normally lose 5% to 10% of their population due to weather related issues. However, some sectional areas reported losses near the 40%-55% rate especially in Northern New England. This season, overall, reported losses were at a conservative 35%. The primary pest losses so far have been purportedly due to tracheal mites, and nosema. The occasional break from cold weather had keepers feeding granulated sugar and fondant. In the next two weeks, keepers will look to feed with sugar water syrup 1:1, protein/pollen patties and high fructose corn syrup in order to stimulate brood rearing.

Reportedly there has been an early, and strong demand for package bees nucs and queens for Spring. This month is traditionally a time for keepers to be occupied in building, repairing, and maintenance of equipment and scheduling of shows, fairs workshops, classroom courses, bee schools and nucs as well as package bee pickups. Many regional beekeeper associations have been discussing the pros and cons of instituting irradiation programs for beekeeping equipment in light of the many disease causing conditions. The movement, supply and demand for natural honey and wax remained very good with prices unchanged.

NEW YORK: Beekeepers in New York were faced with continuing below normal temperatures during the month of February. Many beekeepers across New York remained in Florida, North Carolina or South Carolina for pollinations. According to figures from the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), for 2008 New York had 50,000 honey producing colonies (down 6,000 from the previous year), 3,500,000 pounds of honey produced with a total production value of \$5,250,000 (both up from 2007). The average per pound price for honey in New York in 2008 was \$1.50, up from the 2007 average of \$1.42 per pound. Demand for honey remained good.

NORTH CAROLINA: During the month of February, low temperatures ranged from 7 to 19 degrees in the Mountains and Piedmont and high temperatures ranged from 66 to 74 degrees. Precipitation levels were between 3.19 and 3.53 inches below normal. The drought continues to plague the state, with 15 counties listed in severe drought, 48 in moderate and the remaining counties in abnormally dry conditions. Bee schools have continued throughout the state during February. Many classes have been filled to capacity with a waiting list to get in. Some early reports by Apiary Specialists have shown some problems with mites and Nosema. Also, some losses have been reported due to starvation. Bees have been working Red Maple in the eastern part of the state. Honey sales continued to be excellent for limited supplies.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: The weather was fairly dry and cool, with some warmer temperatures at the end of the month. There have been some mixed reviews on colony conditions, many look pretty good but there have been reports of some not doing so well. Some of those in California have been moved into the almonds. Beekeepers were raising queens and splitting hives.

OHIO: Many beekeepers from Ohio remained in Florida and other southeastern states for pollinations during the month of February. According to figures from the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), for 2008 Ohio had 14,000 honey producing colonies (the same as the previous year), 742,000 pounds of honey produced with a total production value of \$1,395,000 (both down from 2007). The average per pound price for honey in Ohio in 2008 was \$1.88, up from the 2007 average of \$1.74 per pound. Demand for honey was good.

OKLAHOMA: Pollen and nectar sources in Northern Oklahoma were from cedar. Colonies were in good condition. Temperatures were cold and there was no rainfall. Supply and demand was good. Pollen and nectar sources in Southern Oklahoma were from pine trees. Colonies were in generally fair to poor condition, with cluster breaking for 50 degree days, tight clusters sudden freeze for 4 days, with small losses. Weather conditions were a mix of warmer then colder temperatures with very little rainfall. Supply was very low while demand was extremely high. The first red cedar pollen alert in 10 years was issued and it is dangerously high.

OREGON: For the month of February, most weather stations reported temperatures and precipitation slightly below average. Although off to a good start earlier, snow pack levels in the Cascades and Blue Mountains have fallen below average as the winter has progressed. Keepers reported their bee colonies to be generally in good health with continuing maintenance practices. Bee drop out or losses were noted to be generally within expected levels. Some colonies held over the winter in Oregon were trucked out of state to California staging areas and along with those already in California were then moved into the almond or cherry orchards for pollination. Pollination rental rates were noted to be similar to last year for strong colonies. Although with a seemingly plentiful supply of colonies in California for the pollination season, keepers without contracts may not have been able to find orchards in which to place their colonies. By late February, some daffodils and flowering cherry and plum were beginning to bloom in coastal areas of Oregon.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Colonies across the state were reported to be in mixed conditions. Most losses were mainly attributed to starvation. Colonies had a slow brood build-up and development mainly due to cold weather. Bees across the state were gathering mostly pollen mainly from Red Maple. Varroa mites and Small Hive beetles were reported to be problems in the lower part of the state. Hives were treated for Small Hive beetles with Check Mite+ Strips and varroa mites with Apigaurd and ApiLife. Weather conditions for February were very sporadic with temperatures ranging from single digits to the mid 70s during the first half of the month and about average for the latter half. The state received very little rain during the month causing coastal counties to slip back into an incipient drought while the rest of the state remains in drought to extreme drought conditions.

TENNESSEE: The weather has been unusually cold in Tennessee. Red Maple was starting to bloom. Beekeepers were reporting losses due to starvation.

TEXAS: Pollen and nectar sources were from dandelion and trees that are starting to bloom. Colonies were starting to build up and brood patterns continued to grow. Varroa mites were not causing many problems. Beetles were in plentiful supply. Temperatures ranged from hot to cold and ended near normal temperatures. Rain and soil moisture were in short supply. Demand continued to grow and supply was getting tight.

UTAH: Beekeepers report bees, in general, were in good health after experiencing some problems earlier this month because of cold weather in California. Many were feeding to keep their bees healthy during a time of little bee activity because of the cold weather. The colonies seemed to be in generally good health by the time the almond bloom required them to be more active. Utah reported that many areas of California almond groves are 5-7 days behind normal bloom this year. Blue Diamond estimated the almond crop this year will increase by 40-45,000 acres, to over 700,000 acres. They also estimated as many as 215,000 acres may see decreased production because of diminished irrigation water availability. Some beekeepers have reported that as many as 70,000 acres may be torn out and replaced by other crops requiring less water. There seemed to be less demand for bees overall this year compared to last year which has resulted in a wider and lower range of contract prices. However, eight frame boxes of very healthy bees were still commanding \$145-\$150. Many Utah beekeepers will be moving to Southern California in the next two or three weeks as the almond bloom ends. Their colonies will be needed for desert flower pollination.

WASHINGTON: The weather has been mixed with more snow in the mountains finally. Generally the snow at lower elevations was melting. A few buds on the earliest plants were being seen in some areas. Bees in California were working almonds. In some Northern areas, the bloom has been delayed by cool weather and rain. Overall, the bees were fairly strong.

WISCONSIN: Colonies were reported in tight clusters as temperatures were mostly in single digits overnight while daytime highs were generally in the teens. The high temperature over the month was reported fifty while the low was minus nine. All temperatures had been recorded in Fahrenheit. Combined with the seasonal cold temperatures many days of high winds were also noted. Snowfall accumulation throughout the state was varied from a few inches to a few feet. The snow cover had been welcomed by beekeepers concerned over little precipitation earlier in the season. Supplemental feeding activities of generally candy boards continued throughout the month. Honey demand was good in the retail sector. Little bulk honey movement was reported.

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

	January 2009		Year to Date	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Aruba	1,280	7,847	1,280	7,847
Barbados	2,993	17,077	2,993	17,077
Bermuda	1,287	7,742	1,287	7,742
Cayman Islands	636	3,269	636	3,269
China; Peoples Republic of	6,369	27,323	6,369	27,323
Iceland	1,814	4,877	1,814	4,877
Indonesia	2,896	16,152	2,896	16,152
Japan	26,342	113,432	26,342	113,432
Pakistan	5,028	20,929	5,028	20,929
Panama	1,730	9,110	1,730	9,110
Philippines	12,368	30,020	12,368	30,020
Saudi Arabia	18,467	85,691	18,467	85,691
United Arab Emirates	40,112	97,364	40,112	97,364
Yemen	39,872	59,800	39,872	59,800
Aruba	1,280	7,847	1,280	7,847
Barbados	2,993	17,077	2,993	17,077
Bermuda	1,287	7,742	1,287	7,742
Cayman Islands	636	3,269	636	3,269
China; Peoples Republic of	6,369	27,323	6,369	27,323
Iceland	1,814	4,877	1,814	4,877
Indonesia	2,896	16,152	2,896	16,152
Japan	26,342	113,432	26,342	113,432
Pakistan	5,028	20,929	5,028	20,929
Panama	1,730	9,110	1,730	9,110
Philippines	12,368	30,020	12,368	30,020
Saudi Arabia	18,467	85,691	18,467	85,691
United Arab Emirates	40,112	97,364	40,112	97,364
Yemen	39,872	59,800	39,872	59,800
SUBTOTAL	161,194	500,633	161,194	500,633

	January 2009		Year to Date	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Kilograms	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars
NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED - - -				
Antigua and Barbuda	2,558	7,480	2,558	7,480
Australia	11,290	33,580	11,290	33,580
Bahamas; The	3,904	9,860	3,904	9,860
Canada	63,443	235,506	63,443	235,506
Cayman Islands	318	4,362	318	4,362
China; Peoples Republic of	1,469	3,921	1,469	3,921
Japan	20,417	74,324	20,417	74,324
Korea; Republic of	3,251	7,484	3,251	7,484
Malaysia	10,181	31,085	10,181	31,085
Philippines	1,366	7,808	1,366	7,808
United Arab Emirates	732	3,750	732	3,750
SUBTOTAL	118,929	419,160	118,929	419,160
GRAND TOTAL	280,123	919,793	280,123	919,793

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

	January 2009			Year to Date		
	Quantity	Value	CIF Value	Quantity	Value	CIF Value
	Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars
WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Argentina	130,350	388,273	391,564	130,350	388,273	391,564
Australia	19,500	48,750	50,750	19,500	48,750	50,750
Brazil	18,760	46,900	49,084	18,760	46,900	49,084
Canada	404,245	1,142,288	1,148,938	404,245	1,142,288	1,148,938
India	327,951	852,903	931,553	327,951	852,903	931,553
Indonesia	76,560	127,090	139,890	76,560	127,090	139,890
Switzerland	353	2,583	2,678	353	2,583	2,678
SUBTOTAL	977,719	2,608,787	2,714,457	977,719	2,608,787	2,714,457
EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -						
Brazil	246,700	571,652	598,786	246,700	571,652	598,786
France	1,782	18,806	20,306	1,782	18,806	20,306
India	55,800	108,864	116,064	55,800	108,864	116,064
Malaysia	389,760	615,180	690,504	389,760	615,180	690,504
Mexico	39,247	94,193	95,193	39,247	94,193	95,193
Mongolia	108,996	108,996	126,996	108,996	108,996	126,996
SUBTOTAL	842,285	1,517,691	1,647,849	842,285	1,517,691	1,647,849

	January 2009			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						
Argentina	42,916	128,701	134,509	42,916	128,701	134,509
Brazil	963,723	2,145,710	2,252,679	963,723	2,145,710	2,252,679
Canada	36,299	131,429	132,029	36,299	131,429	132,029
Italy	152	6,059	6,330	152	6,059	6,330
Mexico	203	3,960	4,116	203	3,960	4,116
Pakistan	17,920	39,424	41,824	17,920	39,424	41,824
Peru	7,506	47,164	48,548	7,506	47,164	48,548
Spain	6,841	12,066	12,537	6,841	12,066	12,537
Vietnam	746,050	1,386,382	1,494,192	746,050	1,386,382	1,494,192
SUBTOTAL	1,821,610	3,900,895	4,126,764	1,821,610	3,900,895	4,126,764
NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED HONEY ---						
Argentina	1,960	9,395	9,606	1,960	9,395	9,606
Brazil	150,668	391,249	412,313	150,668	391,249	412,313
Canada	6,688	12,793	12,993	6,688	12,793	12,993
India	55,800	116,064	119,664	55,800	116,064	119,664
Malaysia	19,350	22,200	24,949	19,350	22,200	24,949
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	6,022	71,729	72,844	6,022	71,729	72,844
Switzerland	1,882	22,028	23,413	1,882	22,028	23,413
SUBTOTAL	242,370	645,458	675,782	242,370	645,458	675,782
COMB AND RETAIL HONEY --						
Australia	884	8,250	8,899	884	8,250	8,899
Austria	5,604	24,244	25,553	5,604	24,244	25,553
Brazil	2,209	7,160	7,203	2,209	7,160	7,203
Bulgaria	13,971	48,286	51,081	13,971	48,286	51,081
Canada	80,385	395,820	398,048	80,385	395,820	398,048
Dominican Republic	18,630	36,000	36,001	18,630	36,000	36,001
France	4,353	37,494	38,913	4,353	37,494	38,913
Germany	11,760	46,166	48,166	11,760	46,166	48,166
Greece	5,406	29,448	30,875	5,406	29,448	30,875
India	30,185	75,596	80,396	30,185	75,596	80,396
Italy	234	2,589	2,736	234	2,589	2,736
Mexico	1,641	11,088	11,688	1,641	11,088	11,688
Moldova; Republic of	1,993	11,335	12,468	1,993	11,335	12,468
Monaco	2,210	20,921	21,468	2,210	20,921	21,468
New Zealand (exc. Cook; Niue; & Tokelau)	58,390	123,778	128,841	58,390	123,778	128,841
Poland	7,763	3,690	4,467	7,763	3,690	4,467
Russian Federation	1,350	7,719	8,491	1,350	7,719	8,491
Switzerland	1,100	12,782	13,331	1,100	12,782	13,331
Taiwan	308,376	521,280	568,767	308,376	521,280	568,767
SUBTOTAL	556,444	1,423,646	1,497,392	556,444	1,423,646	1,497,392
FLAVORED HONEY - - -						
Korea; Republic of	3,103	7,650	8,080	3,103	7,650	8,080
Mexico	10,120	97,091	98,241	10,120	97,091	98,241
Thailand	864	5,000	5,320	864	5,000	5,320
SUBTOTAL	14,087	109,741	111,641	14,087	109,741	111,641
GRAND TOTAL	4,454,515	10,206,218	10,773,885	4,454,515	10,206,218	10,773,885

Source for U. S. Import and Export Data: U.S. Department of Commerce

Other Bee News and Events

NEW ENGLAND: There will be a RIBA conference Saturday March 14, 2009., 2-5p.m. at the Rocky Hill Grange, East Greenwich, R.I. and all are welcome. Agenda and Topics: Breeding for Varroa Sensitive Hygiene in Honey Bees; APHIS Update on Hive Beetle Project; The Baton Rouge Component of the Area wide Experiments The speaker is Dr. Jeffrey Harris, APHIS Staff Entomologist USDA Bee Lab in Baton Rouge, La.. This talk will be both a summary of 10 years of research that led to development of varroa sensitive hygiene in honey bees and an update of the current thrusts in this research program. Dr. Harris will report on the specifics of their experiments that involve field testing of ARS Russian honey bees and varroa sensitive hygiene honey bees in a commercial migratory operation in 2008 and 2009.

From UTAH: The Associated Press reports that seven hives of African honey bees were discovered and destroyed in southern Utah. Three were feral and four were managed. Haagen-Dazs has made a second donation of \$250,000 to UC Davis and Penn State Universities for honey bee research. They have contributed \$500,000 over the past two years. A survey by Haagen-Dazs reveals that while consumer awareness of the honey bee crisis has increased in the last year, only a little more than half of consumers are aware of the crisis, while only one in six knows of anything they can do to help the crisis.