

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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Agriculture

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## UPDATED REPORT: SEE PRICES BELOW

### HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2014

#### 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				Clover	White	\$2.06	-	\$2.10	
	Soybean	Extra Light Amber	\$1.96	NEBRASKA					
	Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.85		Clover	White		\$2.00	
CALIFORNIA					Western	White		\$2.05	
	Alfalfa	White	\$2.00		Western	Extra Light Amber		\$2.05	
	Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.85	TEXAS					
	Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.80		Western	White	\$2.05	-	\$2.06
	Cotton	Extra Light Amber	\$1.95		Western	Extra Light Amber		\$2.05	
	Sage	Extra Light Amber	\$1.90	WYOMING					
	Sage	Light Amber	\$1.85		Alfalfa	Light Amber		\$2.06	
	Western	White	\$2.05						
DAKOTA									
	Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$2.06						
	Clover	White	\$2.00						
	Western	White	\$2.05						
	Western	Extra Light Amber	\$2.05						
FLORIDA									
	Wildflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.90						
KANSAS									
	Clover	White	\$2.07						
MICHIGAN									
	Western	White	\$2.05						
MISSISSIPPI									
	Soybean	Extra Light Amber	\$1.96						
MONTANA									
	Alfalfa	White	\$2.06						

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

BRAZIL								
	ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$2.00					
INDIA								
	Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$1.46					\$1.74
	Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.36					\$1.65
	Mixed Flower	Amber	\$1.45					
MEXICO								
	Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.73					
VIETNAM								
	Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.32					\$1.52

### COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER, 2014

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): October was a busy month for harvest and bees as beekeepers throughout the District were offering supplemental feeding to strengthen colonies, especially the weaker ones. A killing frost occurred at the latter part of the month in the higher elevations killing local nectar sources. In the lower lying areas there were still occasional wildflowers. The weather was fairly normal for the month with daytime temperatures in the sixties and seventies and evenings generally in the fifties. Rainfall was about average for the month, although in some areas the soil water tables are higher than normal for the year.

ALABAMA: October 2014 was very warm and dry in most parts of Alabama. Many beekeepers reported a lower fall flow than last year with pollen and nectar being in shorter supply overall. Goldenrod and aster were, however, a notable presence throughout the state. Both have played out with only a few misc. wildflowers left to forage on. Brood is still being raised in South Alabama in a big way, but cooler weather is forecast for early November which should slow it down some. Most North Alabama beekeepers have their hives ready for winter and appear to be heading into winter in fairly good shape. Many are feeding as the weather is starting to cool. For the most part, small hive beetle was not a major problem for most beekeepers this year, however they exploded in late Sept. into October and caught some beekeepers unaware which did create some problems. There were some reports of late EFB and AFB in some locations, but overall not bad. Varroa was a problem for those beekeepers that didn't treat or couldn't treat because of the hot weather. Demand for honey is strong with many beekeepers starting to run low, as the overall harvest was a little below average this year.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at below normal levels the first week of October, followed by normal level temperatures the next two weeks, and above normal level temperatures the final 2 weeks of October.

The range in statewide temperatures for the month was from a high of 103 degrees Fahrenheit in Yuma to a low of 24 degrees in Window Rock.

Out of the 39 reporting stations, the weekly number of weather reporting stations to receive precipitation were 12, 35, 5, 17 and 12, respectively. 14 of the reporting stations have received a higher level of precipitation than normal for this point of the year, while a total of 31 out of the 39 stations have received precipitation at or above 70 percent of normal precipitation levels to date.

The main nectar and pollen sources for bees in the state was desert plant bloom, cantaloupes and honeydews, while during the second half of the month, citrus and miscellaneous melons were also a source of nectar and pollen in Arizona. Demand for honey remains good.

ARKANSAS: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of October were from asters and other later bloomers. Conditions of the colonies were in generally good. Weather conditions showed slightly above normal temperatures with little rainfall. Supply and demand are both good.

CALIFORNIA: The month began with near to above normal temperatures with dry weather. A strong, low pressure system for most of the Northern portion brought much cooler temperatures and widespread precipitation along the north coast, spreading south and east to the central coast and central Sierra Nevada. The north coast and mountains received 2 to 4 inches of rainfall. The central coast, valley/foothill, and Sierra Nevada locations also received rain and there were a few inches of snow above 7,000 feet. The southern coast and mountains remained dry, however days cooled with near to below normal temperatures. Early into October, dry conditions persisted across the State. Warm weather combined with lack of precipitation exacerbated drought conditions across the State. As the month came to a close, Pacific systems provided rain to the northwest third of the State. Rain totals of one to three inches were common over northern areas of the State, with the heaviest totals over the Northwest Coast. Rain dropped off to the south and east, with most of the interior central and southern part of the State reporting little if any rain. Temperatures averaged several degrees above normal over most of the State. Maximum temperatures continued to reach into the 90s over then interior portion of the State. Freezing temperatures were limited to the Extreme Inland North and Sierras.

The preparation of the hives for winter is now complete and bees are now located on their winter locations. They are on their own to make it to next spring. During the next two months, the bees should remain calm. With no brood to rear, the clusters will consume very little of their stores to produce only a minimum of heat. The bees appear to be in relatively healthy heading into winter, however a lot of untoward events can happen between now and the beginning of next year. Beekeepers have been feeding dry supplements and pollen patties, as well as sugar syrup to keep the bees stimulated for the short winter and the upcoming almond pollination. There is a limited amount of natural pollen being collected. Water has been supplied for the bees.

There is not much blooming as far as natural forage, however, in the coastal areas of Southern California, some of the eucalyptus is starting its seasonal fall flowering. The bees in the coastal areas are beginning to bring in modest amounts of eucalyptus honey, and its presence is noticeable in small amounts in some areas. The state will need rain this winter and early spring for natural forage to bloom again.

COLORADO: Temperatures were above normal across the entire State of Colorado during October with the exception of slightly below normal temperatures in the Grand Junction area. Precipitation was below normal across the Northern areas and above normal in the Southern areas of the State during the same period, according to the National Weather Service. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the normal moisture conditions have expanded in size during the month of October due to good rains in many Southern areas of the State. Many of the beneficial rains that have contributed to the reduced drought conditions were the result of remnants of tropical storms that originated in the Pacific Ocean. Even the Southeastern areas of the State have made an improvement from an extreme drought to a severe drought. The Southeastern area had been locked in an extreme drought for much of the past three years. There is still a ways to go yet for the Southeastern area, but the recent moisture has been welcomed.

Most of the larger commercial beekeepers were now finish for the season extracting honey as of late October. Yields per colony were reported in the range of 30 to 40 pounds. Beekeepers indicated that yields of honey in this range were below normal from the historic average perspective.

With the warmer than normal weather during October across Colorado, bees were still flying. However with frosts across most areas of the State in October, there was little bees could accomplish in support of the colonies regarding pollen and nectar foraging.

Beekeepers are actively feeding their bee's pollen patties, corn syrup, sugar syrup or a blend of corn and sugar syrup. Other beekeepers are still relying up honey stores to take care of the needs for the colony. However, with the bees still active due to the warm weather in October, there is a potential problem that there may not be enough honey stores in the colony for the bees to make it through the winter. Cooler temperatures would be a great help in slowing down the activity level of the bees so those honey stores can be stretched to the time frame in which they were intended. Some commercial beekeepers are planning on moving their bees to California and others to Texas where the bees will not have to endure the cold upcoming winter weather of Colorado. There is a major concern at this point of time about the current drought in California and whether there will be enough moisture to sustain the almond trees into full bloom. This is a major concern for beekeepers as they have come to depend upon the income from the almond pollination.

Beekeepers have indicated that the bees remaining still look good going into the late October. There have been some varroa mites detected this fall, but at this point the fall treatment seems to be working to keep the mite levels in check. Overall, losses have been fairly heavy this season and range up to 30 percent loss of colony bees in some situations. These losses are still unexplained.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good in Colorado. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Colorado are as follows: White Honey ranges up to \$2.20 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

FLORIDA: The weather was warm and dry for most of the month with moderating temperatures by mid-month and a cold front moving through the state at the end of the month and dropping overnight temperatures into the 40's in many areas. Bee health overall was considered very good with many beekeepers treating for mites and splitting hives in preparation for the California almond pollination season early next year. Brazilian Pepper had essentially ended by the end of the month in all areas except small amounts along the east coast. Earlier in the season, many thought the Brazilian Pepper honey crop was going to be much smaller than normal, but by late in the season most beekeepers were expecting production to be about normal. Goldenrod, aster, Spanish Needle, and other assorted wildflowers were still available in small quantities in many areas. Supplemental feeding was generally required. Honey production will not increase before the spring crops begin blooming. Supplies remain very light with very good demand resulting in prices remaining at or near record high levels.

GEORGIA: Most of the beekeepers report that the bees are in pretty good condition heading into the early winter months. Fall Asters, Chrysanthemum, Goldenrod and a few flowering type plants are the main source of food outside of supplemental feeding in preparation for the cold weather coming in soon. Not as much feed was available in the late summer and early fall as lack of rain and late blooming did not meet the needs of the bees. Most of the hives have been prepped and treated for any mites and hive beetle traps are in place. Good management practices are being followed to prevent any extra losses of hives and to keep the bees in top condition. The first freeze was expected the last day of October to put the bees in the hives to hunker down for winter. Wholesale \$6-7 lb Retail \$8-12 lb depending on type of honey and color

IDAHO: Temperatures were much above normal over the entire State of Idaho during the month of October, according to the National Weather Service. Precipitation was below normal across the entire State in the same period. As of late October Boise and Twin Falls had not yet experienced a freeze. Even though overall precipitation was below normal for the month, recent rains in October have diminished the dry conditions in most areas of the State according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The extreme Northern areas and Southeastern areas of the State are now normal in moisture conditions. Drought conditions still vary from abnormally dry to severe in other areas of the State. The abnormally dry areas have expanded in October which is an improvement from the larger areas of moderate to severe drought reported in September. The worst drought conditions continue to be in the Southwestern and Central areas of the State.

Some of the larger commercial beekeepers were still extracting honey late in October. Some honey yields per colony were less than expected in a few areas of the State. However some beekeepers reported yields per colony up to 65 - 70 pounds. Beekeepers indicated that yields of honey in this range were about normal from the historic average perspective.

With the warmer than normal weather during October across Idaho, bees were still flying. However with the early frosts over many areas of the State back in September, there was little bees could accomplish in support of the colonies.

Beekeepers are actively feeding their bee's pollen patties, corn syrup, sugar syrup or a blend of corn and sugar syrup. Other beekeepers are still relying upon honey stores to take care of the needs for the colony. However, with the bees still active due to the warm weather in October, there is a potential problem that there may not be enough honey stores in the colony for the bees to make it through the winter. Cooler temperatures would be a great help in slowing down the activity level of the bees so those honey stores can be stretched to the time frame in which they were intended. Some commercial beekeepers are planning on moving their bees to controlled environment buildings towards the end of November.

Beekeepers have indicated that their bees are still looking good going into the late October. There have been some varroa mites detected this fall, but at this point the fall treatment seems to be working to keep the mite levels in check. Overall, losses have been fairly minimal this season.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good in Idaho. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Idaho are as follows: White Honey ranges from \$2.05 to \$2.20 per pound. Extra Light Amber Honey is averaging around \$2.05 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures for the month of October were mostly normal during the beginning of the month to above normal around the middle of the month as temperature rose to approximately 83 degrees. Most Beekeepers reporting their bees wintering well as their bees have had above normal cleansing flights during the middle of the month as the weather permitted; However having minimal cleansing flight as temperatures fell during the end of the month. Most Beekeepers report due to the cooler temperatures and rain this fall there were less foliage for the bees to feed on and bring nectar and pollen to the hives, mostly in the Midwestern part of the state. All hive extractions have been done as a few of the hives contained less wax due to lack of honey in the supers. A few Beekeepers report some supplemental feeding to prevent starvation, but also report their hives mostly in good condition. The hives were also treated for mites in September and Beekeepers now report insulating their hives and preparing their hives for the winter months. Wholesale prices for honey average approximately \$3.00 a pound for bulk. Beekeepers report a fairly good to good demand for honey at the retail and wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Statewide precipitation and temperature averages were above normal in Iowa, Kansas and Missouri. Nebraska average temperature averages were above normal as well, but precipitation was below normal. Warm conditions were recorded in the first half of the month. Episodes of freezing and hard freezing occurred late in the month. Iowa recorded its earliest snowfall since 1999.

Beekeepers are reporting that bees have been treated for mites. Some beekeepers report that some hives went into the winter with light weights due to starvation, contributed by low or no nectar flow in late August to late September. The demand of honey for supplemental feeding is running high in some areas. Beekeepers have repositioned their bees to reduce winter wind and provide a warmer environment, such repositioning around shrubs, trees, fences and buildings.

Some are turning to winter wraps. Some beekeepers have reported a good year due to good crop growing conditions. Honey demand still remains strong.

INDIANA: Temperatures for the month of October were normal to above normal toward the beginning of the month as temperatures around the middle of the month hurred close to 82 degrees. A few Beekeepers reported a bad fall honey flow as their bees were fed with sugar water, etc. Beekeepers report a minimal amount of cleansing flights during the middle of the month as temperatures permitted, but a very tight clustering of the bees in the evening and night to keep each other warm. There were also some feeding on very little aster and golden rod left at the beginning of the month of October, but diminished as rain and cooler weather returned. A few Beekeepers report a loss of a few hives in September and early part of October due to starvation as well as mites. Beekeepers are now insulating their hives for winterization. Beekeepers report their bees in good condition. Demand for honey is good, while Prices are generally unchanged.

KENTUCKY: After a beautiful beginning to October in Kentucky, beekeepers found themselves feeding beehives because a week and a half of steady rain washed the goldenrod pollen away, although honey bees continued to work fall asters and other Fall garden plants (borage, buckwheat, and mums) until Halloween. Some cases of nosema were reported in Northern Kentucky and some cases of chalkbrood were present in the Bluegrass, Louisville and western regions. The 2014 KY State Fair generated approximately \$45,000 in honey sales with significant percentages going back to the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association beekeepers and in spite of a record-low attendance at the fair.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of November were wild flowers. Colonies were in good condition, with a few losses. Weather conditions saw alternating between wet and cold, freezing nighttime temperatures and sunny days. Supply is adequate while demand remains high.

**MICHIGAN:** Reports across Central Michigan have indicated a better than average honey crop with bees in good health. However, there are reports of higher mite populations due to populous hives over the summer. If mites are kept in check, the hives should contain enough feed for overwintering. Some hives are light due to the large brood carried into fall so those will need additional feeding to bring them up to weight for the winter months. Bees foraged on asters for the month and being used for brood rearing and winter storage. The hard frosts and cooler temperatures have brought an end to the season. Commercial beekeepers have been busy preparing hives for transport to Florida for warmer climate and to assist with pollination of the citrus crop, and later to California for almond pollination. A few local beekeepers are trying indoor wintering with their hives.

Many beekeepers have reported averages of over 100 pounds of light-colored honey this fall. Demand for local honey has been strong this fall and there were some reports of slightly lower prices due to the large crop. Many of the summer markets have now closed for the season. Prices for honey shipped to smaller honey packers are steady in the \$2.25-2.30 pound range sold in 55 gallon drums (drums exchanged) FOB delivered to Southern Michigan.

**MINNESOTA:** The temperatures were below normal across most of the State in October with the exception of the area around Saint Cloud which had above normal temperatures during the same period. Precipitation in October was below normal across the State, according to the National Weather Service. The U.S. Drought Monitor continues to show normal moisture condition across most of the State. There were small areas of abnormally dry conditions in the South Central and Northeast areas of the State in October.

Some of the larger commercial beekeepers were still extracting honey late in October. Yields per colony were reported in the range of 35 to 38 pounds. Beekeepers indicated that yields of honey in this range were below normal from the historic average perspective.

Even with slightly below normal temperatures during October across Minnesota, bees were still flying. Due to recent freezing temperatures at night over most areas of the State in October, foraging plants had completed their growth cycle for the season. There was little bees could accomplish in support of the colonies from the nectar and pollen stand point.

Some beekeepers are actively feeding their bee's pollen patties, corn syrup, sugar syrup or a blend of corn and sugar syrup. Other beekeepers are still relying upon honey stores to take care of the needs for the colony. However, with the bees still active due to the warm weather in October, there is a potential problem that there may not be enough honey stores in the colony for the bees to make it through the winter. Cooler temperatures would be a great help in slowing down the activity level of the bees so those honey stores can be stretched to the time frame in which they were intended. Some commercial beekeepers are planning on moving their bees to California starting in the first part of November for the upcoming 2015 almond pollination season. There is a major concern at this point of time about the current drought in California and whether there will be enough moisture to sustain the almond trees into full bloom. This is a major concern for beekeepers as they have come to depend upon the income from the almond pollination.

Beekeepers have indicated that their bees are still looking good going into the late October. There have been some varroa mites detected this fall, but at this point the fall treatment seems to be working to keep the mite levels in check. Overall, losses have been in the range of 10 to 12 percent since early summer.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good in Minnesota. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Minnesota are as follows: White Honey ranges from \$2.01 to \$2.07 per pound. One beekeeper stated that all additional grades of honey are worth at least \$2.00 per pound at this point of the season. Wholesale light capping wax is averaging from \$3.85 to \$5.00 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

**MISSISSIPPI:** The bees are prepared for the late fall and early winter weather and reported to be in good condition. Treatments for the hives have been done and better management practices are used to prevent any extra losses. A very light Goldenrod supply was available and rain was needed in some areas to keep a good supply of wildflowers. Supplemental feeding replaced the lack of extra food sources. Cold weather and frost at the end of the month put the bees in survival mode and back into the hives for winter.

**MONTANA:** During October, temperatures were generally normal or slightly above with above average amounts of precipitation across Montana. At the month's end, topsoil moisture measured 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 72 percent adequate, 7 percent surplus, Subsoil moisture measurements were 19 percent short and very short, 81 percent adequate and surplus.

Colony health was reported to be generally good with regular maintenance practices. Sources of local pollen and nectar were generally finished with the first frosts of the fall season, and the end of hay making. Beekeepers were busy finishing up any remaining honey extraction from available fall flows, stripping down hives, and applying mite treatments. Pollen patties were being made for use when supplemental feeding becomes necessary. Honey yields were said to be average or slightly above average for the summer with the honey quality being generally good. By the end of October, some colonies were on the road to California wintering areas, while others were being protected for winter conditions in home yards or intermediate locations. Honey demand was reported to be good.

**NEW ENGLAND:** New England weather for the month of October exhibited relatively warm seasonal temperatures, mild conditions, with daytime highs in the 60's and the latter part of the month experienced cooler temperatures with sporadic heavy rainfall. Soil moisture levels were below normal for the year generally in all parts of the region. The usually lush New England fall leaf color bloom seemed to be subdued this year. This month's main nectar and pollen sources have been mustard cover crop, coreopsis, sweet pepper bush, purple loosestrife, fall aster, buckwheat, Indian silk, button bush, globe thistle, especially golden rod and an assortment of wild weeds such as joe-pyeweed, pickerel weed, jewel weed, Japanese knot weed and various fall wildflowers. There has been plenty of pollen available in most areas from golden rod however; aster provided most of the late pollen supply. Honey flow and colony populations were advancing significantly early on with the bees working hard and creating a strong population buildup with most keepers reporting overall that their hives are looking strong for over wintering.

Most beekeepers are now in the process of combining weak colonies to form strong ones and have entrance reducers/ mouse guards in place. Additionally, keepers see the advantage to winter over in 2 deeps for a faster spring buildup. In many cold regions, some honey robbing between hives occurred due to the depleted nectar supplies and food sources. Currently there is egg laying by all queens with slightly larger egg patterns. Some keepers reportedly were looking for queens because they thought that their hives were queen less. However, queens will stop laying if there is no nectar coming in. Carniola and Russian bees are very conservative layers during a nectar dearth and all bees will utilize their honey stores when short on nectar being brought in. Hives heavy with honey have exhibited tremendous growth in brood populations. Purportedly, this condition will result in lowering the honey inventory. At this point in time, there is not enough time left to replenish the previous level of honey stores. Most keepers have found light reserves, so are feeding and placing fondant as something to fall back on as most of the feeding has finished for the season. Keepers were feeding with sugar syrup (2:1) and feeding 2 gallons per hive before clustering. Reportedly, bees were taking sugar syrup at a rate of 5-10lbs per week per hive. Nectar gathering

seems to be on a sabbatical in favor of sugar syrup. In the case where the bees have eaten up their honey stores, keepers have been feeding copious amounts of sugar syrup all at once, thereby placing 3-4 syrup jars on top of the hive so that they can take the sugar syrup from multiple spots. Reportedly, if only one jar is used at a time, the hive will result in producing and concentrating on raising more brood. The quickest method is with a hive to feeder that can handle a gallon at a time. On warm days, they can take all this feed down within a few days. Bees are still bringing in some pollen despite the recent hard frost.

In New England, the daylight hours are getting shorter and the night time hours are getting longer. Many keepers have finished their IPM (Integrated Pest Management) programs in order to have a successful over winter result. Keepers are administering treatments to combat the various disease killers such as varroa and tracheal mites, wax moth, chalk brood and American foul brood. The most popular treatments currently being used are mite away strips and pads, formic acid and apiguard. Additionally, keepers are using Terramycin for the prevention of American foul brood. Many keepers claim that this summer's heat and dry weather helped reduce mite loads which supports the sage apiarist's hypothesis that hot and dry weather seasons produce fewer mite problems. This season has proved to be a good season with light varroa/tracheal mite populations, and few disease issues. Hobbyists reported generally speaking, that their colonies have exhibited a mixed bag in honey production results. Most are reporting very light honey yields for this season. Many keepers reporting from Massachusetts and Cape Cod that the rain that they received came late, to which the drought reduced nectar even though there was a good bloom, so that the honey harvest was averaging about 15 lbs.' to 20 lbs.' per hive with many keepers feeding since August and the frame coffers are still not enough for a long, cold winter. Yields are connected to weather conditions and nectar sources as it takes 8 to 10lbs of nectar to make 1lb of honey. It is difficult to generalize about success or underachievement on the efforts of beekeepers honey results, as it is the local environment and the work the bees do that determines the quantity, quality and taste. The criterion of moisture content, clarity and taste determines how honey is graded for quality. Most keepers report colonies to be in good condition and entering the winter with plenty of bees however, light on honey and pollen. Many keepers consider their bees to be not as well prepared for this winter as in years past. Many keepers are reportedly using insulation wrap around their hive bodies, and have previously positioned their hives to be sheltered from the North and West winds in anticipation of a winter that is predicted to experience high winds but to be not as cold with less snow than usual. Most New Englanders feel that they experienced a long and cold winter last year.

Honey demand has been phenomenal and prices are strong. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.00 to \$12.00 mostly \$12.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$20.00 mostly \$20.00, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were firm with 5 gallon units at \$195.00 to \$240.00 mostly \$230.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality. In the Northeast overall, the wholesale natural and raw honey price has been around \$2.50 to \$2.80 per pound, mostly \$2.80 per pound, occasionally higher, by the 55 gallon barrel. Propolis reportedly is \$14.00 to \$17.00 mostly \$16.00 for 2 ounces tincture and pollen is \$26.00 to \$30.00 mostly \$28.00 per quart. 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 per lb. Price quotes taken for bulk orders above 50lbs are \$2.20 to \$3.50 mostly \$3.50 per lb. for white/light, cleaned beeswax.

NEW YORK: Local honey supplies in the Finger Lakes region have been in high demand, both at retail markets as well as wholesale, due to local honey shortages. Many beekeepers have struggled to secure honey for their local markets, as the fall flow was about all that many were able to harvest a surplus from this season. The strong fall flow, including the good quantity of pollen has hives going into winter strong, well fed and with little disease. The winter forecast is for another cold winter and healthy and provisioned hives will be necessary for bee survival. Due to the shortage of honey, there is also a shortage of good wax for those relying on beeswax for the value-added products market, which could push prices upward. In Western New York, beekeepers are preparing hives for overwintering or transport to Florida for citrus pollination. Some beekeepers have been lightly feeding as this season's flow was just average.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures in North Carolina varied throughout October, but were mostly above normal; while precipitation for the month was mostly normal. Statewide soil moisture levels averaged 1 percent very short, 12.5 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 9.5 percent surplus the week ending October 25. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported 14 counties as being abnormally dry.

Overall, pest and disease pressures were considered fairly low; however, increased Varroa mite activity was reported in apiaries that had not adequately managed for the pest. According to apiary inspectors, bees were very active during October preparing for winter by storing whatever they could find as the fall nectar flow was fairly light. It was reported that many beekeepers began supplementing their hives with sugar syrup in order to boost winter stores. Cooling temperatures also reduced egg laying activity by queens. Commercial pollinator hives and replacement bee operations continued to rest their colonies in preparation for next season. Some replacement bee operators began taking orders for spring as demand is once again expected to exceed available supplies. Demand for honey remains strong and high prices are holding steady.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: Light precipitation and warm weather allowed growers to finish harvest in most areas. Honey production has been average production, but above the last 2 years. Water supplies are generally adequate to good. Beekeepers have been working on various fall activities and preparing their bees for winter or sending the south to their winter homes. The bees and hives are generally looking good.

OHIO: No report issued.

OKLAHOMA: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of November were from asters, alfalfa, early winter wheat, golden-rod, sun flowers and early bolting of veggies going to flower. Hive beetles were bad this year with many losses. Few hive beetle traps being tested out of Georgia and it seems to be working. Market very strong, supply low.

OREGON: Near normal temperatures were experienced over Oregon during October with moderate levels of precipitation. At the month's end, topsoil moisture measured 8 percent very short, 34 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture measured 14 percent very short, 42 percent short, 43 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

Colonies were reported to be of generally good strength. During October keepers finished extracting honey and were busy preparing colonies for shipment to California or wintering over in Oregon. As the month ended, some migratory colonies had been shipped to California sites, while wintering over colonies had been wrapped and moved into protected areas. Wild plant and irrigated farm crop pollen and nectar sources were finished for the season. Honey demand was good.

SOUTH CAROLINA: No report issued.

TENNESSEE: Tennessee was dry through September when the fall asters and goldenrod was blooming and there was little nectar collected in most areas. Most beekeepers that removed all of their honey in late summer are having to feed their bees. There are no serious pest or disease issues reported in Tennessee at this time. There are a few areas where asters are still blooming in small numbers.

TEXAS: Pollen and nectar sources received during October were from goldenrod, aster, sunflowers, Cosmos, Mexican Heather, Wild Poinsettia, Wild Petunia, Morning Glories, Pepper Plants and Eggplants. Conditions of the colonies are in generally good condition. Weather conditions saw temperatures into the 80s till the end of the month. Demand and supply are good.

UTAH: Temperatures were above normal across the entire State of Utah during the month of October. Precipitation was below normal across the entire State of Utah during the same period, according to the National Weather Service. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor in October, the Eastern areas of the State continue to have normal moisture conditions. The rest of the State has drought conditions that ranged from abnormally dry to severe. The worst severe drought conditions are confined to an area located west of the Great Salt Lake. Overall, drought conditions have been less pronounced in October when compared to September across the State.

Most of the larger commercial beekeepers were done extracting honey late in October. Barreling of the honey was concluding by the last week of October. Yields have again been very disappointing this season in Utah. Many alfalfa landowners seem to be cutting their crop prior to major blooms thereby limiting available nectar. Beekeepers take a real hit in reduction of honey potential when this occurs. Reported yields range of 20 to 50 pounds. Beekeepers indicated that yields of honey in this range were below normal from the historic average perspective.

With above normal temperatures during October, across Utah, bees were still flying. Due to recent freezing temperatures at night over most areas of the State in October, foraging plants had completed their growth cycle for the season. There was little bees could accomplish in support of the colonies from the nectar and pollen stand point.

Beekeepers are actively feeding their bee's pollen patties, corn syrup, sugar syrup or a blend or corn and sugar syrup. Other beekeepers are still relying upon honey stores to take care of the needs for the colony. However, with the bees still active due to the warm weather in October, there is a potential problem that there may not be enough honey stores in the colony for the bees to make it through the winter. Cooler temperatures would be a great help in slowing down the activity level of the bees so those honey stores can be stretched to the time frame in which they were intended. Some commercial beekeepers are planning on moving their bees to California starting in the first part of November for the upcoming 2015 almond pollination season. There is a major concern at this point of time about the current drought in California and whether there will be enough moisture to sustain the almond trees into full bloom. This is a major concern for beekeepers as they have come to depend upon the income from the almond pollination services.

Beekeepers have indicated that their bees are still looking good going into the late October. There have been some varroa mites detected this fall, but at this point the fall treatment seems to be working to keep the mite levels in check. Overall, losses have been in the range of 10 to 12 percent since early summer.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good in Utah. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Utah are as follows: White Honey ranges up to \$2.20 per pound. Wholesale light capping wax is averaging from \$3.85 to \$5.00 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

WASHINGTON: Production this season will likely be down. Spring flow was generally reported to be good but as the season progressed various problems has shortened the production. Reduced yields of various forage crops will mean supplemental feeding in many areas going into the fall and winter. Beekeepers checking their hives for adequate food and preparing their hive for winter New crop apple and pear harvest is winding down.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures for the month of October were above normal to normal during the early part of the month, but proved to be good toward the middle of the month as bees took a minimal amount of cleansing flights as well a few reports of swarming. Beekeepers report feeding their bees with sugar water for weight content in the hives and for the prevention of starvation. Beekeepers also report less honey as well as less flowers for nectar than last year. However most Beekeeper report their hives in fairly good to good condition and are generally set for the winter months. Demand for honey at the retail level is good, and fairly good at the wholesale. Prices are generally unchanged.

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

	Year to Date		September 2014	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
<b>COMB &amp; NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -</b>				
Afghanistan	651	3,708	651	3,708
Bahamas, The	6,500	20,760	936	7,254
Bahrain	29,801	72,336	0	0
Barbados	14,078	62,277	816	4,855
Brazil	2,966	36,838	0	0
China	219,561	593,809	103,475	308,116
Costa Rica	457	2,770	0	0
Guatemala	305	3,406	0	0
Guyana	3,101	26,857	816	7,068
Hong Kong	5,268	26,382	0	0
Indonesia	464,579	1,287,940	51,170	124,207

Japan	351,977	1,631,710	49,158	212,792
Korea, South	156,559	834,055	0	0
Kuwait	358,108	879,430	89,703	219,842
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	227	2,578	0	0
Libya	10,989	49,365	0	0
Malaysia	6,939	21,457	0	0
Mexico	1,062	5,113	0	0
Mongolia	653	4,349	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	8,617	46,639	0	0
Pakistan	58,639	142,337	0	0
Panama	17,445	105,993	2,694	16,023
Philippines	109,504	277,423	0	0
Saudi Arabia	26,237	95,389	0	0
Singapore	42,075	109,733	0	0
Suriname	12,023	29,184	0	0
Taiwan	123,706	488,165	17,688	50,500
Thailand	34,209	83,035	4,875	11,833
Ukraine	19,058	51,457	0	0
United Arab Emirates	236,816	591,346	49,658	125,909
Yemen(*)	305,710	1,130,340	0	0

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

Australia(*)	4,005	13,245	0	0
Bahamas, The	32,383	150,319	794	5,448
Barbados	4,945	31,805	0	0
Bermuda	27,000	111,907	6,387	25,309
Brazil	38,624	209,134	0	0
Canada	665,460	2,470,651	69,009	295,181
Cayman Islands	1,339	6,562	0	0
Chile	3,080	17,307	0	0
China	15,756	43,165	0	0
Germany(*)	9,587	25,022	0	0
Guatemala	595	6,643	0	0
Haiti	512	3,410	512	3,410
Hong Kong	35,660	210,709	18,499	127,923
India	33,266	100,005	0	0
Jamaica	5,443	23,969	1,814	5,720
Japan	139,123	314,604	47,122	100,758
Korea, South	45,100	116,590	925	6,080
Kuwait	639	3,452	639	3,452
Mongolia	435	3,995	0	0
Netherlands	3,622	5,980	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	12,161	53,500	628	5,377
Panama	3,304	22,330	0	0
Philippines	3,283	22,226	0	0
Saudi Arabia	5,954	27,394	1,111	6,512
Singapore	2,657	23,977	0	0
Taiwan	66,537	126,198	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	136	3,000	0	0
Turkey	78,848	230,144	0	0
United Arab Emirates	842	10,798	0	0
United Kingdom	2,423	17,783	0	0
Vietnam	22,213	49,446	22,213	49,446
Yemen(*)	2,266	12,500	0	0

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,895,018</b>	<b>13,183,951</b>	<b>541,293</b>	<b>1,726,723</b>
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## U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

	Year to Date			September 2014		
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

**WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -**

Argentina	4,782,972	18,264,406	18,676,749	115,528	502,920	516,571
Brazil	790,548	3,123,789	3,220,223	557	4,502	4,530
Canada	3,701,481	17,536,579	17,600,585	564,895	2,696,576	2,712,152
Chile	37,689	139,449	143,449	0	0	0
Egypt	3,920	16,581	17,151	0	0	0
France(*)	300	3,535	3,693	0	0	0
Hungary	248	2,123	2,243	0	0	0
India	5,022,970	15,798,881	16,431,287	288,670	985,272	1,028,447
Israel(*)	1,022	6,677	6,937	0	0	0
Italy(*)	18,904	140,435	149,019	0	0	0
Mexico	1,233,886	4,860,212	4,909,283	146,627	522,937	531,218
Pakistan	274	2,297	2,658	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	21,488	94,469	97,626	0	0	0
Taiwan	78,082	142,966	154,321	0	0	0
Ukraine	19,140	56,965	57,465	0	0	0
United Kingdom	1,693	18,922	19,613	282	3,243	3,370
Uruguay	322,814	1,224,182	1,231,108	0	0	0
Vietnam	58,500	152,100	159,945	39,000	101,400	106,630

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

Argentina	22,266,496	87,110,163	89,932,564	1,678,567	7,085,304	7,282,900
Brazil	1,984,230	7,404,061	7,658,906	114,342	435,749	450,874
Canada	159,794	874,478	878,144	28,432	127,145	127,243
Denmark(*)	628	5,883	6,785	0	0	0
France(*)	1,078	5,424	5,460	0	0	0
India	8,655,495	26,023,224	27,096,818	1,078,200	3,184,452	3,325,874
Italy(*)	11,339	51,251	54,731	851	5,186	5,620
Mexico	3,361,146	13,375,711	13,517,611	254,570	1,025,352	1,036,753
Pakistan	246,732	664,268	709,268	38,000	105,070	112,070
Poland	840	6,048	6,299	0	0	0
Portugal	867	10,319	11,195	0	0	0
Taiwan	611,320	1,477,896	1,550,842	172,260	414,572	436,072
Thailand	603,000	1,456,254	1,464,238	0	0	0
Ukraine	3,363,751	9,480,195	9,841,347	894,279	2,797,829	2,909,454
Uruguay	1,731,337	6,481,904	6,576,549	0	0	0
Vietnam	1,515,580	3,728,496	3,955,414	270,900	690,336	735,836

**LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE –**

Argentina	5,073,163	20,596,917	21,739,249	359,456	1,559,607	1,646,012
Australia(*)	2,157	29,481	29,924	0	0	0
Austria	52,639	384,732	409,262	4,401	40,230	42,520
Brazil	4,835,949	17,853,511	18,606,660	75,858	275,603	284,683
Bulgaria	74,240	222,720	222,724	74,240	222,720	222,724
Burma	146,119	343,959	359,616	0	0	0
Canada	21,688	106,476	107,396	287	2,353	2,368
Cote d'Ivoire	36,900	105,719	105,720	36,900	105,719	105,720
Croatia	1,296	11,166	11,523	0	0	0

Denmark(*)	734	3,888	4,486	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	392,246	1,104,115	1,135,902	54,724	139,106	142,054
Ecuador	679	3,120	3,729	0	0	0
Germany(*)	48,726	295,576	306,057	0	0	0
Guatemala	3,410	25,841	27,328	0	0	0
Hong Kong	10,260	67,901	69,108	0	0	0
India	3,080,435	9,030,642	9,437,434	426,300	1,327,351	1,379,912
Italy(*)	5,901	111,998	116,634	688	22,326	22,606
Latvia	76,560	244,992	250,272	0	0	0
Macedonia	805	4,982	5,133	0	0	0
Malaysia	161,820	364,095	381,713	0	0	0
Mexico	700,792	2,589,729	2,620,923	18,332	72,152	79,652
Moldova	3,459	5,718	5,719	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	220,411	1,747,397	1,754,687	0	0	0
Pakistan	26,211	76,853	82,983	2,230	7,454	8,199
Poland	5,701	16,504	17,727	0	0	0
Romania	3,392	18,075	20,884	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	2,060	2,800	3,193	0	0	0
Spain	14,136	126,324	128,336	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taiwan	231,805	530,577	593,942	97,225	221,922	234,223
Thailand	1,345,520	3,370,934	3,514,029	290,832	744,639	772,813
Turkey	1,643,523	4,265,452	4,713,092	186,000	446,400	496,400
Ukraine	517,957	1,500,887	1,570,676	38,400	115,632	119,810
United Kingdom	3,000	14,933	15,544	0	0	0
Uruguay	2,971,121	10,437,789	10,574,288	93,936	338,170	341,016
Vietnam	28,286,298	73,231,141	76,932,171	5,061,330	13,403,453	14,066,010

**NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED ---**

Albania	289	2,640	2,965	0	0	0
Argentina	96,142	327,088	332,751	0	0	0
Australia(*)	1,436	19,429	19,929	0	0	0
Brazil	23,064	97,527	106,164	0	0	0
Cameroon	18,840	41,448	43,948	0	0	0
Canada	22,888	130,307	130,653	19,240	91,197	91,198
Chile	1,554	15,840	16,290	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	294,526	638,457	666,420	77,082	210,078	217,046
Egypt	888	4,600	4,824	0	0	0
Ethiopia(*)	1,290	3,238	3,555	0	0	0
France(*)	5,357	79,311	81,882	0	0	0
Germany(*)	7,220	61,848	66,549	0	0	0
Ghana	1,865	10,402	12,609	0	0	0
Greece	10,995	64,006	68,611	0	0	0
Hungary	900	5,400	6,600	0	0	0
India	18,082	71,706	74,526	4,150	15,733	16,203
Israel(*)	11,166	83,138	85,209	1,310	10,254	11,005
Italy(*)	13,841	111,152	115,567	0	0	0
Latvia	650,760	1,374,632	1,374,649	76,560	161,924	161,926
Lithuania	8,119	40,576	42,903	0	0	0
Mexico	337,054	1,270,936	1,273,291	0	0	0
Moldova	1,923	4,093	4,727	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	742,869	5,568,834	5,676,716	13,559	241,041	246,777
Oman	1,699	4,917	5,882	0	0	0
Poland	17,382	116,352	124,416	0	0	0
Portugal	324	3,576	3,626	0	0	0
Russia	2,736	10,598	11,573	0	0	0

Saudi Arabia	405	2,850	2,900	0	0	0
Serbia	648	3,987	4,219	0	0	0
Spain	1,310	13,637	14,025	216	2,474	2,511
Taiwan	731,566	1,753,160	1,823,884	58,780	142,248	148,248
Thailand	1,937	5,200	5,378	0	0	0
Turkey	915	4,081	4,468	0	0	0
Ukraine	39,391	88,627	97,433	20,010	44,022	48,424
Uruguay	94,499	321,736	334,995	0	0	0
Vietnam	3,107,698	7,526,124	7,914,081	419,340	1,071,413	1,111,235

**COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –**

Albania	1,402	12,676	13,876	0	0	0
Argentina	8,457	51,325	56,429	0	0	0
Australia(*)	23,383	139,130	139,374	0	0	0
Austria	7,212	94,811	100,584	480	5,181	5,359
Brazil	4,379	34,615	35,919	0	0	0
Bulgaria	75,910	280,733	294,977	0	0	0
Canada	26,548	213,982	214,992	8,899	75,765	75,840
Chile	1,217	11,952	12,102	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	1,154	3,456	3,931	1,154	3,456	3,931
Egypt	2,100	6,450	6,720	0	0	0
France(*)	104,772	1,131,204	1,186,918	13,717	128,071	133,702
Germany(*)	148,379	927,558	965,082	2,940	17,552	18,208
Greece	42,760	567,779	582,901	0	0	0
Guatemala	21,645	102,020	104,115	0	0	0
Hungary	36,380	249,148	264,801	12,639	85,108	89,661
India	334,208	1,110,764	1,164,928	100,300	318,187	330,687
Ireland	435	3,197	3,448	0	0	0
Israel(*)	6,449	42,286	42,331	0	0	0
Italy(*)	41,890	424,722	436,458	4,082	48,833	49,412
Jordan	7,929	16,324	18,111	0	0	0
Lebanon	4,950	57,420	58,737	0	0	0
Lithuania	3,600	14,988	16,487	0	0	0
Macedonia	1,016	4,083	4,270	0	0	0
Mexico	25,664	97,994	99,600	3,225	18,834	19,034
Moldova	8,085	47,679	52,445	734	4,664	5,130
New Zealand(*)	404,026	2,934,513	2,965,961	90,600	657,147	662,164
Poland	21,888	59,686	62,893	0	0	0
Portugal	19,049	130,373	135,523	4,332	31,418	32,788
Romania	576	4,814	5,626	0	0	0
Russia	38,208	203,188	223,508	0	0	0
Serbia	9,480	76,080	79,515	0	0	0
Spain	87,384	647,249	669,075	25,452	218,815	220,287
Switzerland(*)	18,293	273,876	285,292	0	0	0
Taiwan	114,737	253,421	266,920	10,368	21,488	22,669
Turkey	88,715	571,128	590,499	10,419	71,928	73,835
Ukraine	24,592	84,823	93,306	0	0	0
United Kingdom	394	7,002	7,030	0	0	0
Uzbekistan, Republic of	4,954	56,929	62,622	0	0	0

**FLAVORED HONEY –**

Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	7,376	18,849	19,906	0	0	0
Canada	3,244	155,617	156,114	0	0	0
China	2,291	50,741	54,737	0	0	0
France(*)	8,844	308,148	311,218	105	3,605	3,655
Greece	404	4,562	4,954	0	0	0
India	63,448	140,272	145,672	20,855	47,850	49,650

Ireland	489	5,503	6,061	0	0	0
Italy(*)	5,242	113,490	115,511	949	28,871	29,232
Japan	10,729	86,012	87,060	9,439	11,653	12,151
Korea, South	137,797	1,872,115	1,906,555	18,413	83,395	86,320
Mexico	90,472	906,774	912,239	62,598	607,567	609,608
Netherlands	26,746	135,326	142,596	0	0	0
Portugal	8,404	42,971	47,098	0	0	0
Spain	5,173	36,666	43,036	1,478	10,476	11,856
Taiwan	24,504	69,594	73,757	381	2,393	2,565
Thailand	62,107	273,847	282,911	4,032	14,190	14,654
United Arab Emirates	7,991	14,458	15,035	3,274	6,028	6,267
United Kingdom	382	7,339	7,353	122	2,690	2,698

**ORGANIC HONEY –**

Argentina	36,259	128,723	131,849	0	0	0
Australia(*)	27,720	214,053	226,925	0	0	0
Brazil	9,487,321	37,012,989	38,299,656	1,075,386	4,379,837	4,532,618
Bulgaria	3,063	22,160	22,660	0	0	0
Canada	94,032	590,549	593,542	657	5,378	5,411
Cyprus	600	11,388	12,536	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	3,051	17,091	18,693	0	0	0
Greece	1,093	12,985	13,219	0	0	0
India	400	2,200	2,404	0	0	0
Italy(*)	27,472	315,246	324,832	847	10,965	11,364
Kuwait	4,421	27,851	28,250	0	0	0
Mexico	110,264	436,594	452,712	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	4,000	101,751	102,551	0	0	0
Vietnam	186,000	492,900	506,900	0	0	0

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	129,105,814	443,046,682	458,981,656	14,685,223	48,644,411	50,467,665
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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**