

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States  
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Agriculture

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## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF JANURARY, 2016

### 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			
Safflower	Light Amber	\$2.00	
COLORADO			
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$2.00	
DAKOTAS			
Canola	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Clover	White	\$1.75	
Cotton	Light Amber	\$1.75	
Western	White	\$1.70	
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
FLORIDA			
Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.75	- \$1.60
Wildflower	Extra Light Amber	\$2.15	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.65	
IOWA			
Clover	White		
LOUISIANA			
Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.85	
Wildflowers	Light Amber	\$1.60	
MAINE			
Blueberry	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	
MICHIGAN			
Basswood	White	\$2.00	
Star Thistle	Extra Light Amber	\$2.00	
MINNESOTA			
Basswood	White	\$1.75	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Clover	Light Amber	\$1.75	
MISSISSIPPI			
Soybean	White Amber	\$1.81	
MONTANA			
Clover	White	\$1.75	
NEBRASKA			
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
OREGON			
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Wildflowers	Light Amber	\$1.65	
TEXAS			
Cotton	Extra Light Amber	\$1.85	
Cotton	Light Amber	\$1.75	
Western	White	\$1.70	

Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70
WASHINGTON		
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.75
Buckwheat	Dark	\$1.75
Mint	Dark	\$1.75
Wildberry	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75
WYOMING		
Alfalfa	White	\$1.70

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

Canola	White	\$1.32	- \$1.45
Clover	White	\$1.45	
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.30	

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

ARGENTINA			
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.65	- \$1.83
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.46	- \$1.75
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.22	- \$1.75
BRAZIL			
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.52	- \$1.82
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.52	- \$1.81
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.54	
INDIA			
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.32	- \$1.71
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.25	- \$1.59
MYANMAR			
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.28	
VIETNAM			
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.34	- \$1.53
UKRAINE			
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.54	- \$1.61
Sunflower	White	\$1.25	
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$1.25	

**COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY, 2016**

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): January weather was a roller coaster with days of normally cold temperatures, interspersed with days of above normal temperatures. A major storm with blizzard conditions, Jonas, hit the area on Jan 22-24, with record snowfall amounts in several areas throughout the District. Beekeepers dug colonies out from snow drifts and continued to monitor and provide supplemental feeding. Beekeepers were also busy attending industry meetings.

ALABAMA: No report issued.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at below normal levels for the first half of the month of January, and were at above normal levels for the second half of the month. Temperatures ranged from a high of 84 degrees Fahrenheit in Sahuarita to a low of 9 degrees below zero at Grand Canyon.

There was precipitation in 50, 19, 10 and 15 out of 50 reporting stations respectively during the four weekly reporting periods during the month.

Backyard and desert plant bloom, alfalfa, and various citrus (including lemons and oranges) were the main source of nectar and pollen in Arizona during the month of January. Bee activity was limited due to a large number of Arizona hives currently being at other locations, mainly California, for pollination of nut and fruit trees, especially almond. Demand for honey remained good.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.

CALIFORNIA: The weather shifted from a cool, moist, wintry trend to a warmer and dry spring-like one. For the week temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees cooler than normal. Temperatures in coastal areas were near normal and were 5 to 7 degrees below normal in the far Southeast. Lows in the mountains ranged from negative single digits to 20 above at lower elevations, 20s to 30s in the valley, 20s to 40s in the desert, and 30s to 40s along the coast. Highs in the mountains were 40s to 50s, 50s to 70s along the coast from north to south, 60s to 70s in the valley, and 80s in places along the southern coast and in the deserts.

Much of the week was dry, with precipitation totals averaging 1/4 inch or less. There were a few locations that received over 1/2 inch for the week.

The bees are back in town! Beekeepers are beginning to place the hives into the almond orchards. There have been some reports of higher winter losses this year and some growers will have to accept a slight reduction of colony number in their orchards. There have even been reports of thefts of hives this year. Thanks to our above average temperatures and ample rainfall; the bees are able to find forage and are strengthening their colonies for the upcoming pollination season.

FLORIDA: The temperatures were about normal and precipitation was above normal for the month. There were several cooler periods, which kept the bees from flying very much. This was good for bee health as there were few sources of food and kept the bees from wasting energy. Bee health was reported to be variable with some reporting excellent health and others reporting fairly poor health. The areas with cooler temperatures may have healthier bees than the warmer areas due to expending less energy foraging. Maple should have been blooming by mid-December, but still had not started in most areas by late January. There were some areas reporting willow and a few wildflowers, but most beekeepers were supplemental feeding. Bees were being relocated to California for almond pollination during the entire month. The almond pollination season is expected by many to begin a little earlier than normal, possibly around the beginning of February. The bees will remain in California until approximately the middle of March. They will then return to make orange blossom honey which usually begins in early March, or palmetto or gallberry honey which usually begins in early to mid-March. Some bees will also be relocated to more northern states to make clover honey. The supply of honey remains very light with good demand. Prices appear to be .40-.60 per pound lower for almost any type of Florida honey than they were a month or two ago.

GEORGIA: January had some mild temperatures during the month and some extremely cold and rainy days. Most of the beekeepers are reporting that the bees are in pretty good shape heading into the latter half of the winter months. Very light percentages of loss reported and most caused by starvation due to lack of available food sources. Red Maple and a few winter flowering plants are providing food when the bees are able to leave the hives and work. Some brooding is taking place and beekeepers are hoping for a great spring. Demand is strong and exceeds available supplies.

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: During the month of January temperatures were above normal over Southeastern Colorado, most of Idaho and in an area around Salt Lake City, Utah. Most other areas of Utah and Colorado had below normal temperatures during this period, according to the National Weather Service. Northern areas of Idaho had above normal snowfall during January helping to alleviate the severe drought conditions that have persisted for several months. The rest of Idaho was normal to slightly below normal on precipitation during the month of January. Colorado and Utah had precipitation that varied widely across both States. However, none of the reporting stations in either of these States deviated more than one half inch of precipitation above or below normal during January according to the National Weather Service. Many locations were right around normal for the monthly precipitation totals during the month of January.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, Colorado continues to have near normal moisture conditions across most areas of the State in January with the exception of a few pockets of abnormally dry conditions scattered across the State. Overall drought conditions have improved during the month of January in both Utah and Idaho. Normal moisture conditions are present in an enlarging area of both Southeastern Utah and Idaho. The rest of Utah ranges from abnormally dry to severe going from east to west across the State. The worst drought conditions in Utah in January continues to be in the Northwest part of Utah, west of the Great Salt Lake. The rest of Idaho has drought conditions that range from abnormally dry to severe. The most severe drought conditions in Idaho are confined to a small area in the Northeast part of the State.

Large commercial beekeepers from Idaho, Utah and Colorado now have their bee colonies in place for the 2016 almond pollination period in California. Wet and warm weather has dominated much of January in California. Beekeepers are hoping that drier weather will prevail during the actual almond bloom, which is anticipated to start around the middle of February.

Bees that were in potato storage sheds in Idaho for the months of November, December and January had very few colony losses. Bees that were not stored in potato storage sheds were showing much higher colony losses. Some beekeepers from Utah and Colorado noted colony losses ranging from 32 percent to well over 50 percent. These losses seem to be growing with time and several beekeepers indicated that the losses may not be over yet. Possible causes for these losses range from insect growth regulators, fungicides, queen issues and varroa mites. No one issue by itself has been singled out as the entire problem causing these high colony losses. Viability of the colonies remaining, is still a concern for beekeepers who have experienced

high losses. These losses could have a domino effect on the almond and produce industry that rely on the pollination services of bees, if not corrected soon.

Many of the bees remaining are looking heavy while others are on the light side. Right now beekeepers are going through their colonies again in preparation for almond pollination. Beekeepers want their bees in top shape. So they are adding supplemental corn syrup or sugar syrup and in some cases pollen patties to help stimulate the queen into brood production on an as needed basis. Some beekeepers prefer to rely on natural pollen collected by worker bees during the foraging season. Their idea is to mimic the natural cycle of brood production as much as possible. According to beekeepers, one of the side benefits of staying with a natural bee brood production cycle is that normally there is a time period with no brood production. This break in time seems to also break up the natural cycle of mite production and has helped some beekeepers in their fight against varroa mites. Some beekeepers have treated for varroa mites up to seven times in the past year in their attempts to stay ahead of the problem. Treating this many times is costly and time consuming for beekeepers.

Demand for commercial domestic honey in January from the States of Idaho, Utah and Colorado is very good despite the continued trend towards lower prices. According to commercial beekeepers, the current wholesale price for good white domestic honey from Idaho, Colorado and Utah currently varies from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per pound with an occasional higher prices being received. Much higher prices were received in the early fall from the 2015 production season.

There is still some commercial honey that has not been delivered yet, that was contracted or committed earlier in the fall of 2015 at prices up to \$2.15 per pound on white honey. Overall, not too much commercial honey is left uncommitted at this point of time in Idaho, Utah and Colorado. Beekeepers with retail stores report continued strong demand by consumers. Capping wax whether light or dark continues to be in short supply with wholesale prices in the \$5.00 per pound range depending upon quality and quantity.

ILLINOIS: The weather for January has been mild overall with warm temperatures and very little precipitation. Beekeepers have been checking on the bees to see how they are doing. Beekeepers are also going to meetings, checking and repairing equipment, ordering packages, preparing for the spring and participating in beekeeping classes. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

INDIANA: The weather for January has been very mild with little rain or snow. Temperatures were warm enough that bees took cleansing flights. Most beekeepers report their bees in good condition. Beekeepers are going to meetings and checking and repairing equipment. Demand for honey is good and demand exceeded supply at the retail level and demand was fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Average temperatures for the month were mostly above normal, as warm and dry conditions prevailed. Precipitation was below normal except for much of Nebraska. Light winter snowfall remains below seasonal normal as well.

Beekeepers activity was extremely light. Beekeepers were attending meetings, workshops and teaching beekeeping classes. Bees have had warm days for flight cleansing. Supplemental feeding is still being provided. Demand for package bees and queens is very good, as beekeepers report much higher prices than last season.

KENTUCKY: No report issued.

LOUISIANA: No report issued.

MICHIGAN: With mild winter weather thus far, many beekeepers have reported fewer bee losses. The losses that have been discussed seem to be attributed to virus or disease, notably varroa infestations. Local honey demand has decreased slightly, given the season, with some beekeepers running low on supplies. Although honey prices on the world market have declined, it has not affected the local honey prices, especially given the varieties offered at the local level. There are several new beekeeping classes scheduled around the state in the next few months, with avid interest among many to become hobbyists. Heavy colony losses by large numbers of commercial beekeepers have created a strong demand for replacement units and have moved prices up \$10 per colony or more (from \$185 to \$195 or higher). Units that are coming through the winter months are looking good. Most commercial beekeepers (running 5,000 or more units) just needed 25% more to take advantage of a strong demand year. Wholesale prices in southern Florida, which previously was reported, took a dive from \$1.80-1.85 in 2014 to \$1.60 or less in 2015. However, demand has been strong and inventories have generally been sold. Currently, wholesale prices for orange honey have started at \$2.25 per pound or higher. This offer should offset the drop in the Dakota white honey prices in the \$1.80 per pound range.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures were below normal in Southern Minnesota locations and above normal over Northern areas of Minnesota during the month of January, according to the National Weather Service. Precipitation was also below normal across the entire State during the same period. Most of the precipitation in the month was in the form of snow. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, moisture conditions are normal over most of the State with the exception of abnormally dry conditions in the Northwest part of Minnesota.

Large commercial beekeepers from Minnesota now have their bee colonies in place for the 2016 almond pollination period in California. Wet and warm weather has dominated much of January in California. Beekeepers are hoping that drier weather will prevail during the actual almond bloom which is anticipated to start around the middle of February.

Minnesota bees that were in potato storage sheds in Idaho for the months of November, December and January had shown very few colony losses. However, there still seems to be some fairly high bee colony losses elsewhere among Minnesota commercial beekeepers. This is a trend that has now continued for a few months. Even though there are many possible causes for these losses, ranging from insect growth regulators, fungicides, queen issues and mites, no one issue by itself has been singled out as the entire problem. Even the viability of the remaining colonies, is still a concern for beekeepers who have experienced high losses. It has become a critical point of time to find some remedies, if there is to be the survival of commercial beekeepers. These losses could have a domino effect on the almond and produce industry that rely on the pollination services of bees, if not corrected soon according to beekeepers.

Many of the bees remaining are looking heavy while others are on the light side. Right now beekeepers are going through their colonies again in preparation for almond pollination. Beekeepers want their bees in top shape. So they are adding supplemental corn syrup or sugar syrup and in some cases pollen patties to help stimulate the queen into brood production on an as need basis. Some beekeepers prefer to rely on natural pollen collected by worker bees during the forage growing season. Their idea is to mimic the natural cycle of brood production as much as possible. According to beekeepers one of the side benefits of staying with a natural brood production cycle is that normally there is a time period with no brood production.

This break in time seems to also break up the natural cycle of mite production and has helped some beekeepers to keep varroa mites at lower tolerable levels. Some beekeepers are spot checking for varroa mites with sticky boards prior to starting the almond pollination.

Current contract pollination prices in the California Almond Farms are in a range of \$195.00 to \$200.00 for an 8 to 10 frame hive. Overall demand remains very strong for domestic Minnesota honey despite a trend towards continued lower wholesale prices. A majority of Minnesota commercial honey has been sold. However, there are still some Minnesota beekeepers holding their 2015 honey crop in hopes that there will be higher prices in the near future.

MISSISSIPPI: Most of the beekeepers report the bees and hives are in good condition and are preparing them for brooding and spring work ahead. Some heavy rains and cold weather have kept the bees in check in the hives for a good portion of the month. Demand exceeds supplies.

MONTANA: No report issued.

NEW ENGLAND: In New England, the month of January 2016 exhibited a pattern of erratic weather with a series of warm days with temperatures in the 50's set against an opposite pattern of cold days with temperatures in the 20's. January is usually beset with Nor'easter storms and the common deep freeze of bitter cold temperatures, strong winds and sporadic periods of heavy snow and rainfall. This January has been just the opposite of this norm. New England has had light rain or snow which has resulted in a low moisture level however the region did experience one strong Nor'easter but it affected just the southern New England area. The mild winter certainly means less stress on honeybee colonies. The big concern is that the bees have been very active and which means that they will use more of their honey reserve. Keepers report that many of their hives were light on stores going into the winter, so starvation is a very real threat. The milder temperatures have allowed cleansing flights and ventilation which should reduce disease issues and improve overwintering. There have been reports of hives showing many dead bees being removed from hives as a result of the higher consumption of honey and erratic weather. New England keepers need to keep an eye on winter stores because they may need to feed when brood production starts. It has already been pointed out to me that some beekeepers have seen eggs being laid by the queens already in 2016. In light of our weather and noted flight activity, keepers should not be surprised to find some hives loose bees because brood production will start early and an extended cold period may result in the loss of a number of hives due to starvation issues. In New England, experienced beekeepers during fall preparations have made sure that each hive has 60 to 80lbs of food stores before the start of cold weather. In New England, keepers advice checking the brood areas and replace empty frames with capped honey ones but never physically disturb the cluster. Many keepers are reluctant to open up the hives and chance chilling the bees as most keepers leave enough food as well as bee candy in regard to hives showing light stores. The current mindset is, feed while you can. In this inspection process, check the hives for weight of the stores. Light weight store conditions require adding granulated sugar (fondant) on the inner cover and watch to see if the bees are utilizing it. Keepers report a high feeding success rate when spacers (3/8 inch x 1 inch x 6 inches) are utilized. Keepers in Southern New England will begin feeding in late February/early March with pollen patties, fondant, protein patties, sugar candy, sugar water syrup, high fructose corn syrup and frame feeders in order to stimulate brood production and add new worker populations for the young. The increase in daylight hours will signal the queen to begin laying eggs; hence a food source is necessary and timely needed. Many New England keepers recommend hive protection methods such as wrapping hives with tar paper, adding a top insulation board, which will help keep the moisture level low and the hive warm and reduce wind infiltration. Additionally, tilting hives to assist drainage is accomplished by tilting the back end of the hive up and the front end down in order to assist drainage of the bottom board. Condensation from poor ventilation will more adversely affect bees than cold weather. Colonies need to be well ventilated to abate this problem. In New England, hives normally lose 5 to 10% of their population due to normal winter ventilation issues. Many keepers are occupied in building, repairing and maintenance of equipment as this is the "down" season for beekeeping. Additionally, this is the time to plan for the upcoming year. Overall in January, colonies were reported to be in moderate to fairly good condition whereby the colonies that have experienced good health were the ones that received regular and aggressive applications of mite treatments such as apiguard and formic acid. The New England honey crop this past year exhibited an average of 45lbs per colony, with a reported occasional high of 60lbs per colony.

Many major bee conventions have their sister national associations meet at the same time and in concert with the nation's commercial beekeeper starting their migration to major crop pollination sites. These conventions often have all operations under one umbrella hence; the research presentations, the trade show and side bar meetings. Out of these important meetings many are learning about some notable issues.

According to the National Honey Board, the number of migratory colonies on the road in the United States is 2 million. In order to provide an accurate picture of the health of the nation's honeybees, USDA/APHIS initiated the USDA Honeybee Pests and Diseases Survey Project. The project is a comprehensive study aimed at documenting which bee diseases, parasites and pests are present or absent in the United States. Data from the national survey will be used in the USDA's CCD Action Plan. The information on practices and problems throughout the country will be entered in a data base. The project will help identify management practices that keep colonies alive rather than looking for factors that increase the risk of mortality. Once there is sufficient data from all the areas in the United States, beekeepers will be able to log in with their location and learn about the problems in their area and how other beekeepers are dealing with those problems. USDA and the Bee Informed Research Group will provide an extensive database of information from nationwide apiary surveys combined with historical and regional data that will provide specific information about a variety of diseases and pests of honeybees. The estimated number of beekeepers in the United States is more than 211,000.

Honey sales have remained very good and continue to grow with supplies of new crop honey being available. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.00 to \$12.00 mostly \$10.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$20.00 mostly \$18.00, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were firm with 5 gallon units at \$195.00 to \$240.00 mostly \$220.00 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 \$2.60 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. Price quotes taken for bulk orders above 50lbs are \$2.20 to \$3.50 mostly \$3.50 for white/light, cleaned beeswax. Retail white and cleaned beeswax prices reported are \$16.00 to \$20.00 per pound, mostly \$18.00 per pound or \$1.50 per ounce. .

NEW YORK: Relatively mild winter conditions have prevailed, which usually means lower winter colony losses. However, during mild winters, bee activity increases and early spring feedings may be required. The mild conditions also affect native plants, which are the basis of colony growth through these months. Currently, tree buds are a bit more swollen than they should be for the middle of winter. The fear is that a warm spell will further break dormancy, and a subsequent cold snap could damage the buds and blossoms of pollen and nectar supplying plants, thus reducing food supplies for the early spring buildup of colonies. While the winter losses may be down, replacement bee prices, including nucs, packages and queens seem to be higher.

Beekeepers wishing to increase hive numbers of colony strength by adding bees delivered from southern climates will need to start saving early to pay for the increasing bee prices. An added concern is that if the early pollen sources do not materialize, it will be a long slog to get hive strength up for honey production. Honey sales are strong in the region, although prices have not really changed at the retail level. It does not appear that large beekeepers are in need of honey, as many had a strong production year providing ample supplies

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Temperatures in North Carolina were below normal throughout January. Precipitation for the month was also below normal, however, statewide soil moisture levels remained around 52.5 percent surplus, 46.5 percent adequate, and only 1 percent short the week ending January 30. According to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council there were no drought advisories in effect in North Carolina.

Apiary inspectors continued to report that colony conditions varied depending on management practices. Lack of pest control or incorrect use of control measures, especially for Varroa mites; inadequate nutrition; and generally weak bees all contributed to starve outs and losses from failure to maintain enough heat for survival during cold weather. The below normal temperatures allowed for little foraging, but on the occasional mild day bees could be seen working ornamental evergreen shrubs and Red Maple in the Coastal Plains.

Commercial pollinators prepared to move hives to California for fruit and tree nut pollination; while replacement bee operations are preparing for a season of high demand due to losses.

Demand for honey was moderate and supply was seasonally light. Retail prices at the Raleigh State Farmers' Market remained steady at \$8.00 per 8 ounce jar, \$13.00 per 16 ounce jar, \$22.00 per 32 ounce jar, and \$18.00 per 44 ounce jar.

**NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA:** January was characterized by the extremes of temperatures with sub-zero temperatures in mid-January warming to the 40Fs by the end of the month. The warmer temperatures removed the snow cover completely in some areas. Bees in the California area are preparing for the upcoming almond crop. The honey market continues to be depressed in part due to competition from imported honey.

**OHIO:** In spite of overall milder winter conditions, beekeepers are still reporting a slow erosion of bee losses since the fall months. Commercial beekeepers, that sent hives to Florida for overwintering, discovered additional colonies that accelerated an increase in disease from the population influx. The weather in Florida has also been iffy, mild temperatures and several cloudy, rainy days that was no help to general bee health. Locally, honey prices are up slightly with strong demand for varietals and infused honey. Specialty honey sold at farm markets has brought from as low as \$10.00/pound to as high as \$15.00/pound, while retail store prices for light honey from mostly \$8.00-10.00.

**OKLAHOMA:** Bees are out foraging due to warmer weather and rain. No pest have been found in examination of hives. The market is looking good for early honey crops. Beekeepers continue feeding hives for winter. Pollen sources are coming from cedars, which were extremely levels high thought out the month of January and a few other winter crops. Honey supply is low due to winter, while prices are on the rise. Beekeepers are predicting an early spring.

**OREGON:** No report issued.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** No report issued.

**TENNESSEE:** January was cold and wet with little blooming. There were areas that reported some henbit and red maple pollen coming in towards the end of the month.

**TEXAS:** Bees for the most part are currently fine. About three weeks ago started feeding the bees. They have consuming all the sugar water and pollen substitute given to them. Brood production is increasing in the relatively warm winter weather. Colonies are mostly strong, with some average, and a few weak colonies also present. All are anticipated to survive the winter months. There is very limited pollen and nectar sources at present, apart from a few dandelions, but the bees continue to find something to bring home. If warmer weather persists, some note that they will set an early watch for swarm cells - although there is no sign of crowding in the hives so far, and the queens are relatively young.

**WASHINGTON:** January saw more snow, especially in the mountains and West of the Cascades. Hauling across passes was delayed due to road closures for slides and avalanche control work. The snow and colder temperatures have helped to with forming a good snowpack necessary for summer and fall irrigation in Central Washington. Not much activity with the bees and hives overwintering locally due to cold weather and precipitation.

**WISCONSIN:** The weather has been good for January with very warm temperatures and not too much rain or snow. Beekeepers are checking on the bees for winter. Some beekeepers are deciding whether or not to feed their bees. Most beekeepers report that their bees are in good condition, while others report some dead hives. Beekeepers are going to meetings, checking and repairing their equipment and preparing for the spring. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

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

	Year to Date		December 2015	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
<b>COMB &amp; NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -</b>				
Afghanistan	2,357	19,856	1,035	7,546
Bahamas, The	2,835	10,740	0	0
Bahrain	24,566	59,629	0	0
Bangladesh	1,000	4,435	0	0
Barbados	46,452	140,429	897	5,341
Brazil	4,407	10,696	0	0
Cayman Islands	2,013	6,645	0	0

China	307,409	753,623	21,121	51,268
Guatemala	897	5,341	0	0
Guyana	10,230	52,298	816	7,067
Hong Kong	9,849	33,225	0	0
India	260,400	910,470	0	0
Indonesia	10,908	26,477	0	0
Japan	288,171	981,788	0	0
Korea, South	222,026	1,175,013	18,441	98,381
Kuwait	302,382	740,068	0	0
Lebanon	780	3,915	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	334	3,535	334	3,535
Malaysia	4,901	14,158	0	0
Mongolia	5,182	12,578	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	17,384	108,141	1,794	10,681
Panama	28,371	153,770	0	0
Philippines	435,155	1,059,583	53,532	129,939
Saudi Arabia	776	5,975	0	0
Singapore	45,693	148,502	0	0
Sri Lanka	1,482	3,598	0	0
Taiwan	67,169	120,486	0	0
United Arab Emirates	251,879	641,742	381	3,049
United Kingdom	17,473	73,500	17,473	73,500
Vietnam	1,000	4,901	0	0
Yemen(*)	206,335	584,010	19,931	103,350

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

Australia(*)	11,506	47,514	0	0
Bahamas, The	26,659	132,533	1,641	15,146
Barbados	9,750	58,970	0	0
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	2,014	4,889	0	0
Bermuda	43,194	152,546	1,963	9,296
Canada	1,080,779	5,005,810	56,552	281,236
Cayman Islands	1,262	5,291	0	0
Chile	809	12,853	0	0
China	117,810	361,403	58,057	140,915
Dominican Republic	20,302	52,391	0	0
Germany(*)	4,155	13,945	0	0
Guatemala	760	8,814	0	0
Hong Kong	65,126	329,752	4,137	22,819
India	219,540	595,082	0	0
Italy(*)	8,262	22,920	0	0
Japan	32,069	128,704	0	0
Jordan	646	5,000	0	0
Korea, South	338,194	1,485,901	1,000	6,840
Kuwait	8,506	20,646	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	1,140	2,766	0	0
Mexico	41,779	138,121	7,514	18,239
Mongolia	2,366	5,742	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	12,538	59,330	0	0
Oman	969	4,350	0	0
Pakistan	19,005	135,585	0	0
Panama	408	3,056	0	0
Philippines	59,418	177,678	0	0
Qatar	412	4,155	0	0
Saudi Arabia	94,294	245,190	0	0
Singapore	18,838	84,143	4,976	12,077
Taiwan	109	2,514	0	0
Thailand	3,538	24,235	0	0
United Arab Emirates	20,444	81,097	1,254	7,743
United Kingdom	147	2,590	0	0
Vietnam	251,897	710,106	80,896	249,080

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	5,098,461	17,994,749	353,745	1,257,048
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### U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

Year to Date			December 2015		
Quantity	Value	CIF Value	Quantity	Value	CIF Value
Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars	Dollars

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

Argentina	5,700,173	21,492,016	21,876,242	456,498	1,476,303	1,516,327
Australia(*)	19,490	79,909	80,909	0	0	0
Brazil	915,905	3,581,711	3,724,162	242,262	970,529	1,005,221
Canada	7,534,487	31,153,252	31,317,952	353,615	1,192,585	1,202,956
Chile	24,414	68,359	69,859	0	0	0
China	1,604	10,270	10,870	802	5,135	5,435
Dominican Republic	6,282	17,612	18,781	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0
France(*)	1,171	13,615	14,087	0	0	0
Germany(*)	836	4,604	4,981	0	0	0
Hungary	504	3,061	3,286	0	0	0
India	3,876,877	13,236,932	13,604,666	35,310	113,409	117,137
Italy(*)	11,586	99,386	113,278	5,179	41,271	44,630
Mexico	1,805,356	7,402,235	7,458,137	17,312	66,529	66,532
New Zealand(*)	14,323	28,645	29,383	0	0	0
Portugal	3,341	5,028	5,922	0	0	0
Romania	18,568	124,712	129,712	0	0	0
Serbia	2,522	14,800	15,376	1,106	5,617	5,621
Spain	4,394	30,990	31,301	0	0	0
Taiwan	211,691	430,313	460,054	0	0	0
Thailand	354,264	945,509	987,009	0	0	0
Ukraine	56,355	178,130	184,634	0	0	0
United Kingdom	3,528	32,265	33,648	0	0	0
Uruguay	604,600	2,198,007	2,217,145	0	0	0
Vietnam	38,400	96,960	101,702	0	0	0

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

Argentina	18,076,764	67,626,878	69,803,246	1,578,497	4,903,694	5,044,834
Australia(*)	19,500	88,725	89,288	0	0	0
Brazil	761,125	2,711,064	2,833,283	37,735	124,665	132,165
Burma	19,500	59,425	62,689	0	0	0
Canada	365,776	1,760,621	1,768,564	9,798	52,815	52,995
Denmark(*)	3,660	23,620	24,606	0	0	0
France(*)	10,397	66,867	68,725	448	5,173	5,319
India	15,510,348	50,056,005	51,891,484	611,320	1,732,237	1,810,414
Indonesia	19,470	64,572	67,495	0	0	0
Italy(*)	26,822	81,619	88,936	427	4,747	5,497
Japan	10	2,790	2,970	0	0	0
Mexico	2,595,285	10,067,668	10,188,214	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	201,612	624,223	668,877	1,500	66,294	68,582
Pakistan	131,148	363,563	366,453	18,602	48,375	49,115
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portugal	219	2,408	2,608	0	0	0

Spain	19,614	106,948	109,242	18,125	97,730	99,931
Taiwan	1,781,140	4,279,820	4,407,620	57,420	121,730	121,830
Thailand	2,839,244	7,517,093	7,712,245	148,480	386,048	396,666
Turkey	510	2,520	2,593	510	2,520	2,593
Ukraine	10,000,129	31,945,301	33,527,892	614,509	1,668,889	1,717,286
Uruguay	2,834,693	9,727,969	9,985,584	0	0	0
Vietnam	1,544,645	4,098,437	4,354,257	116,400	271,620	288,400

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

Argentina	2,772,848	9,942,004	10,309,912	245,121	783,583	814,583
Armenia	992	8,321	10,821	992	8,321	10,821
Australia(*)	7,829	105,644	106,884	0	0	0
Austria	82,263	723,415	771,875	9,605	94,059	101,347
Brazil	2,369,350	8,324,975	8,644,149	189,653	599,870	625,096
Bulgaria	21,917	74,772	79,949	0	0	0
Burma	1,073,400	2,613,006	2,779,859	93,900	209,832	221,791
Canada	20,562	75,974	76,410	18,834	66,434	66,734
China	58,500	140,400	149,652	0	0	0
Cote d'Ivoire	76,800	220,032	220,034	0	0	0
Croatia	2,760	23,867	24,791	1,080	9,043	9,603
Denmark(*)	12,612	112,560	117,560	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	440,350	1,390,174	1,449,171	0	0	0
Ethiopia(*)	20,880	88,740	91,275	0	0	0
France(*)	394	7,648	7,739	0	0	0
Germany(*)	296,738	1,501,489	1,577,402	12,600	69,641	73,141
Greece	7,237	48,855	51,779	0	0	0
Hong Kong	21,204	139,596	142,075	7,524	49,270	50,160
India	15,598,932	47,277,179	49,115,227	1,740,494	4,676,537	4,797,668
Israel(*)	1,363	8,225	8,493	0	0	0
Italy(*)	11,275	169,531	173,704	2,432	23,288	23,736
Jamaica	15,259	145,200	152,700	0	0	0
Kuwait	2,779	24,689	27,196	0	0	0
Mexico	480,439	1,591,150	1,599,314	18,200	87,360	87,363
New Zealand(*)	266	10,431	11,431	0	0	0
Pakistan	23,154	64,886	69,080	17,380	37,950	39,450
Poland	1,714	11,615	13,355	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	1,327	16,992	17,507	0	0	0
Spain	30,188	247,803	254,500	3,025	21,492	21,906
Switzerland(*)	492	2,595	2,596	0	0	0
Taiwan	1,726,479	3,905,832	4,074,452	0	0	0
Thailand	7,579,318	19,075,108	20,139,235	515,930	1,286,646	1,356,966
Turkey	5,061,060	14,801,880	16,145,882	465,000	1,413,600	1,538,600
Ukraine	839,816	2,627,235	2,739,435	97,162	280,553	296,654
Uruguay	3,711,816	11,983,730	12,186,014	244,431	764,545	775,830
Vietnam	32,048,783	88,227,381	92,276,244	2,720,014	6,647,902	6,949,781

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

Albania	408	3,600	4,045	0	0	0
Argentina	262,134	865,740	901,712	17,969	52,110	52,940
Australia(*)	94	2,419	2,539	0	0	0
Belarus	399	2,066	3,466	0	0	0
Brazil	18,791	65,617	70,944	0	0	0
Bulgaria	2,937	21,574	22,903	0	0	0



Canada	72,641	256,268	267,241	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	612,654	1,636,043	1,696,838	46,018	120,275	125,461
Egypt	4,474	21,900	23,366	0	0	0
France(*)	4,591	70,394	74,375	510	8,856	10,751
Germany(*)	876	9,900	11,105	0	0	0
Greece	26,107	202,158	215,148	1,246	13,355	14,591
India	150,554	470,331	492,674	0	0	0
Indonesia	142,100	379,610	397,110	0	0	0
Israel(*)	5,930	15,764	16,341	0	0	0
Italy(*)	13,239	178,406	184,682	426	7,782	8,241
Jamaica	419	4,500	5,951	0	0	0
Lithuania	3,487	16,781	17,689	0	0	0
Mexico	356,526	1,331,752	1,340,473	9,173	28,906	28,993
Moldova	3,535	6,315	7,354	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	846,096	9,288,809	9,488,410	107,478	639,980	656,026
Pakistan	1,338	6,150	6,960	0	0	0
Poland	35,446	170,384	185,487	8,768	36,000	38,929
Russia	40,722	192,930	204,459	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	5,319	55,706	57,224	0	0	0
Serbia	562	3,468	3,608	562	3,468	3,608
Spain	11,002	76,079	80,390	744	7,974	8,599
Sudan(*)	2,650	11,290	14,176	0	0	0
Sweden	480	4,132	4,381	0	0	0
Taiwan	581,226	1,617,395	1,704,344	20,810	56,786	58,896
Turkey	1,929	10,996	14,836	510	3,000	3,087
Ukraine	111,477	309,479	329,590	15,080	30,160	33,176
United Kingdom	19,187	102,344	112,579	0	0	0
Uruguay	54,840	52,204	60,704	0	0	0
Vietnam	3,438,818	8,663,705	9,107,522	750,630	1,573,774	1,628,150

**COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –**

Argentina	12,073	65,125	69,604	778	15,379	17,159
Australia(*)	161	4,469	5,986	131	2,315	2,332
Austria	7,261	83,974	89,152	0	0	0
Brazil	14,502	110,094	112,430	0	0	0
Bulgaria	143,588	509,032	538,610	11,058	42,300	44,558
Canada	103,385	802,573	806,412	12,970	107,373	108,304
Chile	1,184	7,535	8,235	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	2,100	22,740	23,349	2,100	22,740	23,349
Dominican Republic	10,837	48,359	51,661	0	0	0
Egypt	13,249	24,159	25,927	0	0	0
France(*)	402,436	1,851,582	1,934,305	36,233	133,697	140,027
Germany(*)	278,437	1,425,665	1,493,747	11,348	88,207	97,028
Greece	55,041	592,406	618,541	797	7,256	7,328
Guatemala	10,680	36,450	41,030	0	0	0
Hungary	104,898	812,779	849,603	27,607	227,341	237,591
India	842,336	2,606,774	2,718,503	122,680	389,173	404,536
Israel(*)	4,315	24,323	24,900	0	0	0
Italy(*)	31,903	361,719	370,579	6,315	74,905	76,233
Kazakhstan	697	3,483	3,831	0	0	0
Lebanon	2,850	21,060	21,954	0	0	0
Lithuania	8,426	36,055	39,661	0	0	0
Mexico	21,705	101,768	107,095	730	10,402	10,502
Moldova	7,496	19,382	21,445	5,158	16,322	17,954
New Zealand(*)	1,009,435	9,503,072	9,633,539	30,574	618,748	631,991
Pakistan	3,053	11,194	11,869	0	0	0

Poland	34,552	134,270	142,868	9,745	33,295	35,497
Portugal	38,480	247,165	258,084	3,992	29,401	31,254
Russia	74,047	326,917	359,792	2,208	10,805	11,885
Saudi Arabia	3,686	31,033	31,404	599	3,716	3,828
Serbia	11,341	83,726	89,141	2,862	19,319	20,810
Spain	128,665	883,097	919,849	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	14,563	107,129	112,539	203	3,244	3,320
Taiwan	103,989	213,424	225,605	1,908	9,395	9,964
Turkey	115,641	784,761	811,303	6,199	54,561	56,106
Ukraine	69,341	190,425	208,014	7,509	23,174	25,492
United Arab Emirates	908	5,400	5,607	0	0	0
United Kingdom	433	8,300	8,335	262	4,629	4,663
Uzbekistan, Republic of	1,765	13,737	15,111	1,765	13,737	15,111

**FLAVORED HONEY –**

Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	2,069	17,007	18,448	0	0	0
Canada	16,010	189,988	193,167	1,590	38,442	38,467
China	11,223	64,671	66,574	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	12,120	61,651	62,114	1,236	11,431	11,541
El Salvador	2,309	9,070	10,619	0	0	0
Finland	73	14,130	14,298	0	0	0
France(*)	8,960	289,030	293,266	0	0	0
Germany(*)	10,200	34,082	36,232	0	0	0
India	90,932	200,870	211,628	0	0	0
Ireland	1,692	15,898	18,061	0	0	0
Italy(*)	2,957	92,426	94,412	132	3,668	3,747
Japan	180	22,877	22,977	0	0	0
Korea, South	282,287	4,473,241	4,571,047	25,039	315,907	322,256
Lebanon	240	3,600	3,744	0	0	0
Mexico	233,186	2,257,638	2,271,129	11,536	120,528	120,953
New Zealand(*)	312	31,644	32,395	150	7,245	7,545
Pakistan	1,387	3,725	3,887	0	0	0
Poland	880	3,179	3,396	0	0	0
Russia	2,778	8,658	9,612	0	0	0
Spain	739	5,238	6,252	0	0	0
Taiwan	59,458	155,142	162,508	15,299	10,159	10,697
Thailand	116,589	507,561	521,780	0	0	0
Turkey	915	4,744	4,855	0	0	0

**ORGANIC HONEY –**

Argentina	256,609	1,159,614	1,230,262	2,543	19,694	21,943
Australia(*)	18,480	145,825	153,246	0	0	0
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	265	3,494	3,658	0	0	0
Brazil	11,379,507	42,653,149	44,232,518	792,230	2,632,572	2,743,272
Bulgaria	4,237	19,810	22,310	4,237	19,810	22,310
Canada	136,646	864,459	874,638	21,446	125,352	125,661
Cyprus	850	5,469	5,941	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	449	3,648	3,924	0	0	0
Ghana	9,000	61,020	61,208	0	0	0
Greece	1,138	14,963	15,786	0	0	0
India	144,131	419,537	430,997	131	2,315	2,332
Italy(*)	16,553	140,257	145,659	5,800	33,370	34,710
Kuwait	1,173	2,749	2,923	1,173	2,749	2,923
Mexico	104,421	427,862	442,998	825	4,818	5,018
New Zealand(*)	26,550	270,377	279,639	6,521	47,839	50,737
South Africa	980	6,890	7,140	0	0	0
Spain	190	2,301	2,302	0	0	0
Taiwan	38,280	84,982	85,082	0	0	0

Thailand	18,000	46,045	48,830	0	0	0
Ukraine	334,288	1,090,404	1,144,614	0	0	0
Uruguay	37,270	134,845	141,845	0	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	176,302,338	592,524,526	614,045,836	12,904,775	38,427,600	39,853,098

**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