

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



Agricultural Marketing Service  
Specialty Crops Program  
Market News Division

Unit 1, Produce Row Room 101  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Phone: 314-425-4520 Fax: 314-621-3214  
Website: [www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm](http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm)

Volume XXXVIII – Number 5

Issued Monthly

May 24, 2018

## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2018 IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

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

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY - (# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

### ARKANSAS

Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.68	
---------	-------------	--------	--

### CALIFORNIA

Sage	White	\$2.10	
Valley	Light Amber	\$1.80	

### DAKOTAS

Clover	White	\$2.10	- \$2.20
--------	-------	--------	----------

### FLORIDA

Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.70	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.80	
Orange Blossom	White	\$2.60	- \$2.65
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.75	

### HAWAII

Mixed Flower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.80	

### IOWA

Clover	White	\$2.12	
--------	-------	--------	--

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.

Clover	White	\$1.35	- \$1.42
Mixed Flower	White	\$1.39	- \$1.42

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

### ARGENTINA

Clover	White	\$1.32	
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.20	- \$1.34
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.21	- \$1.50
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.18	- \$1.25
Orange	White	\$2.10	

### BRAZIL

ORGANIC	White	\$1.70	
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.92	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.87	

### INDIA

Mixed Flower	White	\$0.97	- \$1.02
Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$0.92	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.87	- \$0.97
Mustard	White	\$0.94	
Mustard	Extra Light	\$1.07	
Mustard	Light Amber	\$0.90	- \$1.07

### UKRAINE

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.90	
--------------	-------------	--------	--

### VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.86	- \$0.91
Mixed Flower	Amber	\$0.81	

## COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING APRIL, 2018

**APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV):** The early part of April was cooler than normal in all parts of the District. The first week saw plenty of heavy, wet snow, which melted within 1-2 days. Orchards weren't ready to bloom but buds were pulling away from stems. By the end of the month, more seasonal warm temperatures returned, peaches were in full bloom and bee activity increased. Several beekeepers did report some winter losses and were busy replacing bees with packages. There were a few reports of swarming, but for the most part the bees that survived the winter were in fairly good health and busy brood making and pollen gathering. Colonies sent to California for almond pollination returned. Besides the peaches in bloom, various other spring plants were also in bloom including various bulbs, dandelions, hollies, and viburnums.

**ALABAMA:** During the past winter months, beginning beekeeper classes in Alabama were usually filled with new people or people returning for more training. Though exact numbers are unavailable, many of these new people went on to purchase equipment and to order packages. It is also encouraging that many of these new beekeepers were attending local bee meetings and participating in outdoor training programs.

During April, overwintered colonies expanded rapidly. Ideally, these larger populations would be collecting nectar honey crops, but the main nectar flow has been late this season. Even so, colonies with large populations have already been swarming. Swarming indicates healthy colonies, but it also means a reduction in the 2018 honey crop. Populous colonies consume a lot of stores. Presently, starvation is not a problem, but it never hurts to monitor. Excessive March and April rain levels hindered some Alabama colonies, but all seems to be underway now.

Beekeepers are monitoring for Varroa mites and are treating with various control methods. Small hive beetles have not yet become a problem, but they are in surely some of colonies and will develop into a problem in many cases.

Essentially, April, 2018, was a decent month for Alabama beekeepers. The spring season offers some promise for a good season.

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures across Arizona were at above normal levels during the first two and the final week of April, and were at normal levels for the third week of the month. The range of temperatures for the month were from a high of 103 degrees Fahrenheit in Mohave to a low of 14 degrees

Fahrenheit at Grand Canyon. During the four weeks in April, 2, 1, 9 and 0 of the 46 reporting stations received precipitation, respectively. For 2017 thus far, 6 of the 46 reporting stations are at above normal precipitation levels for the year.

Desert and plant bloom were the main sources for nectar and pollen in the state, with alfalfa also serving as a source. Pasture conditions are from poor to very poor across the state of Arizona, as drought conditions continue. Melons are anticipated to become more available for pollination during the upcoming months. Demand for honey remains good.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.

CALIFORNIA: Both bees and nectar were scarce in California's lowland areas this April, though beekeepers at higher elevations fared better.

One beekeeper noted that although the cherry bloom lasted two weeks longer than usual, a lack of nectar forced him to feed his bees syrup.

"Most of our spring locations for honey have produced nothing," he said. "We are currently making splits but are running into many colonies preparing to swarm or have swarmed, which is quite unusual given the lack of forage nectar." That resulted in a lack of sealed brood for colony splits.

Another beekeeper said supplies of bees improved as the month progressed. "As usual, queen supply was limited in early April, but later in the month queens became more plentiful," he said. "The bee breeders are doing their best to keep up with the high demand."

Except for a few hives placed near citrus, bees had limited opportunity to make nectar for much of the month. The relatively dry winter in California contributed to shortage of blooms. Commercial pollination opportunities included raspberries.

Meanwhile in the mountains, bees had access to manzanita flowers, purple vetch, wildflowers and brush.

Toward the end of the month, a beekeeper near the coast noted that bees had started to gather excess nectar "from who knows what." "This baffles me as we have no blooming sources," he said.

FLORIDA: The weather was a little cooler than normal with about average precipitation for the month. Cooler weather in March and into April may have contributed to Gallberry and palmetto bloom starting about a week to a week and a half later than normal. Bee health was considered to be about average. Titi finished blooming in early April which was considered to be about normal. Orange blossom honey production was very low. Many hives were being relocated to the Northeast for pollination work in a wide range of crops. Hive rates for such crops as apple, cherries, cranberries and blueberries were reported to be \$90+ for most beekeepers. Pollination fees for row crops such as squash, cucumbers and watermelons were reported to range from \$60-\$90. Some clover honey production is expected to start up north towards the end of May. Stored supplies of Florida honey were very low at the end of the month with some Gallberry and palmetto honey production expected by the end of the month. There was good demand for any available supplies of honey.

GEORGIA: Beekeepers have been reporting losses throughout the state. Some are suspecting a lack of food supply and starvation due to weather related conditions. Orders for filling Nucs and for Queens were very tight and with the warm weather buyers are needing to pick up as they cannot be shipped with the heat. Supplies of honey are light and holdover supplies from last year are running very low. A late spring flow will keep supplies tight for the year and the season is about three weeks behind normal.

Some beekeepers are thinking about keeping the fall honey in the hives to save for winter feeding, as they experience losses unlike other years.

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: During the month of April temperatures were above normal across Idaho, Utah and Colorado. Precipitation during April was above normal in Northern and Eastern areas of Idaho and Northwestern areas of Colorado. The rest of Colorado and the entire State of Utah experienced below normal precipitation during the same period. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the Northern areas of Idaho had near normal soil moisture conditions during April. Southern Idaho was rated as abnormally dry. It continued to be extremely dry across the entire State of Utah during the same period. All areas in Utah have some level of drought conditions, ranging from extreme to moderate. The driest area in Utah seems to be in the Central and Southeastern areas of the State. In Colorado, most areas are also experiencing some type of drought conditions, except some areas in the Northcentral and Northeast parts of the State. Southern areas of Colorado seem to have the most extreme drought conditions present during the month of April. Some areas in Southern Colorado are experiencing an extreme drought. Unless good moisture is received soon, foraging in this area could be limited during the summer months.

During the month of April, with all commercial beekeepers from Idaho, Utah and Colorado back to their respective States. Beekeepers jumped right into action, preparing for the upcoming summer season. According to commercial beekeepers, some bee colonies looked good and heavy while others were light and not as robust as they had hoped. Just about all commercial beekeepers have completed their colony splits and divides. One beekeeper even stated that his spring bee build up was so good that he had enough bees to sell off extra nucs, in addition to his own splits and divides. There are still issues with some new splits and divides accepting new queens or queen cells. This is a constant battle for beekeepers to track colony queen acceptance and supersedure from within the existing colony. Beekeepers have been utilizing supplemental corn syrup and sucrose or blends to help build up the colonies on an as needed basis. Some beekeepers had utilized pollen supplements as well prior to pollen being available from local foraging plants and trees. Bees were starting to work pollination services in Apples, Pears and Cherry orchards in Utah. In addition, dandelions, willow trees, choke cherries and some wildflowers were providing plenty of pollen and a fair amount of nectar for bees. With the new foraging crops coming on, less supplemental feeding will be necessary moving forward into late spring. It is always a welcome relief to commercial beekeepers when they can concentrate on other management issues rather than spending more money for supplement feed. These early foraging trees and plants are good for the colonies to build up their numbers prior to the start of the main honey producing summer season. At the moment most commercial beekeepers in the three State area seem to be staying ahead of mite infestations by being proactive in their treatment schedules. This has probably contributed to fairly light losses so far this spring.

Demand for Idaho, Utah and Colorado honey continues to exceed the supply. Very little honey remains available from commercial beekeepers in Idaho, Utah and Colorado. Some honey remain available for retail markets.

ILLINOIS: No report issued.

INDIANA: No report issued.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: No report issued.

KENTUCKY: Unlike last April, when many beekeepers were taking honey, this year April's winter seemed extended with unwelcome snow occurring twice before the month ended. The result: the best-looking dead hives that have seen in several years. Quite simply, many backyard beekeepers neglected

to check winter stores (assuming that winter was over), and many hives ran out of honey. Of those hives that survived, many are quite strong. The month ended with an explosion of swarms, as hives that had been cloistered during much of the unusually wet and cold temperatures took the first chance they could to cure themselves of "cabin fever." Beekeepers have not sampled for varroa mites for the simple reason that it has been too cold on the weekends, which is when many beekeepers have an opportunity to get in their hives. However, the silver lining to such a season may be that planting corn and soybeans has been significantly delayed, and as a result, a decrease in use of chemicals. This may bode well for swarms and established colonies too. Beekeeper education events continue to explode, almost in tandem with the swarms.

LOUISIANA: No report issued.

MICHIGAN: The continued cool weather has made for a late spring with little buildup and smaller brood nests. Packages and nucs have been delayed due to the weather in the south and most suppliers have been long sold out. The early blooming trees and shrubs have also been set back: bees have had very few warm days for cleansing flights. The queens have just started to expand the brood nests with slightly warming temperatures at month's end. With a slower buildup, swarming should be delayed which should help contain any buildup of varroa mite populations in the overwintering bees. The demand for local honey supplies has remained strong with many of the local producers sold out.

MINNESOTA: During the month of April temperatures were much below normal across the entire State of Minnesota. Precipitation during the same period was also below normal across the State. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, soil moisture conditions are normal over most of the State, except for abnormally dry conditions in a small area of North Central Minnesota.

With the cold wet spring, it looks to be a slow start for foraging plants and trees across Minnesota this spring. By the end of April, most commercial beekeepers were either back to Minnesota or to other Southern States for the balance of time before foraging starts in earnest. Some commercial beekeepers try to delay returning to Minnesota until after the corn planting season so they do not expose their bees to the chemicals applied to the corn seed and fields. Beekeepers have jumped right into action to start preparing for the upcoming summer season. According to commercial beekeepers, some bee colonies looked good and heavy while others were light and not as robust as they had hoped. Just about all commercial beekeepers have completed their colony splits and divides. Some new queens have taken to their new colonies, while others have not. Anymore it does not seem to matter whether beekeepers use caged queens or queen cells. Replacement of queens now seems to be an ongoing extra management issue. Beekeepers must contend with the queen losses seemingly on an increased frequency. Without a vibrant queen or a superseded queen, the colony dies off leaving the beekeeper with nothing.

Beekeepers have been utilizing supplemental sucrose syrup or blends to help build up the colonies on an as needed basis. Some beekeepers had utilized pollen supplements as well, prior to pollen being available from local foraging plants and trees. At the moment most commercial beekeepers in Minnesota seem to be staying ahead of mite infestations by being proactive in their treatment schedules.

Some bees are look healthy and others are not as good at this point of time. Winter and spring losses are fairly minimal in the range of 10 percent. However, some losses year to date from last year at this same time are as high as 100 percent loss in some cases. Between queens, mites, fungicides, loss of habitat and other factors, it just is not getting any easier to keep a commercial bee operation going. If the almond pollination income was not available, many commercial beekeepers would not be able to financially survive. Demand for Minnesota honey continues to exceed the supply. The only honey left is what has been saved back for retail markets.

MISSISSIPPI: The beekeepers are busy working with the hives and checking the bees. Plenty of rain caused the season to get off on a late start and beekeepers are scrambling to keep up with restocking the hives and filling orders for others to rebuild. Not as many losses reported as in other areas, but some reported and managing the hives is the main concern to prevent any losses for spring.

MONTANA: As the last week of April ended, conditions were warming, allowing outdoor activities to progress in Montana. Harding recorded the high for the week of 86 degrees, while the weekly low of 22 degrees was recorded at West Yellowstone. Widespread precipitation was also recorded across the state the last week of April. Topsoil moisture measurements at the end of April measured 4 percent very short, compared to 2 percent last year; 16 percent short, compared to 10 percent last year; 61 percent adequate, 66 percent last year; and 19 percent surplus, compared to 22 percent last year. Subsoil moisture measured 30 percent short and very short, while 70 percent of the subsoil moisture measurements were adequate or surplus.

Home bee keepers continued with home equipment repair and overwintering activities for home colonies. Montana colonies at other locations included Oregon and Washington states where relatively cool, wet, and windy conditions mostly prevailed as the orchard and berry farms across the region started to bud out. By months end, apricots were mostly past bloom, while peach and cherry blooms were beginning with apples to follow.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather for the month of April has been intermittently wet and cooler than in prior years. This weather pattern featured cooler, unstable temperatures with a mixture of some mild to warm days sporadically placed along the month. This year's spring has finally arrived, which is the exact opposite of last year, when New England experienced early warm weather patterns and swarming started at the end of March. All regions reported high moisture levels and this should help push earlier than normal ornamental and floral sources for pollen and nectar such as quaking aspen, alder, spice bush, sassafras, leather leaf, pin cherry, blueberry and many varieties of apple bloom especially crab apple. The Easter and Passover Holidays coincided with the usual advent of regional pollen and nectar sources such as ground ivy (*glechoma hederacea*), chickweed (*stellaria media*), snow drop (*chionodoxa luciliae*), Siberian squill (*scilla Siberica*), American elm (*ulmus Americana*), jasmine, witch hazel, dandelions and willows such as goat, white, black and pussy (*Salix discolor*). Bees are getting pollen and nectar when they can but it has stayed consistently cool. Bees need warmer temperatures to actively increase foraging. Cooler temperatures in higher elevations have created a problem with chill brood whereby the queen's activity has been restricted. Reportedly some keepers lost hives to a continuance of cooler weather, preventing bees from foraging and because there were no surplus honey stores. Additionally, nectar sources were not fully available.

Northwestern New England shows mixed reports on losses of up to 40%, mainly due to starvation or queen loss. In this region, bees reportedly came through winter somewhat weak in populations and winter losses were high. In Northern New England, wintered over colonies reportedly are now fairly static in brood rearing and there are problems with clusters remaining small. Surviving weak colonies have been combined and hive bodies are being rotated with most over wintered queens beginning to lay normally. Northern keepers will keep their entrance reducers in place until the end of May as cold snaps are quite common with changing New England weather. In Southern New England, colonies have strengthened and the weather started to cooperate by mid-April and bees have just recently started to forage. Reportedly all keepers are active in checking food sources weekly, are reversing hive bodies to keep the brood in the bottom and will add a super before the bees get crowded. Queens are just now laying larger patterns of brood; colonies are expanding brood nests and bringing in just small amounts of pollen and nectar when they are not experiencing cold weather. Feeding is

always very heavy and important to monitor for this time of year. Beekeepers continue to administer pollen supports and supplemental feedings on a need basis and will soon make sure that syrup 1:1 is available on the hive until combs are drawn out.

We will soon have many new pollen and especially nectar sources as fruit pollination begins in a few weeks and with the advent of many new wild flowers. Additionally, honeysuckle and black locust will soon give a good push to the honey flow.

Overall in New England and especially in Massachusetts, demand for startup and replacement bees has been strong. Massachusetts State bee inspectors report up to 40% or more of hive winter losses. Keepers that have recently received package bees/nucs or are about to, are just setting up in anticipation and are hopeful for a strong summer production season. Purportedly, Prices for package bees range from \$120.00 to \$140.00 mostly \$130.00 for a 3 lb. package with queen with many regional beekeeping associations offering this price lineup.

Beekeepers are currently using formic acid treatments, Mite Away, Apistan and Terramycin mix early to the top frames, in response to addressing possible fast developing varroa mite infestation. Comprehensively for all of New England, the 2018 season will be a rebuilding year for many Northeast beekeepers as they replace lost colonies, and produce smaller honey crops. This past long winter combined with the determinants of pesticides, varroa mites and viruses contributed to many hives losses as we saw too many hives that should have survived, just not make it successfully into this spring.

Demand at all retail/wholesale outlets remains good and honey market prices higher. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.00 to \$12.00 mostly \$11.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$22.00 mostly \$22.00, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were steady with 5 gallon units at \$200.00 to \$235.00 mostly \$230.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality. Additionally, current prices quoted for 1 Quart bottled units for raw pollen were \$28.00 to \$30.00 mostly \$30.00 and for raw Propolis tincture are \$16.00 to \$18.00 mostly \$18.00 for 2 ounce containers.

**NEW YORK:** Regions of the state had the second coldest April on record. At the end of the month, normally the week of the dandelion, this is little pollen or nectar available from usual sources due to the cool, cloudy weather. As the month draws to a close, there has only been three days this month that bees were active. Even with increasing daytime temperatures, the night time has been pretty cold. Retail prices has remained steady; wholesalers have been paying around \$2.30 per pound in bulk for local honey. This is equal to or slightly better than one year earlier. Local sales have been good, with light honey moving better than darker strains at the moment, although this could change as BBQ season gets underway. Many of the local sales have been requests for larger volumes, quarts or gallons. The local honey has an edge on the shelf at the local stores and markets, with prices from \$7.00-9.00 per pound as compared with larger packer products with fancy labels. There has been an increasing number of "organic honeys" on shelves, usually from Brazil.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Temperatures in North Carolina were below normal for April with a statewide average temperature of 55.1°F. Precipitation was above normal with overall statewide soil moisture levels rated 0 percent very short, 4.5 percent short, 65.5 percent adequate, and 30 percent surplus the week ending April 28. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported 11 counties as being abnormally dry and 1 county experiencing moderate drought conditions.

Colonies that came through the winter were in good condition. According to apiary inspectors, swarming varied by region with heavy swarming reported in the southern Piedmont, while swarming was hindered in the Coastal Plains due unfavorable temperature fluctuations slowing hive growth. Temperatures also delayed orders for replacement bees leaving demand high as veteran beekeepers try to replace winter losses and associations across the State continue to see an influx of new beekeepers attending beginner classes. Overall, disease and pest pressures were relatively low, however, symptoms of European Foulbrood were seen in some apiaries. As always, diligent management practices remain essential for hive survival and success.

Commercial pollinator hives were back in North Carolina for blueberry pollination and by the end of the month began preparing to move up the East Coast to New Jersey, and later Maine, for blueberry and cranberry pollination; the occasional hive will be headed to South Carolina for blackberry pollination. Sumac became an available nectar source across the State. In the Piedmont region Dandelion, Clover (Alsike, Crimson, and Ladino white clover), Blackberry, Tulip Poplar, Black Gum, Black Locust, Vetch, Holly, and Raspberry began to bloom around mid to late April. Dandelion, Blackberry, Tulip Poplar, Black Gum, Holly, Raspberry, Huckleberry, and Tupelo Gum began blooming in the Coastal Plains region. It is expected that the above normal rainfall will lend favor to an abundant nectar flow...and hopefully a fairly heavy honey crop.

The supply of honey is very light, however, retail prices for honey at the Raleigh State Farmers' Market remained steady and were: \$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. Prices at the Piedmont Triad Farmers' Market in Greensboro were: \$8.00 per 22 ounce jar. While prices at the Zebulon Farm Fresh Market were: \$12.00 per 8 ounce jar and \$20.00 per 16 ounce jar.

**NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA:** April conditions limited outdoor activities and most growers indicating commencing fieldwork in early May. Some of the bees finished overwintering in the Pacific Northwest working the apple, pear, and soft fruit blooms. Bees located in the South Central US worked local crops and beekeepers prepared to begin moving them back north in early May. Honey supplies continue to be somewhat limited.

**OHIO:** The slow start to spring has slowed colony buildup and also hampered some of the early honey crop development. The early maple and dandelion food sources have been missing with fruit buds not even at a swell stage as yet. Feeding both carbs and protein are essential now for the overwintering colonies. Newly arrived packages are in "shock" due to the cool conditions, with a slow buildup. The overwinter losses appear to be fairly heavy, ranging from 40-100% in some operations. 30 percent would be a "good" winter this year. Local honey, if you can find it, is doing very well, with only scant supplies due to an average crop last year and fewer colonies making honey. At the retail level, displays of imported honey is selling at less than half of the local crop, and is quite discouraging to local beekeepers. With the threat of drought upon many areas, this could spell trouble for domestic honey crops.

**OKLAHOMA:** April was cool with good moisture for plant growth. The bees were in southern Oklahoma where nectar flow was starting on red, white clover and natural flora. Honey prices range from \$20 to \$22 for 3 pounds with high demand. No feeding or treatments was occurring with the honey flow going on. There are great expectations of a good year.

**OREGON:** No report issued.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** No report issued.

**TENNESSEE:** The colonies in Tennessee that made it through the winter and the cold snaps this spring are doing well. The nectar flow is coming on strong. If the weather stays warm and it doesn't rain every other day, Tennessee should have a pretty good supply of honey this year. Nuc and Queen production in Tennessee are about 6 weeks behind schedule due to the spring weather conditions but should be ramping up soon.

TEXAS: Bees are doing very well. Some beekeepers have given hives honey supers last month, with so far the only activity in them is brood rearing. One beekeeper was a bit puzzled, because he found brood (both workers and drones) in five supers of the hives. Some of this he attributed to him giving the bees honey supers without using a queen excluder, so the queen has wandered through the hive because she could. But having so much brood did make him wonder whether he had a mother/daughter queen pair at work, i.e. a slow-motion supercedure that gave the colony an "upstairs" queen as well as a "downstairs" queen. This particular beekeeper had seen this happen before, most often in strong hives. The old queen disappears sometime during the summer dearth, but the present combination of having a strong hive (showing no tendency to swarm) and a prolonged, mild spring made the beekeeper hopeful that the bees will secure a good crop of honey.

WASHINGTON: Beekeepers began working some of the early bloom districts in late March and moderate weather at lower elevations spurred activity at lower elevations. Although most of April was frost free in most growing areas, the weather was cool during the day with a fair amount of rainy, overcast, windy conditions which limited bee activity. In the last half of April the weather warmed up with better conditions all around. Bloom was fairly good most areas with virtually no cold damage.

WISCONSIN: No report issued.

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

	Year to Date		MARCH 2018	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
<b>COMB &amp; NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -</b>				
Austria	3,213	7,800	0	0
Bahamas, The	929	5,449	929	5,449
Bahrain	8,207	19,922	0	0
Barbados	6,459	39,332	3,847	23,672
Bermuda	6,814	21,892	4,103	10,531
Cayman Islands	1,524	7,708	0	0
China	29,652	71,975	0	0
France(*)	49,462	91,500	0	0
Guyana	762	6,604	762	6,604
Hong Kong	6,922	18,040	0	0
Japan	20,364	51,572	0	0
Korea, South	75,716	360,543	56,254	268,045
Kuwait	38,015	351,699	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	441	2,876	0	0
Malaysia	231	4,589	0	0
Mexico	4,355	14,208	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	5,067	26,459	3,761	18,629
Oman	41,306	100,263	41,306	100,263
Panama	11,754	70,468	5,224	31,319
Philippines	179,308	441,251	60,036	149,415
Singapore	921	9,129	921	9,129
United Arab Emirates	66,492	166,607	0	0

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

Australia(*)	32,370	121,251	14,952	36,291
Bahamas, The	18,426	74,726	4,122	24,279
Bahrain	746	5,043	746	5,043
Bermuda	6,607	23,455	5,229	12,692
Cambodia	885	7,883	885	7,883
Canada	213,652	788,019	56,787	220,194
Cayman Islands	1,000	6,642	1,000	6,642
China	300	7,452	0	0
Costa Rica	271	4,370	0	0
Dominican Republic	8,543	20,736	8,543	20,736
Guatemala	503	2,964	0	0
Guyana	1,629	7,996	0	0
Japan	7,407	55,809	6,706	46,082
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	1,642	5,328	0	0

Mexico	6,119	14,853	6,119	14,853
Netherlands Antilles(*)	2,644	13,954	277	2,603
Other Pacific Islands, NEC(*)	850	4,316	0	0
Panama	699	7,001	699	7,001
Philippines	72,257	197,322	1,051	7,981
Poland	3,374	23,552	0	0
Singapore	849	5,357	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	2,554	7,431	0	0
United Arab Emirates	11,430	28,827	10,599	25,725
Yemen(*)	12,360	30,000	12,360	30,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>965,031</b>	<b>3,354,173</b>	<b>307,218</b>	<b>1,091,061</b>

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

Year to Date			MARCH 2018		
Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

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

Argentina	1,344,050	3,407,621	3,550,619	738,791	1,873,710	1,964,601
Brazil	124,764	553,741	566,870	49,394	205,532	205,927
Canada	3,899,045	11,950,757	12,068,934	1,852,921	5,576,256	5,648,477
Egypt	630	3,600	3,681	630	3,600	3,681
France(*)	189	2,182	2,325	0	0	0
India	92,700	163,680	166,930	92,700	163,680	166,930
Israel(*)	734	2,607	2,657	0	0	0
Italy(*)	7,771	27,775	30,912	0	0	0
Mexico	131,413	521,011	521,335	57,515	228,050	228,362
Taiwan	56,300	119,505	125,005	20,150	34,875	37,225
United Kingdom	7,080	25,872	26,711	2,890	10,748	11,084

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

Argentina	1,869,209	4,767,872	4,951,198	966,353	2,379,867	2,474,543
Australia(*)	132,393	238,308	247,308	40,553	72,996	75,996
Brazil	154,679	523,165	532,182	38,686	179,862	182,085
Canada	76,030	226,317	229,346	56,213	169,523	172,502
Egypt	1,520	7,735	7,772	0	0	0
France(*)	240	4,747	4,852	0	0	0
India	731,709	1,620,503	1,694,538	308,832	564,639	585,405
Italy(*)	743	3,441	3,785	743	3,441	3,785
Mexico	18,600	69,750	69,850	0	0	0
Spain	17,948	32,307	33,507	0	0	0
Taiwan	460,936	711,953	714,353	172,260	263,462	263,762
Thailand	75,600	128,520	134,520	0	0	0
Turkey	74,400	156,240	157,440	74,400	156,240	157,440
Ukraine	1,269,422	2,791,161	2,935,779	75,840	168,120	176,000
Vietnam	332,406	579,394	601,894	37,800	63,504	69,304

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

Argentina	318,245	722,281	756,656	167,637	385,573	403,321
Armenia	2,053	13,842	14,804	0	0	0
Australia(*)	5,813	97,220	104,054	2,022	23,376	23,747

Austria	20,718	144,327	153,148	8,367	27,897	29,653
Brazil	220,855	916,582	951,613	72,720	280,164	284,449
Burma	36,900	54,981	55,348	0	0	0
Canada	17,218	53,670	54,071	810	4,826	5,026
China	98,600	144,190	147,094	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	71,101	203,490	210,501	26,394	73,490	76,988
Egypt	1,490	2,950	3,400	1,490	2,950	3,400
Germany(*)	161,486	795,310	830,460	108,576	505,983	525,733
Hong Kong	7,524	55,850	56,430	0	0	0
India	4,371,292	8,041,099	8,457,148	2,225,396	4,069,236	4,263,210
Israel(*)	1,636	10,763	11,084	0	0	0
Italy(*)	2,036	48,377	49,632	674	12,366	12,604
Mexico	7,442	27,598	28,520	7,442	27,598	28,520
New Zealand(*)	22,841	1,186,435	1,191,240	0	0	0
Pakistan	537	3,160	3,267	0	0	0
Poland	1,465	6,960	8,176	1,465	6,960	8,176
Spain	35,091	190,748	197,083	23,744	111,566	114,190
Thailand	1,485,080	2,986,990	3,145,756	421,640	704,900	744,248
Turkey	427,800	877,920	946,040	148,800	308,760	325,760
Ukraine	74,240	132,144	142,344	0	0	0
Uruguay	111,510	278,878	290,746	0	0	0
Vietnam	3,054,110	4,677,914	4,944,533	919,900	1,288,189	1,376,962

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

Argentina	131,620	281,461	296,112	0	0	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	512	6,700	7,370	252	3,060	3,366
Canada	2,068	11,002	11,203	2,068	11,002	11,203
Dominican Republic	40,725	74,500	77,682	0	0	0
France(*)	7,394	85,324	90,568	1,384	16,946	17,876
Greece	28,497	152,923	158,774	1,871	20,748	22,029
India	16,344	36,000	37,500	0	0	0
Italy(*)	1,921	23,941	24,436	0	0	0
Kuwait	6,795	54,124	56,035	0	0	0
Mexico	31,885	96,830	97,486	3,272	8,630	8,859
New Zealand(*)	326,769	5,572,677	5,702,291	41,958	599,077	652,540
Poland	5,850	37,607	40,465	1,540	9,526	10,301
Serbia	4,655	57,991	61,454	2,250	35,150	36,285
Singapore	90	2,700	2,790	0	0	0
Spain	1,550	14,920	15,893	950	8,680	9,337
Taiwan	2,114	21,646	22,237	0	0	0
Turkey	5,400	22,800	22,801	0	0	0
Ukraine	3,235	17,354	20,393	0	0	0
United Kingdom	3,640	102,612	103,854	2,240	63,498	63,873
Vietnam	1,829,415	2,634,662	2,875,395	494,590	717,708	779,240
Yemen(*)	481	16,000	18,384	481	16,000	18,384

**COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –**

Argentina	583	10,757	11,984	583	10,757	11,984
Armenia	10,259	39,253	42,438	7,657	25,524	28,076
Australia(*)	22,144	210,741	226,955	4,715	53,559	57,631
Austria	2,049	20,600	21,797	384	3,440	3,912
Belarus	13,040	43,988	48,387	0	0	0
Bolivia	2,366	54,678	60,711	1,152	26,725	29,736
Brazil	5,759	49,637	49,775	3,783	32,608	32,694
Bulgaria	27,483	103,449	113,344	14,410	51,094	56,075
Canada	44,205	235,144	235,838	17,403	90,853	91,167

Chile	910	6,365	7,365	0	0	0
Cyprus	672	6,672	7,871	672	6,672	7,871
France(*)	126,206	803,595	833,706	30,092	212,688	220,354
Germany(*)	5,682	12,119	12,452	0	0	0
Greece	15,692	200,709	206,003	3,841	49,768	51,108
Hungary	34,418	358,205	369,380	13,800	113,216	115,346
India	138,154	414,669	441,617	92,554	270,538	286,038
Italy(*)	2,936	39,939	41,360	996	16,260	17,173
Kazakhstan	110	4,505	4,955	0	0	0
Korea, South	120	2,946	3,113	0	0	0
Malaysia	725	8,700	17,175	350	4,200	10,675
Mexico	15,000	70,670	72,546	4,546	26,878	27,408
Moldova	1,457	7,205	7,926	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	241,984	5,065,641	5,163,439	99,153	1,677,348	1,700,834
Poland	18,228	75,836	82,416	7,693	35,375	38,742
Portugal	7,209	44,414	46,742	798	4,722	4,927
Romania	495	3,074	3,741	0	0	0
Russia	6,049	31,112	33,811	600	2,268	2,495
Saudi Arabia	3,893	32,120	35,040	3,893	32,120	35,040
Spain	137,990	1,021,563	1,049,553	36,700	269,728	277,228
Switzerland(*)	196	3,355	3,507	0	0	0
Taiwan	33,525	61,735	64,465	966	7,560	7,899
Turkey	198,911	1,366,511	1,416,828	34,284	238,401	253,815
Ukraine	21,722	63,320	68,913	14,791	43,348	47,572
United Arab Emirates	970	2,912	3,366	970	2,912	3,366
United Kingdom	1,400	12,089	12,471	73	3,221	3,305

**FLAVORED HONEY –**

Australia(*)	686	15,531	16,820	0	0	0
Bulgaria	9,409	11,616	11,966	0	0	0
Canada	16,183	46,515	46,727	144	2,304	2,307
China	5,500	45,046	46,375	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	5,077	12,513	14,051	0	0	0
Greece	60	2,017	2,065	60	2,017	2,065
India	17,536	74,528	75,528	0	0	0
Ireland	181	2,616	2,768	0	0	0
Italy(*)	902	7,339	8,789	0	0	0
Jordan	100	5,350	5,515	0	0	0
Korea, South	73,812	344,026	354,958	36,640	165,753	171,002
New Zealand(*)	243	10,943	12,130	0	0	0
Peru	931	4,198	4,306	0	0	0
Philippines	1,346	5,490	5,936	1,346	5,490	5,936
Taiwan	3,330	6,246	6,556	3,330	6,246	6,556
Thailand	6,222	29,022	29,599	0	0	0

**ORGANIC HONEY –**

Argentina	87,006	349,202	357,663	37,170	132,552	136,514
Australia(*)	21,607	143,554	152,736	2,400	17,840	20,018
Brazil	3,843,449	15,457,721	15,999,182	833,669	3,167,380	3,256,374
Canada	50,853	242,442	246,478	2,068	15,795	16,094
Greece	6,566	40,563	42,905	0	0	0
Italy(*)	3,032	44,801	45,167	636	10,173	10,277
Mexico	133,494	623,072	635,026	3,171	17,492	17,643
New Zealand(*)	16,752	394,293	413,620	1,857	194,439	204,443
Poland	1,577	9,543	9,861	0	0	0
Romania	840	6,604	8,494	0	0	0
Thailand	132,300	450,387	483,368	132,300	450,387	483,368
United Kingdom	565	6,985	7,300	565	6,985	7,300
Uruguay	55,755	198,828	204,771	0	0	0
Zambia	1,482	10,075	10,375	0	0	0

---

---

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	29,527,892	88,726,511	91,962,599	10,728,819	28,968,600	30,048,757
--------------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

---

---

**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