

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service  
Specialty Crops Program  
Market News Division

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## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 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)

### CALIFORNIA

Orange Blossom	Light Amber	\$2.25	
Valley	Light Amber	\$1.80	
Valley	Amber	\$1.80	

### DAKOTAS

Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.60	- \$2.05
Clover	White	\$1.83	- \$2.05
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	- \$2.05
Clover	Light Amber	\$2.00	
Mixed Flower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.83	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.75	- \$1.80
Sunflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	

### FLORIDA

Mixed Flower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.70	
Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.68	- \$1.70

### IDAHO

Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$2.01	
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### IOWA

Clover	Light Amber	\$1.55	
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### MINNESOTA

Clover	Light Amber	\$2.00	
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### MISSISSIPPI

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.70	
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### MONTANA

Clover	White	\$1.83	
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### NEBRASKA

Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
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### NEW YORK

Basswood	Extra Light Amber	\$2.30	
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### OREGON

Alfalfa	White	\$1.83	
Clover	White	\$1.83	
Mint	Dark	\$1.45	
Mixed Flower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80	
Star Thistle	White	\$1.83	

### PENNSYLVANIA

Mixed Flower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.90	
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Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.65	
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### TEXAS

Clover	White	\$2.05	
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### WYOMING

Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$2.05	
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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	\$1.36	- \$1.40
Clover	White	\$1.30	- \$1.33
Mixed Flower	White	\$1.39	

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	\$1.27	- \$1.33
Clover	Extra Light	\$1.27	- \$1.30
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.10	- \$1.40
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.10	- \$1.23
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.99	- \$1.20

### BRAZIL

ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.37	- \$1.68
ORGANIC	Amber	\$1.67	

### INDIA

Mixed Flower	White	\$0.90	- \$0.97
Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$0.90	- \$0.95
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.87	- \$0.96

### UKRAINE

Mixed Flower	White	\$1.03	
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$0.93	- \$1.09

### VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.81	- \$0.89
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$0.68	

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

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): The rains continued into November as several Mid-Atlantic states broke historical state records for precipitation totals received this year. Temperatures were moderate at the beginning of the month with daytime highs in the 40's and 50's. By mid-month, a hard freeze fell on the District and colder than normal temperatures stayed for the remainder of the month. Parts of the Appalachian District and surrounding areas received as much as 4-5 inches of wet snow on November 14, which is much earlier than normal. Thanksgiving Day weather almost tied for the coldest on record in several areas with daytime highs in the lower thirties. Soil moisture levels in all parts of the District are at above adequate to surplus. As Orchardists finished with the apple harvest by mid-month, Beekeepers continued to monitor colonies, treat for mites, and provide supplemental food. They were also attending several local beekeeping meetings and events.

ALABAMA: As is typically the case, November and December are lull months for Alabama beekeepers. Many bee clubs have holiday social events where they discuss the past season and express hopes for the incoming 2019 spring season.

Management procedures vary among beekeepers, but November is a good time to provide upper ventilation for wintering colonies. Several beekeepers reported that upper hive ventilation was a late-season procedure they were implementing.

Across the Central portion of Alabama, particularly Birmingham, a late season nectar flow from *Eleagnus* occurred during November. Two beekeepers from this area reported a 12 pound and 7 pound weight gain from this late season crop. The flow is still ongoing as the November ended.

Beekeepers as far north as Ohio also had a good late season from *Eleagnus umbellata* (Autumn Olive). Whether or not this is the same *Eleagnus* species is presently unknown. Most varieties of this plant are considered invasive and their propagation is not encouraged. This presents a conundrum for various organizations with differing interests. During recent decades, foraging sources for bees and many other insect species have greatly declined most likely due to extensive mowing and to widespread herbicide use. Recent reports indicate that in some parts of the world, insect populations have declined by as much as 80%. In many cases, invasive or non-native plants are pollen and nectar providers for insect pollinators.

Nearly all contributors indicated that they were assembling new equipment or refurbishing used equipment. Reading and equipment repair are common tasks during this time of the year.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at normal levels during the first half of November, while they were at below normal levels during the second half of the month. The range in statewide temperatures for the month was from a high of 95 degrees Fahrenheit in Parker to a low of 3 degrees Fahrenheit in Grand Canyon.

During the month of November, the weekly number of reporting stations across Arizona to receive precipitation (out of 48 stations) were 15, 0, 0 and 7, respectively. 19 stations are at above normal precipitation levels for the year, while 29 stations are at below normal levels.

The main nectar and pollen sources for bees in the state was desert plant bloom, alfalfa, cantaloupes and honeydews. Beekeepers are starting to make preparations to move colonies to other locations within the state, or to other states, for pollination of nut and fruit trees. Demand for honey was good.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.

CALIFORNIA: November rains and the prospect of a heavier snowpack provided a more positive outlook for some California beekeepers as December approached. All the same, hives relied heavily on costly syrup and sugar patties for feeding this fall, and many have dwindled thanks to earlier drought conditions and a greater presence of varroa mites. The resulting scarcity could serious create competition for hives among almond growers as more orchards come into production this winter. One beekeeper said an additional 75,000 acres of almonds should come into bloom in California's Central Valley this February. Crop insurance requires that two hives be placed per acre for pollination.

Some beekeepers lost up to 50 percent of their bees this season, one beekeeper said. Bees placed earlier in the Dakotas were hurt especially bad. As a result, bidding wars could erupt in mid-January and early February as beekeepers assess availability and almond growers vie to secure hives.

Meanwhile, as more middle-class consumers emerge around the world, demand for almonds continues to increase, especially as the industry touts the nut's heart healthy benefits. One beekeeper said that when he first began placing his hives in almond orchards, he could get \$8 per colony during pollination. Now fees have risen to \$200 and beyond.

Demand also has increased for areas to place hives in the California foothills. Beekeepers are eager to remove their hives from the Central Valley as colonies are increasingly harmed by practices used in high intensity agriculture, such as the spraying of pesticides and the extreme clearing of weeds and other roadside plants in the name of food safety. The elimination of those plants results in less forage for bees, as does drought. In turn, the beekeepers already established in the foothills are threatened by the new hives competing for forage.

"It ends our honey crop," one beekeeper said.

FLORIDA: The weather was a little warmer than usual and there was also a little more precipitation than normal in most areas. Bee health was considered to be about average, with mite treatments being administered with generally good results. There were few sources of natural food for the bees with scattered amounts of primarily Spanish Needle and aster. Most beekeepers were using supplement feeding to strengthen the hive while also splitting hives in preparation for the California almond pollination season. These hives will be moved to California in December or January. Some hives were being transported to California before the end of the month, with the goal of treating for mites and splitting hives before the start of the almond pollination season beginning in early to mid-February. There were light supplies of stored honey by the end of the month with most of it being Brazilian Pepper and prices appeared to be about steady from the previous month. Most of the tupelo honey produced this season had been sold before Hurricane Michael struck in early October, but prices reported for tupelo honey appeared to be generally steady around \$6 per pound both before and after the hurricane. Tupelo honey producers had one of their best seasons in years in 2018 and are optimistic that the hurricane damage will have a minimal impact on next years crop. Tupelo trees were reported to be leafing out in November as normal. It still appears that the number of trees destroyed will be small. Previous estimates of hives lost to the hurricane compared to the total number of hives in the state still appear to be accurate.

GEORGIA: This month has had variable issues concerning the bees depending upon the area that the hives were located. Some areas are still cleaning up the mess from Hurricane Michael and beekeepers are trying to get their hives out and relocated. Many were located by Pecan orchards in the SW part of the state. Reports of huge losses have been noted because of rain and cold temperatures. Although treatments were on schedule for the fall honey, some areas did not fare as well. Total losses are still unknown. On the SE part things are looking much better. No reports of major losses and the treatments earlier have proven to be mostly successful. Currently bees are feeding off of Red Maple and Wildflowers and the honey leftover for winter. The beekeepers in the Southern part of the state are already planning to order Queens for January to rebuild the hives and make new ones. Wildflower: \$3.33 per pound in buckets, Wildflower: \$6.50 lb retail Wildflower: \$2.50-3.00 per lb, Tupelo: \$7.00 lb

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: During the month of November temperatures were varied over much of Idaho, Utah and Colorado. The Northern Idaho Panhandle and Northern Intermountain area of Idaho had slightly above normal temperatures during November. The rest of Idaho, Colorado and Utah experienced below normal temperatures during November. Precipitation during November was slightly above normal in the Northern Panhandle area of Idaho. The rest of Idaho, Colorado and Utah experienced below normal precipitation during November. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, some type of drought conditions exists in all parts of Utah. Many areas across Utah are now have a drought rated as severe to extreme. The whole State of Colorado, except the Northeast area were experiencing moderate to extreme drought conditions during the month of November. In Idaho, the Southwest area of the State was experiencing a severe drought. West Central areas of Idaho were in a moderate drought and the Idaho Panhandle area was abnormally dry. The rest of Idaho had normal soil moisture conditions as of the end of November.

The 2018 honey crop harvest in Idaho, Utah and Colorado is now completed. The overall final tally in the three State area was average, with some areas of Utah producing only half as much honey as they did in 2017. Drought conditions and excessive mite populations were attributed as the main catalysis for lower honey production this year. At this point of the year, some bees are looking good, while others are not in great shape.

Most beekeepers in the Three State area have now moved their bees to intermediate locals until the annual almond pollination period in California. These locations include Southern California, Southern West Texas and potato sheds in Idaho. Most beekeepers who moved their bees to intermediate locations will have their bees in the almond fields by February. Some commercial beekeepers have decided to forego intermediate locations and have shipped their bees directly to California. By placing the bee colonies on the front line for the upcoming 2019 almond pollination they have saved transportation costs. Transportation costs to get bee colonies to California are ranging around \$3.25 per loaded mile. With a shortage of bee availability for the 2019 almond pollination season, prices for almond pollination services seem to be rising in price according to commercial beekeepers. Prices of \$195.00 to \$210.00 have been reported as being offered to beekeepers. Beekeepers are hoping that fall losses are over. Overall bee losses this fall from beekeepers in the Three State area ranged from a low of 5 percent to as much as 20 percent loss or more. There is hope among beekeepers that bees that went into potato sheds will be in good shape when they take them out. Regardless of where the bees are spending the next two months, fall feeding schedules included corn syrup and, in some cases, additional pollen supplements where needed. Fall maintenance and repair of bee supers, pallets, tops, bottoms and foundation frames continues. Cleaning is also a major part of the fall maintenance tasks.

All commercial beekeepers seemed to struggle with keeping varroa mite populations down to reasonable levels this fall. Treatment after treatment for varroa mite control seemed to be the rule, if any significant control was even possible. According to beekeepers varroa mites seem to become more resistant to any type of treatment out on the market today. Some beekeepers have even attempted to come up with their own formula for varroa mite treatment only to lose 50 percent of their bees in the process. So, in the short term, there does not seem to be a lot of hope with the current regimens available. Long term, more research is necessary in the attempts to keep varroa mites at bay. One complaint that many beekeepers expressed was that in areas where bee colonies are in close vicinity with other beekeepers, a lack of varroa mite management by just one beekeeper could have adverse effects on all beekeepers in an area. Isolation of bees away from other bee colonies seems to be the only sure way to eliminate troubles from a neighboring bee colony.

Demand for Idaho, Utah and Colorado honey continues to be very good for locally sourced honey. However, beekeepers did mention that it is becoming harder to compete against foreign competition that are willing to sell into the domestic market at prices below the cost of production here in the United States. Some beekeepers have even lost accounts to foreign honey.

Prices for good locally sourced white domestic wholesale honey ranged from \$1.80 to \$2.25 per pound with a mostly \$1.80 to \$2.10. As we head into the Christmas Holiday season, retail honey in the Three State area varied from \$3.00 to \$8.95 per pound depending upon source of the honey. The Idaho Honey Industry Association held their annual meeting November 28th and 29th, 2018 in Boise, Idaho.

**ILLINOIS:** The weather for November has had cooler temperatures than usual, with less than average precipitation and one day of heavy snow. Generally, the bees are in good condition. Beekeepers have treated for mites. No foliage remains. The bees are ready for winter. Demand for honey is pretty good at the retail level and only fair at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

**INDIANA:** The weather for November has been slightly cooler than average, and with a normal amount of rainfall with little snow. Beekeepers report their bees in good condition. Few beekeepers continued supplemental feeding of their bees. No foliage remains. The bees are ready for winter. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and demand was fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

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

**KENTUCKY:** November rain and snow have meant that many hives in Kentucky are already in trouble for the forthcoming winter, with hives already consuming their winter stores and perishing if beekeepers have not checked them. As of Dec. 01, 2018, the Bluegrass region had received 66.97 inches of precipitation, making it the wettest year so far since records were established in 1872. Furthermore, since 2011, the Bluegrass has had four of the top wettest years on record. According to a Lexington meteorologist, Chris Bailey, several clear patterns are developing in KY: there are less severe droughts, there are more extreme fluctuations in temperatures, and there are above normal snows. For instance, temperatures remained in the 80s until October, and then November had 11 snowy days. On a good note, Thanksgiving weekend provided sunny weather and mild temperatures, so that many KY beekeepers could apply oxalic acid as a "clean-up" treatment to their hives before the snow fell again during the last week of November. In terms of blooming plants, the native plant, witch hazel, has been providing pollen.

**LOUISIANA:** No report issued.

**MICHIGAN:** Bees were only out on 2-3 days as much of the month experienced below average temperatures. With the bees in cluster, the hive was able to conserve food stores that will be needed later in the season. Many beekeepers across mid-Michigan have ample honey supplies on hand. Prices and sales are steady as there are plenty of holiday markets and bazaars in the areas over the next two weeks.

**MINNESOTA:** During the month of November temperatures were below normal across the entire State of Minnesota. Precipitation in November was also below normal across the State. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, soil moisture conditions are normal over the entire State except abnormally dry conditions in the Extreme Northwestern part of the State.

The 2018 honey crop harvest in Minnesota is now completed. The overall final tally in Minnesota was well below average. Beekeepers believe that bees' natural defenses are reduced by pesticides, thereby making bees much more susceptible to viruses and varroa mites. Some commercial beekeepers believe that the main catalysis for lower honey production this year was excessive pesticides in foraging areas. At this point of the year, some bees are looking good, while others are not in great shape at the end of November.

Most commercial beekeepers in Minnesota have now moved their bees to intermediate locals until the annual almond pollination period in California. These locations include Southern States of Mississippi, Louisiana and potato sheds in Idaho. Most beekeepers who moved their bees to intermediate locations will have their bees in the almond fields by February. Some commercial beekeepers have decided to forego intermediate locations and have shipped their bees directly to California. By placing the bee colonies on the front line for the upcoming 2019 almond pollination they have saved transportation costs. Transportation costs to get bee colonies to California are ranging around \$3.25 per loaded mile. With a shortage of bee availability for the 2019 almond pollination season, prices for almond pollination services seem to be rising in price according to commercial beekeepers. Prices of \$195.00 to \$210.00 have been reported as being offered to beekeepers. Beekeepers are hoping that fall losses are over. Overall bee losses this fall from beekeepers in Minnesota ranged up to as much as 90 percent loss. There is hope among beekeepers that bees that went into potato sheds will

be in good shape when they take them out. Regardless of where the bees are spending the next two months, fall feeding schedules included corn syrup and, in some cases, additional pollen supplements where needed. Fall maintenance and repair of bee supers, pallets, tops, bottoms and foundation frames continues. Cleaning is also a major part of the fall maintenance tasks.

All commercial beekeepers seemed to struggle with keeping varroa mite populations down to reasonable levels this fall. Treatment after treatment for varroa mite control seemed to be the rule, if any significant control was even possible. According to beekeepers, varroa mites seem to become more resistant to any type of treatment out on the market today. Some beekeepers have even attempted to come up with their own formula for varroa mite treatment only to lose 50 percent of their bees in the process. So, in the short term, there does not seem to be a lot of hope with the current regimens available. Long term, more research is necessary in the attempts to keep varroa mites at bay. One complaint that many beekeepers expressed was that in areas where bee colonies are in close vicinity with other beekeepers, a lack of varroa mite management by just one beekeeper could have adverse effects on all beekeepers in an area. Isolation of bees away from other bee colonies seems to be the only sure way to eliminate troubles from a neighboring bee colony.

Demand for Minnesota continues to be very good for locally sourced honey. However, beekeepers did mention that it is becoming harder to compete against foreign competition that are willing to sell into the domestic market at prices below the cost of production here in the United States. Some beekeepers have even lost accounts to foreign honey.

Prices for good locally sourced white domestic wholesale honey ranged from \$1.70 to \$1.80 per pound. As we head into the Christmas Holiday season, retail honey in Minnesota varied from \$3.00 to \$9.00 pound depending upon the source of the honey.

MISSISSIPPI: Cold temps and plenty of rain during the last part of November. Beekeepers report that no major losses or problems have occurred, and treatments have been fairly successful keeping the bees in good condition. The Goldenrod flow has been good, and food should be available in the hives for the winter ahead. The hives have been prepped for the extra cold until January. Prices are steady at \$1.90-2.00 per pound.

MONTANA: No report issued.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather for the month of November featured milder than normal temperatures with daytime highs in the 40s and 50s with normal precipitation resulting in average soil moisture levels for the entire region. Due to the warm weather, the bees have been working off the remaining late blooming floral and pollen sources such as blue gentian, buckwheat, mint especially mountain mint, wing stem, teasel, figwort, burdock, purple coneflower, heather, bonaset, fireweed, ironweed, star thistle, and particularly aster and golden rod, knotweed and various fall wild flowers. Pollen and nectar sources have diminished with very few sources remaining, which are hard to identify which ones the bees are using.

Honey flow and colony population buildup has finished at the end of the month. In New England, hive losses during the winter months can best be attributed to most of the following: varroa mites, starvation, poor nutrition, queen failure and performance, pests that bring on diseases and virus, environmental toxins and lastly poor management practiced by beekeepers.

Overall perception is that New England hives have required heavy feeding this year due to little nectar flow in August/September. Aside from the low honey crop is the additional problem it creates for colony growth. Limited pollen and nectar mean less brood and poor nutrition. This will likely contribute to creating a greater winter loss as many colonies are light and their winter bees were not developed under the best of conditions. Keepers took advantage of the later fall warmer temperatures by combining weak colonies to form strong ones and re-queen for a strong spring build up. Additionally, keepers see an advantage for a fast spring build up by wintering over with two deep hive bodies.

The vast majorities of beekeepers have finished with their integrated pest management programs and have applied the last of their formic acid and oxalic acid treatments. Hives are being winter prepared by shielding them with wind breaks and plastic sheeting to abate harsh wind and severe cold. Additionally, over wintering procedure entails installing mouse guards, entrance reducers, and insulation boards between inner and outer covers and/or boards under the bottom screens to ensure proper ventilation.

Beekeepers report colonies to be in good to very good condition with mite problems under control. State inspectors report that hives are in good condition. Hives are healthy with low mite levels and have built up well in population. Most have enough honey stores and in New England the recommendation is 60 lbs. of honey. New England keepers have removed honey supers for extraction. The region has exhibited a mixed bag relative to amounts of honey production reported. Most keepers have secured their hives for the winter. The region has exhibited honey yields in all shape and sizes, occasionally spotty with underperforming hives mixed with better than expected ones.

Beekeepers' discussions have focused on enhanced lines of honeybee stock through cross breeding and better solutions of winter survival techniques as well as nascent queen rearing programs with local queen rearing. Many bee associations are discussing the importance of locally raised queens.

There are also discussions and planning regarding the production of braggot using local honey with local breweries. Braggot is a malt/honey beverage with roots in medieval times. The braggot is lightly hopped and carbonated, honey colored, with a nice balance between malt and honey flavor and it has a pleasant floral finish and is a different product than mead, which is a fermented drink of water and honey with malt and yeast.

Demand at the farmer's markets, local roadside stands and at fall/winter festivals has been excellent and continues to remain strong. Honey sales remains very good and continues to grow as supplies of new crop, locally produced honey, in many cases, are very short and in some districts is scarce.

Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.50 to \$12.50 mostly \$12.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$20.00 to \$24.00 mostly \$22.50, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were firm with 5-gallon units at \$200.00 to \$260.00 mostly \$240.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality.

NEW YORK: Across mid-state, there have already been some snow days for local schools. It has been the coldest and snowiest November in a generation. Colonies will need to be well-supplied with stores given the severity and outlook for the coming winter months. Beekeepers will need to stay in touch with weather trends for any warming periods in anticipation of feeding opportunities that will be bee critical. Given the continued precipitation this fall, the ground is saturated, making access to yards difficult at best. Currently, the hives look good; evidence of deformed wing virus were only slight. Honey sales have been brisk with prices from \$7.00-8.25 per pound retail and show no sign of decline. Light summer honey has been depleted, while dark honey sales have increased, they do not match the consumer demand for light. Varietal honeys are moving better than blends.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures in North Carolina were below normal for November with a statewide average temperature of 47.3°F. Precipitation was above normal leaving overall statewide soil moisture levels rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 49.5 percent adequate, and 49.5 percent surplus the week ending November 24. No drought advisories are currently issued by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council.

Inclement weather, from precipitation to temperatures, continued to affect foraging. When conditions allowed, bees could be seen working Aster; Heartsease, Smartweed; Bitterweed; Joe-Pye Weed; Sunflower; and Goldenrod.

Retail prices 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 also steady at: \$8.00 per 8-ounce jar and \$14.00 per 22-ounce jar.

**NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA:** Harvest done or nearly so for most commodities. The few commodities remaining got behind as winter weather limited field work. Hives have been moved to their overwinter homes around the country.

**OHIO:** Most colonies have been put to bed for overwintering. There has been some protein patty and fondant feedings around the state, although many hives are light due to the moderate fall flow. Honey prices at the local level are holding. Farm market and honey stands continued to do well all year. But retail in-store prices continue to slide, as do sales, due to the continuous information of fake honey coming in from off shore. Bulk prices continue to slide as well, due to foreign competition's low prices, topped with lower demand. Colony losses are expected to be in the 35-50% range again this year, primarily due to mite infestations.

**OKLAHOMA:** No report issued.

**OREGON:** No report issued.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** No report issued.

**TENNESSEE:** The fall nectar flow ended in early November in Tennessee. Beekeepers have been checking colonies for food stores and condensing colonies down for winter. Some losses have been reported, most have been related to varroa mites/ viruses and attributed to beekeepers waiting too late in the fall to treat.

**TEXAS:** No report issued.

**WASHINGTON:** Harvest was completed as rain fell around the state. Some snow fell later in the month at higher elevations. As the month progressed, colder temperatures set in. Warmer temperatures prevailed in Central Washington. Harvest finished for most commodities, with apple harvest continuing. Growers were actively preparing for winter. Hives have been moved to over winter locations.

**WISCONSIN:** November has had colder temperatures and less than average rainfall with a small amount of snow. Beekeepers have prepared for the winter. Beekeepers report that there is no more wild foliage for their bees. Most beekeepers report no problems with insects and some have finished treatment for mites. Some beekeepers have finished feeding their bees, while a few others continue to feed them. Most beekeepers report that their bees are in good condition and are ready for winter. 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		OCTOBER 2018	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
<b>COMB &amp; NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -</b>				
Austria	10,604	25,740	7,391	17,940
Bahamas, The	13,864	38,661	0	0
Bahrain	49,675	120,578	0	0
Barbados	21,448	128,882	1,624	10,387
Bermuda	16,064	55,100	0	0
British Indian Ocean Territory	378	3,767	0	0
Cambodia	800	4,879	0	0
Cayman Islands	3,096	15,658	572	2,891
China	89,030	218,117	14,119	34,272
Costa Rica	2,308	7,932	0	0
France(*)	54,612	104,000	0	0
Guyana	3,374	30,300	1,306	11,848
Hong Kong	13,998	41,099	0	0
India	39,400	63,984	0	0
Japan	342,963	1,211,137	62,709	224,249
Jordan	677	3,997	677	3,997
Korea, South	500,510	2,303,024	92,513	435,040
Kuwait	78,606	724,889	1,711	14,129
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	441	2,876	0	0
Malaysia	231	4,589	0	0
Mexico	23,555	79,487	0	0

Netherlands Antilles(*)	13,366	79,302	1,306	7,822
Oman	41,306	100,263	0	0
Other Pacific Islands, NEC(*)	2,548	12,948	850	4,316
Panama	52,714	292,486	4,571	27,382
Philippines	419,909	1,028,613	0	0
Qatar	340	2,691	0	0
Saudi Arabia	1,755	13,515	476	3,778
Singapore	14,476	64,495	3,567	8,659
Taiwan	4,543	11,027	0	0
Thailand	1,620	12,435	0	0
United Arab Emirates	139,555	353,506	61,860	152,559
United Kingdom	1,720	4,176	0	0
Vietnam	387,795	974,756	0	0
Yemen(*)	35,339	56,576	0	0

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

Australia(*)	89,617	360,700	0	0
Bahamas, The	57,849	195,645	653	2,557
Bahrain	996	9,313	0	0
Barbados	6,614	28,686	680	3,475
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	8,541	20,731	0	0
Bermuda	12,960	57,622	1,550	7,680
Cambodia	13,005	39,747	5,535	13,434
Canada	631,114	2,314,783	75,605	284,265
Cayman Islands	1,000	6,642	0	0
China	10,021	54,402	0	0
Costa Rica	1,531	7,020	1,260	2,650
Dominican Republic	8,543	20,736	0	0
Guatemala	503	2,964	0	0
Guyana	1,629	7,996	0	0
Haiti	665	3,827	0	0
Hong Kong	19,794	116,000	0	0
India	19,082	35,703	0	0
Japan	42,686	261,154	1,650	4,005
Korea, South	1,503	19,698	1,121	13,734
Kuwait	262	2,870	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	2,186	7,992	0	0
Mexico	11,925	35,597	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	12,360	53,101	346	3,256
Other Pacific Islands, NEC(*)	850	4,316	0	0
Panama	699	7,001	0	0
Philippines	148,305	435,973	3,035	16,066
Poland	3,374	23,552	0	0
Singapore	2,351	17,796	0	0
Taiwan	1,264	7,850	0	0
Thailand	644	4,039	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	17,588	53,796	0	0
United Arab Emirates	17,758	45,187	0	0
United Kingdom	1,724	4,185	0	0
Vietnam	123,538	234,944	0	0
Yemen(*)	16,480	40,000	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,671,581</b>	<b>12,737,053</b>	<b>346,687</b>	<b>1,310,391</b>

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

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

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

Argentina	9,962,729	24,922,390	25,652,178	2,003,564	4,674,108	4,797,539
Brazil	354,676	1,268,343	1,290,846	135,171	324,825	327,517
Canada	12,581,952	38,286,519	38,694,761	1,903,664	5,652,058	5,724,869
China	392,348	536,130	573,910	0	0	0
Ecuador	370	2,466	2,562	370	2,466	2,562
Egypt	3,586	19,171	19,961	0	0	0
Ethiopia(*)	1,000	4,000	8,283	0	0	0
France(*)	1,049	12,238	13,369	168	2,266	2,345
Hungary	960	5,242	5,936	0	0	0
India	4,032,192	7,462,097	7,767,410	96,516	180,034	188,581
Israel(*)	2,887	16,914	17,015	0	0	0
Italy(*)	15,455	113,514	123,775	556	9,090	9,466
Kyrgyzstan	835	4,430	5,906	455	2,230	2,828
Mexico	1,450,361	5,971,123	6,007,646	97,787	387,790	389,377
New Zealand(*)	5,988	26,926	28,176	0	0	0
Poland	1,550	11,614	12,464	0	0	0
Serbia	1,468	8,285	8,289	0	0	0
Spain	28,695	85,234	87,835	19,461	50,015	50,616
Taiwan	137,747	267,951	281,425	0	0	0
United Kingdom	20,393	71,786	74,315	578	2,567	2,719
Vietnam	37,200	61,970	64,170	0	0	0

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

Argentina	16,538,526	40,112,948	41,289,936	4,363,955	9,929,889	10,187,639
Australia(*)	203,559	509,760	533,760	13,643	47,760	50,760
Brazil	301,928	1,021,159	1,043,860	0	0	0
Canada	438,449	1,246,209	1,275,592	4,305	15,154	15,254
China	160,828	266,370	282,629	0	0	0
Egypt	1,655	11,650	11,688	135	3,915	3,916
France(*)	7,438	35,783	36,514	6,421	15,878	16,251
Greece	47,802	118,847	127,047	9,078	20,985	23,285
Hungary	95,645	172,161	176,661	95,645	172,161	176,661
India	13,411,929	23,357,978	24,668,292	1,440,600	2,452,791	2,616,577
Italy(*)	2,383	17,698	19,188	0	0	0
Mexico	792,671	3,116,672	3,156,435	56,100	208,448	212,556
Poland	56,880	130,824	139,824	0	0	0
Spain	47,908	86,235	91,935	0	0	0
Taiwan	1,024,016	1,670,580	1,678,281	206,924	372,464	372,965
Thailand	524,100	1,051,698	1,120,057	75,600	126,048	135,048
Turkey	1,023,000	2,075,760	2,331,960	0	0	0
Ukraine	4,756,452	9,390,682	9,981,646	1,395,067	2,541,015	2,733,553
Vietnam	1,384,355	2,349,606	2,422,261	223,321	378,938	389,338

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

Argentina	3,315,004	7,075,638	7,322,286	1,055,316	2,087,542	2,126,861
Armenia	5,678	39,533	43,025	3,383	23,058	24,462
Australia(*)	11,951	159,196	168,069	0	0	0
Austria	81,023	645,276	682,962	0	0	0
Brazil	1,041,818	3,621,169	3,733,396	38,760	107,075	111,575
Burma	250,500	400,226	430,293	0	0	0
Canada	37,752	133,345	134,146	0	0	0
China	790,820	803,599	865,627	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	131,194	388,590	410,286	1,800	4,000	5,750
Egypt	2,771	6,880	7,720	0	0	0

Germany(*)	602,331	2,849,355	2,961,948	51,350	245,210	258,510
Greece	59,536	145,006	153,348	648	7,973	8,410
Hong Kong	15,732	117,410	118,550	8,208	61,560	62,120
India	18,878,400	32,581,079	34,294,256	1,449,966	2,444,358	2,595,759
Israel(*)	2,772	24,056	27,877	660	7,920	11,308
Italy(*)	12,675	215,476	220,541	1,939	44,406	45,333
Laos	77,400	127,710	134,926	38,400	63,360	66,136
Lithuania	578	4,174	5,674	0	0	0
Malaysia	122	3,645	3,785	122	3,645	3,785
Mexico	320,727	1,149,355	1,179,617	39,493	119,257	119,957
Moldova	390	2,310	2,311	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	22,901	1,189,576	1,194,842	0	0	0
Pakistan	1,980	6,850	7,150	0	0	0
Poland	1,873	9,255	10,837	0	0	0
Serbia	1,056	6,134	6,712	0	0	0
Spain	50,710	302,226	312,495	402	3,733	3,836
Switzerland(*)	460	6,128	6,365	0	0	0
Thailand	3,457,057	6,834,731	7,237,645	117,160	202,246	220,046
Turkey	606,077	1,229,519	1,310,991	0	0	0
Ukraine	581,235	1,065,598	1,156,900	449,072	799,348	876,350
Uruguay	449,736	877,003	922,413	206,135	364,113	385,702
Vietnam	20,954,978	30,489,985	32,810,835	4,346,680	6,068,982	6,622,612

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

Albania	239	2,012	2,163	0	0	0
Argentina	216,270	498,256	519,907	0	0	0
Armenia	580	3,373	3,873	0	0	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	512	6,700	7,370	0	0	0
Brazil	37,636	131,821	138,571	0	0	0
Bulgaria	1,360	8,611	9,160	0	0	0
Canada	88,900	274,835	276,213	26,907	84,509	84,888
China	4,713	17,908	20,587	0	0	0
Colombia	2,757	24,536	25,741	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	77,809	178,875	190,726	8,477	22,500	24,918
Egypt	6,543	31,907	33,852	0	0	0
El Salvador	2,860	2,654	4,534	0	0	0
France(*)	11,811	139,459	147,067	0	0	0
Greece	59,920	393,946	413,081	3,848	37,791	39,653
Guatemala	816	3,700	3,963	0	0	0
Hungary	900	4,961	5,426	0	0	0
India	27,888	82,904	89,404	11,544	46,904	51,904
Israel(*)	1,534	8,736	8,737	0	0	0
Italy(*)	17,762	206,233	210,658	750	12,900	13,711
Kuwait	6,795	54,124	56,035	0	0	0
Lithuania	1,976	9,096	10,859	0	0	0
Malaysia	122	3,645	3,784	122	3,645	3,784
Mexico	132,373	480,244	485,551	28,267	93,183	93,489
Moldova	1,565	5,222	6,100	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	680,715	13,882,039	14,292,894	92,433	3,126,014	3,157,732
Pakistan	2,003	5,532	5,721	2,003	5,532	5,721
Poland	16,942	110,365	120,229	1,060	6,164	6,812
Russia	17,477	70,604	76,242	0	0	0
Serbia	13,912	129,219	140,609	0	0	0
Sierra Leone	165,151	400,506	445,506	0	0	0
Singapore	90	2,700	2,790	0	0	0
Spain	5,579	51,168	54,626	1,080	10,876	11,269
Taiwan	6,914	70,992	72,322	0	0	0

Turkey	21,063	67,892	67,896	0	0	0
Ukraine	110,865	241,491	262,196	74,240	155,160	166,660
United Kingdom	16,275	445,361	457,465	1,930	52,400	52,747
Vietnam	7,413,455	10,248,440	11,584,139	1,062,150	1,444,678	1,629,757
Yemen(*)	2,945	53,055	57,640	0	0	0

**COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –**

Argentina	3,498	29,702	33,550	0	0	0
Armenia	12,119	54,457	58,237	0	0	0
Australia(*)	119,343	1,282,413	1,372,905	25,048	286,777	306,055
Austria	5,850	58,321	61,857	1	3,714	3,715
Bangladesh	9,913	28,027	30,335	0	0	0
Belarus	62,724	200,994	218,291	0	0	0
Bolivia	2,366	54,678	60,711	0	0	0
Brazil	9,578	82,550	82,801	1,828	15,751	15,816
Bulgaria	105,651	430,026	470,868	0	0	0
Canada	123,895	692,171	696,315	6,302	54,509	55,266
Chile	4,584	55,787	60,287	0	0	0
Cyprus	672	6,672	7,871	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	31,184	98,024	101,277	0	0	0
Ecuador	204	2,278	2,392	0	0	0
Egypt	4,552	19,832	20,934	0	0	0
El Salvador	965	4,106	5,282	0	0	0
France(*)	359,359	2,770,142	2,847,618	24,348	268,518	273,891
Germany(*)	116,121	772,488	808,148	1,728	11,024	11,576
Greece	44,525	591,628	610,563	984	9,747	10,153
Guatemala	1,665	9,108	9,864	849	5,408	5,816
Hungary	127,577	1,172,882	1,207,836	22,514	178,724	182,648
India	546,706	1,593,122	1,678,099	5,772	25,361	27,361
Italy(*)	27,851	393,973	407,721	4,308	73,565	76,576
Kazakhstan	110	4,505	4,955	0	0	0
Korea, South	695	16,046	16,403	0	0	0
Lithuania	7,424	33,774	37,151	4,488	19,814	21,795
Malaysia	725	8,700	17,175	0	0	0
Mexico	66,173	286,254	289,895	7,376	36,761	36,882
Moldova	7,947	30,908	33,934	1,224	6,517	7,169
Netherlands	122	2,034	2,063	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	610,037	13,752,594	14,175,500	44,732	1,177,773	1,199,207
Peru	584	2,760	3,165	0	0	0
Poland	47,158	200,077	216,683	7,285	41,825	44,606
Portugal	27,853	182,105	193,743	0	0	0
Romania	5,314	24,382	26,114	2,338	9,268	10,019
Russia	74,099	240,670	263,779	23,919	87,432	96,176
Saudi Arabia	9,722	72,920	106,576	0	0	0
Serbia	2,590	15,238	16,991	0	0	0
Spain	514,788	3,536,808	3,639,199	21,545	96,721	100,723
Switzerland(*)	1,936	33,203	34,966	0	0	0
Taiwan	70,965	166,548	172,721	0	0	0
Thailand	1,056	5,346	5,573	0	0	0
Turkey	522,297	3,148,802	3,258,193	49,028	354,836	365,193
Ukraine	69,089	207,142	226,008	12,359	38,456	42,124
United Arab Emirates	970	2,912	3,366	0	0	0
United Kingdom	4,954	65,007	68,175	1,995	27,446	28,946
Uzbekistan, Republic of	16,989	59,464	65,410	0	0	0
Yemen(*)	4,824	37,835	39,120	0	0	0

**FLAVORED HONEY –**

Australia(*)	3,498	70,328	74,215	0	0	0
Bulgaria	9,969	34,973	36,043	0	0	0

Canada	80,633	259,723	261,233	2,155	19,688	19,930
China	14,570	108,411	114,492	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	5,682	18,259	20,797	0	0	0
Greece	1,008	16,234	16,973	475	7,229	7,602
India	36,185	178,052	179,767	15,345	86,211	86,511
Ireland	1,278	14,357	15,956	254	2,372	2,657
Italy(*)	1,281	28,397	30,299	132	8,124	8,376
Japan	150	2,302	2,408	0	0	0
Jordan	215	9,805	10,135	0	0	0
Korea, South	141,531	645,911	669,475	5,551	23,836	25,758
Malaysia	4	2,480	2,480	0	0	0
Mexico	2,339	3,658	3,758	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	324	17,577	18,904	81	6,634	6,774
Peru	931	4,198	4,306	0	0	0
Philippines	1,346	5,490	5,936	0	0	0
Poland	180	3,942	4,061	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	480	4,360	4,524	0	0	0
Slovenia	315	2,392	2,686	315	2,392	2,686
Taiwan	56,418	92,325	98,629	16,740	26,823	29,089
Thailand	30,706	132,463	134,729	0	0	0
Turkey	10,144	23,958	28,144	1,504	9,108	9,344
United Kingdom	231	3,445	3,665	231	3,445	3,665

**ORGANIC HONEY –**

Argentina	165,899	568,484	585,863	3,914	18,037	19,059
Australia(*)	88,721	564,572	595,216	21,081	128,870	133,722
Brazil	17,767,504	61,007,514	63,145,004	1,688,110	4,783,053	4,930,112
Bulgaria	15,904	108,614	111,098	0	0	0
Canada	172,011	913,077	920,468	2,912	22,706	22,888
China	3,137	18,663	19,164	3,137	18,663	19,164
Denmark(*)	898	10,660	11,171	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	41,116	105,768	111,339	37,714	94,284	98,755
Greece	7,919	51,133	54,639	0	0	0
India	251,172	648,239	666,389	0	0	0
Israel(*)	240	4,171	4,544	0	0	0
Italy(*)	11,877	150,567	152,300	743	9,787	9,962
Mexico	283,142	1,276,722	1,298,396	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	47,301	579,686	610,379	0	0	0
Poland	1,577	9,543	9,861	0	0	0
Romania	3,025	18,064	20,954	0	0	0
Sierra Leone	74,443	213,354	233,354	0	0	0
Thailand	132,300	450,387	483,368	0	0	0
United Kingdom	565	6,985	7,300	0	0	0
Uruguay	295,659	968,880	999,563	0	0	0
Zambia	24,933	102,490	103,741	1,001	7,920	8,120

**GRAND TOTAL**

154,375,313 388,764,146 404,977,609 23,344,755 53,442,066 55,689,666

**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