

# 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 MARCH 2020

### 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)

#### DAKOTAS

Clover	White	\$1.50
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.50
Clover	Light Amber	\$1.50
Sunflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.50
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$1.50

#### MINNESOTA

Basswood	White	\$1.50
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#### MISSISSIPPI

Mixed Flower	Amber	\$1.65
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#### TEXAS

Clover	White	\$1.65
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65

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	1.45
Clover	White	1.17

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	Extra Light	\$1.16		
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.10	-	\$1.22
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.08	-	\$1.20
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.11	-	\$1.18

#### BRAZIL

ORGANIC	White	\$ .96		
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$ .97	-	\$1.00
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$ .86	-	\$1.02
ORGANIC	Amber	\$ .97		

#### INDIA

Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$ .77	-	\$ .80
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$ .70	-	\$ .80

#### UKRAINE

Sunflower	White	\$ .84	-	\$ .97
Sunflower	Extra Light	\$ .84	-	\$ .97
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$ .90	-	\$ .97

#### URUGUAY

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$ .82		
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#### VIETNAM

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$ .66	-	\$ .80
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## COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING MARCH 2020

**APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV):** March continued with the mild weather and pushed orchards and various other plants to bloom about 2-3 weeks before normal. Colonies very actively gathered pollen and nectar and brood rearing began. A few Beekeepers reported queen issues while others were reporting adding more supers to assist with swarm prevention and actively splitting colonies. By the end of the month there were several reports of swarming. Bee suppliers were contacting buyers in trying to determine a method to distribute bees without disobeying state covid-19 rules. There was also concern regarding farmers market participation during covid-19 and many were awaiting state guidance, which came in by the end of the month for most states. Pollen sources were maples, willows, apricots, plums, peaches, dandelions, ephemerals, and various other spring blooming trees. Maryland voted to ban chlorpyrifos use in Maryland. The Chlorpyrifos ban bill (SB 300) cleared the final House vote and passed. Maryland will be the fourth state in the nation to ban chlorpyrifos starting January 2, 2021. SB 300 was to be a complete ban by January 2022, but an amendment moved this complete ban law to December 31, 2024.

**ALABAMA:** An early spring has continued to afford honey bee colonies throughout the state with plenty of forage. For example, central Alabama saw some rain and slightly cooler temperatures during the latter half of the month. This resulted in plenty of clover on roadsides and other less managed green spaces. The swarm and drone-producing period that began in the southern part of Alabama the month previous swept through the entire state. By the end of March, plenty of drone brood was produced all over the state. Reports from northern Alabama suggest varroa mite populations are also increasing. As a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University initiated an online Stay at Home Beekeeping Series for clubs throughout the state. The first event drew an audience of over 130 on Zoom and Facebook Live platforms.

ARIZONA: Some Arizona bee colonies remained out of state during the first part of the month for the purposes of pollinating fruit and nut trees elsewhere, including California. However, towards the end of the month, most colonies began returning to the state. This has resulted in an increased level of bee activity in the state. Alfalfa and desert and plant bloom were the main sources for nectar and pollen in the state.

Temperatures were at below normal levels for the month of March across Arizona. Production is expected to increase, as bee colonies are back in the state, and an increase in temperatures is anticipated.

According to figures from the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), for 2019 Arizona had 23,000 honey producing colonies (down 1,000 percent from 2018), 1,058,000 pounds of honey produced (146,000 pounds above 2018) with a total production value of \$2,084,000 (a decrease of \$661,000 from 2018). The average per pound price for honey in Arizona in 2019 was \$1.97, down from the 2018 average of \$3.01 per pound.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.

CALIFORNIA: No report issued.

FLORIDA: The month was drier and warmer than normal. All the bees that had gone to California for almond pollination were back in the state before the end of the month. Bee health was considered to be fairly good. Orange blossom flow, which lasted about two weeks, was considered to be about average. Bees working in the oranges did not need supplemental feeding, but most other bees were being fed. There were few other sources of food except for scattered Spanish Needle, Mexican and sweet clover, and a few other scattered wildflowers. Many hives were being moved to northeastern states such as New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania for pollination duties in many crops, but particularly blueberries. Other hives will be moved in early to the middle of April to states such as North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana primarily for clover honey production. One estimate is about 60% of commercial bees in Florida will spent part or all of the summer in other states. Tupelo, gallberry and palmetto will be some of the next available sources of food for the bees and honey production in Florida. They are expected to start blooming by the middle to late April.

GEORGIA: Much of the earlier part of the month rain kept coming and washing away pollen and cold temps kept the bees in the hives. Late into the month the weather started cooperating and the bees have been able to get out and produce some honey, mostly clover for the Southern and Central areas. The North part of the state had excess rain and cold temps throughout most of the month. In all areas the bees are reported to be in good condition and other than social distancing and keeping things disinfected, the retail sales especially online have been good while the wholesale industry is slow to purchase large quantities with all of the uncertainty of the Covid-19 virus going on at the moment and some people having to stay at home.

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: During the month of March temperatures were normal to above normal and precipitation was normal to below normal across much of Colorado and Utah. This caused abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions across much of Colorado and Utah. Some areas of extreme drought were seen along the Southern border of both states. Temperatures were slightly above normal during the same period across Central and Southern Idaho with precipitation normal to above normal. Northern Idaho had normal temperatures and precipitation during the same time period. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor website, Idaho has normal to abnormally dry soil moisture conditions with Central Idaho experiencing some moderate to severe drought.

Commercial beekeepers are now finished with the almond pollination in California. This pollination season in California is described by beekeepers as one of the best years in memory. Conditions were dry with moderate temperatures which allowed maximum fly time. Due to the dry condition trees did not have to be sprayed during pollination. Above average honey was made and no damage to bees was witnessed during the almond pollination period. Most of the commercial beekeepers are now headed to Southern states since temperatures are still too cold at home, while others have decided to remain in California for the sage bloom. A truck shortage, caused by the Corona virus pandemic, has slowed movement. Trucks are being used in the delivery of much needed supplies during the pandemic and not available for transport. Truckers are also experiencing problems with interstate travel due to travel restrictions caused by the virus.

Many commercial beekeepers are beginning division of hives as a result of the good conditions experienced with the almond pollination. With some of the various losses of bees last year, beekeepers are hoping to catch back up on overall colony numbers with this year's divides.

Beekeepers overall report that bees are coming into the spring in really good shape. While in California, the moderate, dry weather helped put weight on bees. An abundance of fly time was a major contributor to this issue. Most beekeepers are not reporting many varroa mites. However, as part of ongoing good management practices, beekeepers plan to keep testing for any mites present and treat when necessary. Beekeepers are utilizing supplemental feeding where necessary to keep the hives healthy prior to spring pollen and nectar availability.

Demand for Idaho, Utah and Colorado honey is good for locally sourced honey. Much of the commercial honey has been committed to packers, except for small amounts saved back for retail sales. Few prices exist to establish a current market price for wholesale white honey.

ILLINOIS: March started out warmer than normal. Second half of month has been colder with a few days of high temps in the 40s and 50s. We had a 3" snow. According to most beekeepers, this winter was quite kind to our bees with only a 50% loss and some beekeepers having even less loss. Pussy willows as well as soft maples are just beginning. Some early spring bulbs also just coming out. Meetings have all been cancelled due to Corona virus. Beekeepers are building new frames and have ordered packages. Some plan to make splits from other beekeepers. All are hoping Covid-19 doesn't impact delivery. Demand was extremely high just before and in early parts of outbreak of virus. No change in prices.

INDIANA: The weather has fluctuated from hot to cold in March. Most beekeepers report that some of their bees have survived the winter in good condition, while many report some dead hives. Some meetings have been cancelled due to Corona virus. Beekeepers say that they have bought new packages to rebuild their hives. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

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

KENTUCKY: "Although Kentucky is known for mercurial weather patterns in March (i.e., snow, tornadoes, floods), this year, milder temperatures created many floral opportunities for honeybees. Overwintered hives started swarming coincidentally the first day of spring, March 20, 2020, in the foothills (Estill County). As a result of the Covid-19 virus, my duties as an inspector were curtailed due to the Governor Andy Beshear's Executive Order 2020-215 on March 6, 2020, and federal closures of the Beltsville Bee lab and University of Maryland's Bee lab have meant that USDA Honey Bee Health samples are suspended. However, I have been inspecting my husband's apiaries (approximately 110 hives) located primarily in the Bluegrass region. In the Bluegrass region, these hives were healthy, gathering nectar and pollen, and varroa mite samples indicated very low populations. There have been no signs of disease. Two USDA Honey Bee Health reports from October and November 2019 have been returned in March 2020, and both

reports suggested that the winter losses of hives in the Pennyrile region may have been due to high varroa mite populations and multiple viruses also vectored by varroa mites. Although all educational opportunities in conventional formats (i.e., field days, day-long bee "schools") have been cancelled during the last part of March and April, KY beekeepers have reported increased sales of honey, at least 30% since the Covid-19 virus has begun in the U.S." ( Tammy Horn Potter, KY State Apiarist)

LOUISIANA: No report issued.

MICHIGAN: In spite of cool temperatures much of the month, bees were able to make a few cleansing flights and forage for pollen and nectar when available with the early blooming Sugar Maples. Many beekeepers have reported healthy hives, although the bees have burned through food supplies and have additional food supplements when necessary. This procedure must continue until the bees have adequate nectar to sustain a growing brood nest. This past week, they were able to bring in the much-needed pollen for brood rearing. Some local beekeepers still have supplies available for local sales, which have continued a good clip. Preparations are underway for the coming season with repairs to equipment for the arrival of packages. Michigan honey production for 2019 totaled 4.70 million pounds, up 10 per cent from the previous year. This estimate included honey from producers with 5 or more colonies. Nationally, Michigan ranked eighth in honey production for 2019. Yields from the state's 94,000 honey producing colonies averaged 50 pounds, up 6 percent from 2018. Michigan honey averaged \$2.36 per pound, down 13 cents per pound last year. Value of production totaled \$11.1 million, up 4 percent from one year earlier. Honey stocks were 1.36 million pounds, up 77 percent from the 2018 season at year's end.

MINNESOTA: During the month of March temperatures were slightly above normal across much of the state. Northwest Minnesota saw temperatures average below normal for the month. Precipitation in March was slightly below normal across much of the state. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor website, the entire State of Minnesota had normal soil moisture conditions in March.

Commercial beekeepers are now finished with the almond pollination in California. This pollination season in California was said to be the best in recent memory. Moderate temperatures and dry conditions were almost perfect for the bees. Good almond bloom, abundant fly time, and very minimal tree spraying made conditions very good for the overall health of the hives. Some beekeepers have opted to stay in California or go to other Southern states to make sure that conditions are good at home weather wise. While other commercial beekeepers are in the process of returning to Minnesota.

Movement has been slowed due to a trucking shortage caused by the Corona virus pandemic. Trucks are being utilized in the delivery of food and supplies needed for pandemic response that would normally be available to transport hives. Truckers are also experiencing difficulties with interstate travel due to the virus.

Many commercial beekeepers are now starting division of hives. With some of the various losses of bees last year, beekeepers are hoping to catch back up on overall colony numbers with these divides. Dividing colonies will be a big project this year.

Demand for Minnesota honey continues to be very good for locally sourced honey. Most of the commercial honey has been committed to packers except for small amounts for retail sales. With this said, few prices exist to establish a current market price for wholesale white honey.

MISSISSIPPI: Bees are out trying to work in between rainstorms pretty much all month. Beekeepers have reported the bees to be in good shape and ready for the Spring flow to begin. Wildflowers, clover and blackberries are available and some people that have to stay at home are able to work with the hives on a fulltime basis during the Covid-19 stay in place orders.

MONTANA: As the month of March ended, Montana had experienced warm winter conditions with above average temperatures. The snow coverage rating for the state was at 11 percent good to excellent coverage, compared to a snow cover rating of 81 percent good to excellent coverage reported in 2019. Topsoil moisture measurements at the end of March measured 0 percent very short, compared to 1 percent last year; 10 percent short, compared to 5 percent last year; 72 percent adequate, 75 percent last year; and 18 percent surplus, compared to 19 percent last year. Subsoil moisture measured 6 percent short and very short, while 94 percent of the subsoil moisture measurements were adequate or surplus. According to the March 31. Drought Monitor survey, abnormally dry conditions existed in northwestern, west central, and far northeastern areas of the state.

Home beekeepers continued with home equipment repair and overwintering activities for home colonies. Traveling Montana colonies were at other locations, including Oregon where normal to below average temperatures prevailed during the month. Apricot, cherry, pear, peach, plum were in bloom in Oregon, while peach and nectarine bloom would start in eastern Washington by month's end. Generally, the bee activity in the mid to late of each day looked generally good for the month, after many cold morning warmups.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather for the month of April has been intermittently wet and cooler with unstable temperatures and a mixture of some mild to warm days sporadically placed along the month. This year's spring has finally arrived. 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 are over, which brings on the usual advent of regional pollen and nectar sources such as ground ivy, chickweed, snow drop, glory of the snow, snowflakes, Siberian squill, American elm, winter aconite, jasmine, witch hazel, dandelions and willows such as black, goat, pussy (Salix discolor) and white. And in mid-April we will see red maple, silver maple providing both nectar/pollen and American elm which is strong in pollen. These early ornamentals will inspire bees to forage as low as 33 degrees F. 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 have not been fully available. Hives will normally consume 1.2 lbs. of honey per day with full colonies ranging from 40,000-50,000 bees.

Northwestern New England shows mixed reports on losses of up to 30%, 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 showing 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. 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 and are reversing hive bodies to keep the brood in the bottom and will add a super before the bees get too 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.

Early spring is the time of year when demand for healthy hives for pollination services is the highest. The cost is usually around \$180.00-\$220.00 per colony. Overall in New England and especially in Massachusetts, demand for startup and replacement bees has been strong. Massachusetts State bee inspectors report up to 20% 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 scheme 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.

Demand at all retail/wholesale outlets remains good and honey market prices are slightly higher. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.00 to \$14.00 mostly \$12.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$24.00 mostly \$22.00, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; Additionally, current prices quoted for 1 Quart bottled units for raw pollen were \$28.00 to \$32.00 mostly \$30.00 and for raw Propolis tincture are \$16.00 to \$20.00 mostly \$18.00 for 2-ounce containers.

**NEW YORK:** The month has seen mild weather with bees somewhat active with limited early pollen sources. In some protected sites, there have been some maples in blossom, with willow and elm nearly ready. Beekeepers have started to unwrap colonies to inspect and feed bees where needed. It will be a while yet before real nectar sources allow colony buildup. Most beekeepers have seen improved colony survival numbers over the previous winter. The colonies that survived look good. Final numbers are still pending. Honey sales and demand have tanked with cafes, local eateries and small businesses shuttered at this time. Shoppers are looking for staples: bread, milk, and eggs, with honey not a priority. Low sales will more than likely be slow to recover and could last for months. We could see inventories build over the coming months and could force a price drop in honey to jumpstart sales and reduce inventory.

New York honey production for 2019 totaled 3.4 million pounds, up 27 percent from one year earlier. This estimate included honey from producers with 5 or more colonies. Yields from New York's 59,000 honey producing colonies averaged 58 pounds in 2019, an increase of 10 pounds from the previous year. The state's honey price averaged \$4.49 per pound, up \$1.25 from last year. Value of production totaled 15.3 million, up sharply from 2019 at \$8.7 million. Honey stocks at the end of the year were 1.0 million pounds, up 23% from one year earlier.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Temperatures in North Carolina were above normal for March with a statewide average temperature of 56.1°F. Precipitation was below normal. Overall statewide soil moisture levels were rated 0 percent very short, 2.5 percent short, 67.5 percent adequate, and 30 percent surplus the week ending March 28. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported zero counties as having outstanding drought or dryness.

Colonies were healthy and rapidly building up populations. According to apiary inspectors, heavy swarming was reported. Disease and pest pressures were notably light. The weather was favorable for foraging and allowed for an early start to the honey flow. Bees could be seen working Blackberry, Dandelion, and Dead Nettle in the Coastal Plains region. Red Maple and Sugar Maple were in bloom in the Piedmont and Mountain regions.

Commercial pollinators began moving hives back to North Carolina; primarily to the eastern part of the state for blueberry pollination. Others remained in California or stopped in Texas to work citrus groves.

Demand for honey exceeded supply. Retail prices at the Raleigh State Farmers' Market were unchanged: \$7.00-\$8.00 per 8 ounce jar, \$12.00-\$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 unchanged at: \$8.00-\$12.00 per 8 ounce jar, \$12.00-\$18.00 per 22 ounce jar, and \$20.00 per 32 ounce jar.

**NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA:** As the almond crop in California finished up bees were moved other crops and to the north for anticipated fruit tree bloom. Weather was moderate in most areas although cold weather slowed the advance of the bloom.

According to the NASS production report, the combined total colony count for North Dakota and South Dakota was 790,000 colonies, down from up 805,000 colonies in 2018. Yields averaged 67.4 lbs. per hive, up slightly from 65.3 lbs. in 2018. Total production for the state was at 53,240 million lbs., up from 51,585 million the previous year. Stocks on hand in December were at 14,004 million lbs., up nearly 30% from 9.906 million lbs. in 2018. The value of the crop was set at \$77,063 million based on \$1.45 per pound. The total value in 2018 was \$96,943 million based on \$1.88 per pound.

**OHIO:** The divergence of growing degree days is obvious from southern to northern Ohio. Forsythia and flowering pears were in full bloom in the Cincinnati area on March 21 with saucer magnolias in full bloom in Jackson County. In the Southeast, forsythia, dogwood and some early fruit trees were in full bloom and the bees were busy gathering pollen and nectar. Package bees should arrive soon. Healthy hives are beginning robust activity and losses have been minimal. Beekeepers are busy inspecting hives for small hive beetles and putting out swarm traps. In the Columbus area, silver maples have finished blooming and the Red Maples and Alders showed signs of opening. Cloudy, wet days and cool temperatures have tempered bee activity, although in most cases, the hives should have at least 1-2 frames with brood and the last of the stored honey. Caution should be in place for rearranging frames during this time period; move only to position honey closer to the brood or other rescue treatments. Last Spring, many "hard" splits resulted in failing colonies because of the cool and wet weather, which kept bees in the hive and produced poorly nourished larvae and poor development. Many colonies slipped backward and had to be combined rather than split. Reports of lost yards continue as well as colonies being absconded. High levels of varroa mites were a common factor in some of the dead or "missing" colonies. In West Central Ohio, pollen is being brought into the hives from early sources like Red Maple trees. The bees are brooding earlier and stronger than normal. It is estimated a 30% winter loss. Losses have been minimal and not expected to rise now. However, pollen supplements should be added due to the cyclic weather patterns. In Western Ohio, temperatures have been higher than normal and rain much higher than normal. Winter annual flowers like Dead Nettles are blooming along with Willow trees: during the arm days, bees are busy gathering pollen and building up the hive. Winter losses have been estimated around a 60% average in the state. The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly influenced consumer demand for honey products. Honey sales were good before the state shut down.

Prices have remained stable in the \$5.00-6.00 range wholesale and \$7.00-10.00 retail per pound. Online honey sales have been robust. It is too early to tell the result of the shutdown in relation to honey sales.

Ohio honey production for 2019 totaled 1.0 million pounds, nearly unchanged from one year earlier. This estimate included honey from producers with 5 or more colonies. Yields from Ohio's 15,000 honey producing colonies averaged 67 pounds in 2019, a decrease of 5 pounds from the previous year. The state's honey price averaged \$3.42 per pound, down 30 cents from last year. Value of production totaled 3.4 million, down from 2018 at \$3.8 million. Honey stocks at the end of the year were 442,000 pounds, down 10% from one year earlier.

**OKLAHOMA:** No report issued.

**OREGON:** No report issued.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** South Carolina saw temperatures slightly above average and very wet. Colony conditions varied by management practices. Vapor treatments against mites seemed very effective. Overall Keeping colonies dry during periods of excess moisture was a concern for beekeepers. Beekeepers are looking forward to a spring buildup. Swarms are starting to appear. Inside the hives, some indicate that incoming nectar is exceeding consumption will be indicated by new, clean, white wax as the bees initiate adding more comb for storage. Replacement bee operations are continuously preparing for the spring season. The warm days have encouraged forage on henbit, chickweed, dandelion, red maple, daffodils, camellias, Breath of Spring, dandelions, early blueberries, wild mustard, tea olive, yellow Jessamine, wild berries, pears, peach, and other fruit trees. Allergy season is here and demand is fairly good for local honey but supply is still fairly light. On the SC State Farmers Market located in West Columbia honey is selling at: 12-1 Pt \$70.00, 12-1 Qt \$130.00, 12 ct. Honey Bears \$50.00, 4-1 Gallon \$180.00, 1 Gallon \$52.00.

**TENNESSEE:** During the Covid-19 Pandemic the State of Tennessee Apiary section is continuing to issue entry permits, exit permits and inspect colonies for export, sale of queens, nus, packages and colonies. The state is not currently doing routine inspections of hobbyist beekeepers. However, we are doing inspections for all beekeepers that believe they may have a regulated bee disease or pest issue. Nuc and queen production has started across the state. Colonies have been building well this spring. Most regions have reported that swarm season has begun. The nectar flow is in full swing. Fruit trees, box elder, red bud, privet, henbit, dandelion and other wildflowers are the main sources of nectar and pollen at this time. No regulated honeybee pest or diseases have been found in TN so far this year.

**TEXAS:** No report issued.

**WASHINGTON:** Below average precipitation accompanied moderate temperatures. Several cold spells later in the month required frost protection for fruit trees in many areas. Bee activity began to pick up later in the month as bloom began in some orchards in earlier districts.

According to the NASS production report, Washington had 81,000 colonies, from up 77,000 colonies in 2018. Yields averaged 35 lbs. per hive, down about 19% from 43 lbs. in 2018. Total production for the state was at 2.835 million lbs., down from 3.311 million the previous year. Stocks on hand in December were at 1.191 million lbs., up from 563,000 lbs. in 2018. The value of the crop was set at \$6.010 million based on \$2.12 per pound. The total value in 2018 was \$7.119 million.

**WISCONSIN:** It was more cloudy than normal, and temperature were within norms. There was more rain and snow than normal. Many beekeepers complain that they lost many to all of their bees. Snowdrops, winter aconite and crocuses have been up for a week or two. Many beekeepers went to meetings. Beekeepers are cleaning up the deadouts, extracting some of the honey, sorting the equipment. Packages are on order and should arrive in late April. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

**Census Bureau revised reported statistics of honey imports. Corrections posted on their website <https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/corrections/index.html> will be applied to USA Trade Online with the next Annual Revision published June 2020.**

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

	Year to Date		February 2020	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
<b>COMB &amp; NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -</b>				
Bahamas, The	393	3,430	0	0
Barbados	10,383	45,618	6,354	22,401
China	11,002	26,704	0	0
Ghana	1,360	3,000	1,360	3,000
Hong Kong	2,212	10,142	653	3,360
Japan	31,582	130,988	409	2,970
Korea, South	18,115	89,856	18,115	89,856
Kuwait	61,465	149,195	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	644	5,284	644	5,284
Netherlands Antilles(*)	5,299	31,428	3,340	19,695
Panama	12,415	74,301	6,534	39,102
Philippines	8,640	33,566	4,320	16,866
Taiwan	6,658	25,145	6,658	25,145
United Arab Emirates	15,414	37,415	15,414	37,415
Vietnam	3,657	19,042	3,657	19,042
Yemen(*)	35,339	56,576	35,339	56,576

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

Bahamas, The	5,038	39,423	1,431	12,689
Barbados	4,243	22,822	473	3,398
Bermuda	4,521	29,610	1,407	10,471

Canada	139,974	449,420	51,294	178,835
Hong Kong	346	5,094	346	5,094
Jamaica	3,629	17,680	3,629	17,680
Japan	732	5,850	324	3,056
Korea, South	71,567	327,255	53,830	257,542
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	1,587	8,438	544	2,664
Mongolia	716	3,344	0	0
Nigeria	2,739	12,300	2,739	12,300
Singapore	1,267	10,805	490	5,000
Trinidad and Tobago	8,742	31,459	6,395	24,156
Vietnam	676	3,920	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>470,355</b>	<b>1,709,110</b>	<b>225,699</b>	<b>873,597</b>

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

Year to Date			February 2020		
Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

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

Argentina	1,426,884	3,090,937	3,212,838	563,367	1,255,533	1,302,076
Brazil	150,259	504,589	521,535	0	0	0
Canada	582,844	1,734,827	1,745,319	360,322	1,048,148	1,054,712
India	148,800	218,736	234,736	0	0	0
Italy(*)	1,953	23,114	25,540	1,470	13,395	14,520
Korea, South	228	3,808	3,813	228	3,808	3,813
Kyrgyzstan	499	2,494	4,864	499	2,494	4,864
Mexico	93,096	292,396	292,411	93,096	292,396	292,411
New Zealand(*)	23,915	57,148	60,361	491	10,300	12,301
Pakistan	600	3,000	3,190	600	3,000	3,190
Taiwan	40,300	69,750	74,325	20,150	34,875	37,225
Ukraine	37,920	65,602	68,602	37,920	65,602	68,602
United Kingdom	6,429	21,567	22,184	2,205	7,449	7,575
Uruguay	94,432	183,886	188,964	18,921	36,907	37,842

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

Argentina	2,918,945	6,319,384	6,557,507	1,142,660	2,504,372	2,610,940
Brazil	281,400	480,094	508,719	0	0	0
Canada	1,437	9,594	10,094	0	0	0
France(*)	680	11,054	11,444	203	2,036	2,194
India	2,439,645	4,321,205	4,653,417	910,986	1,648,398	1,788,799
Italy(*)	396	7,551	7,651	0	0	0
Mexico	25,015	67,935	69,147	3,642	10,926	10,978
Taiwan	197,141	354,855	355,455	120,050	216,090	216,390
Thailand	90,000	153,000	161,600	54,000	91,800	96,300
Ukraine	1,123,796	1,901,955	2,029,413	989,840	1,674,868	1,784,352
Uruguay	56,929	94,378	97,348	56,929	94,378	97,348
Vietnam	117,167	210,900	219,005	81,250	146,250	146,550
Yemen(*)	65	4,542	4,543	0	0	0

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

Argentina	629,219	1,097,000	1,147,630	204,543	342,514	359,688
Austria	30,824	107,795	115,078	9,810	35,203	37,356
Brazil	226,541	402,999	420,266	37,620	60,754	64,668

Burma	76,560	99,584	108,144	0	0	0
Colombia	1,980	13,550	14,905	1,980	13,550	14,905
Egypt	955	2,546	2,750	0	0	0
France(*)	484	5,811	9,985	484	5,811	9,985
Germany(*)	85,100	403,397	423,796	16,250	64,675	67,075
Greece	30,284	109,064	116,459	28,294	99,251	105,951
India	4,224,317	5,974,478	6,325,977	2,285,893	3,260,709	3,443,926
Indonesia	520	8,190	8,254	520	8,190	8,254
Israel(*)	1,894	8,943	9,192	0	0	0
Italy(*)	1,670	39,671	40,574	736	18,983	19,486
Lithuania	1,344	8,067	9,619	0	0	0
Mexico	106,858	268,024	274,284	38,855	95,312	95,732
New Zealand(*)	3,438	117,754	120,492	1,854	47,535	49,635
Pakistan	4,231	20,279	21,440	0	0	0
Poland	810	3,859	4,793	0	0	0
Spain	22,506	77,533	79,839	20,406	57,062	58,959
Thailand	118,560	156,499	170,755	78,960	104,227	113,659
Turkey	16,574	41,506	43,211	0	0	0
Ukraine	76,560	126,944	137,082	0	0	0
Uruguay	278,775	388,993	416,171	74,340	108,525	113,411
Vietnam	4,970,489	5,704,515	6,234,195	1,929,246	2,123,806	2,333,482

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

Argentina	18,830	40,296	42,296	18,830	40,296	42,296
Armenia	500	2,938	3,265	500	2,938	3,265
Australia(*)	6,243	87,500	89,377	0	0	0
Brazil	4,560	12,768	16,768	4,560	12,768	16,768
Bulgaria	1,819	12,108	12,676	1,819	12,108	12,676
Canada	5,919	28,994	29,844	2,429	11,412	11,912
Dominican Republic	23,160	64,000	67,800	0	0	0
France(*)	769	10,758	10,834	240	3,451	3,453
Georgia	212	2,450	3,365	212	2,450	3,365
Greece	10,076	118,279	125,516	0	0	0
Hungary	14,934	59,029	62,029	1,314	11,449	11,949
India	12,648	18,911	20,911	0	0	0
Indonesia	22	4,920	5,070	11	2,460	2,535
Italy(*)	651	8,840	9,373	351	6,421	6,653
Mexico	7,968	17,391	17,511	936	2,765	2,768
New Zealand(*)	105,766	3,004,755	3,044,323	87,460	2,584,526	2,609,816
Poland	2,994	19,616	20,982	1,848	12,978	13,697
Taiwan	269	3,613	3,716	0	0	0
Turkey	16,229	79,301	79,303	0	0	0
Ukraine	195,624	391,065	419,809	95,700	189,485	203,310
United Kingdom	3,300	81,886	82,410	1,650	41,087	41,402
Vietnam	2,303,929	2,589,179	2,958,150	679,057	817,403	930,435

**COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –**

Argentina	9,730	36,382	39,568	3,576	17,475	17,661
Australia(*)	70,275	753,133	823,303	14,623	170,514	191,109
Austria	1,173	13,873	14,448	381	7,315	7,534
Brazil	2,788	17,547	17,633	0	0	0
Canada	17,704	152,167	154,266	3,880	19,656	19,840
Dominican Republic	1,473	5,962	5,963	1,473	5,962	5,963
France(*)	45,544	447,144	474,798	25,744	259,580	279,674
Germany(*)	31,678	216,967	228,467	24,727	164,009	171,664

Greece	12,775	165,912	168,814	10,033	133,781	136,207
Hungary	51,378	490,608	508,834	1,377	10,982	14,982
Indonesia	11	2,493	2,568	11	2,493	2,568
Israel(*)	1,239	11,369	12,868	279	3,629	4,128
Italy(*)	4,557	73,991	77,866	4,167	64,864	68,215
Kyrgyzstan	310	3,090	5,091	0	0	0
Malaysia	20	2,178	2,178	0	0	0
Mexico	38,179	94,472	94,721	21,215	48,708	48,842
Moldova	1,782	9,350	9,353	600	3,118	3,119
New Zealand(*)	118,098	2,775,656	2,824,158	51,046	1,377,095	1,398,143
Pakistan	1,920	10,520	11,025	1,920	10,520	11,025
Poland	7,225	8,938	9,880	3,503	2,822	3,220
Romania	2,441	16,137	16,139	1,685	10,907	10,908
Russia	9,362	45,116	45,120	660	6,244	6,245
Serbia	778	7,255	7,256	0	0	0
Sierra Leone	2,774	3,358	4,498	0	0	0
Spain	41,963	260,817	270,917	16,793	66,777	70,277
Taiwan	2,574	24,816	25,441	2,574	24,816	25,441
Turkey	60,532	418,807	430,849	18,967	108,774	110,891
Ukraine	23,304	76,516	76,519	8,148	24,216	24,217
United Kingdom	813	15,945	16,538	602	7,669	8,147

**FLAVORED HONEY –**

Australia(*)	2,744	40,026	41,754	0	0	0
Canada	2,011	18,312	18,475	2,011	18,312	18,475
Ireland	621	3,394	3,749	621	3,394	3,749
Italy(*)	454	12,355	12,568	143	3,995	4,113
Japan	2,608	5,970	6,141	1,370	3,072	3,145
Jordan	121	3,240	3,241	121	3,240	3,241
Korea, South	60,878	248,355	259,834	25,461	127,381	133,308
New Zealand(*)	574	8,268	8,409	0	0	0
Taiwan	41,364	52,536	59,968	13,229	16,324	18,558

**ORGANIC -**

Armenia	900	7,560	7,812	0	0	0
Australia(*)	32,889	207,317	217,888	8,757	52,104	54,182
Brazil	2,948,870	5,568,244	5,874,054	1,439,950	2,790,091	2,935,371
Canada	19,933	89,017	89,669	11,903	35,621	35,916
Dominican Republic	14,427	30,735	33,335	0	0	0
Greece	19,687	71,262	76,503	2,005	16,561	16,685
India	86,988	151,878	160,409	0	0	0
Italy(*)	1,465	18,363	18,745	1,465	18,363	18,745
Mexico	40,773	60,277	63,777	2,640	3,840	4,340
Uruguay	74,340	164,115	173,927	0	0	0
Zambia	584	4,507	4,707	584	4,507	4,707

**GRAND TOTAL**

27,422,321	54,980,149	58,038,288	11,813,781	25,011,860	26,300,009
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**Notes:**

- 1. Data Source:** Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
- 2. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General.**
- 3. (\*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.**
- 4. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure. QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.**
- 5. The CIF Value is not included within the 13th month data loads. This means that the CIF Value will be zero (0) for any records that are inserted during this process.**
- 6. Product Group : Harmonized**