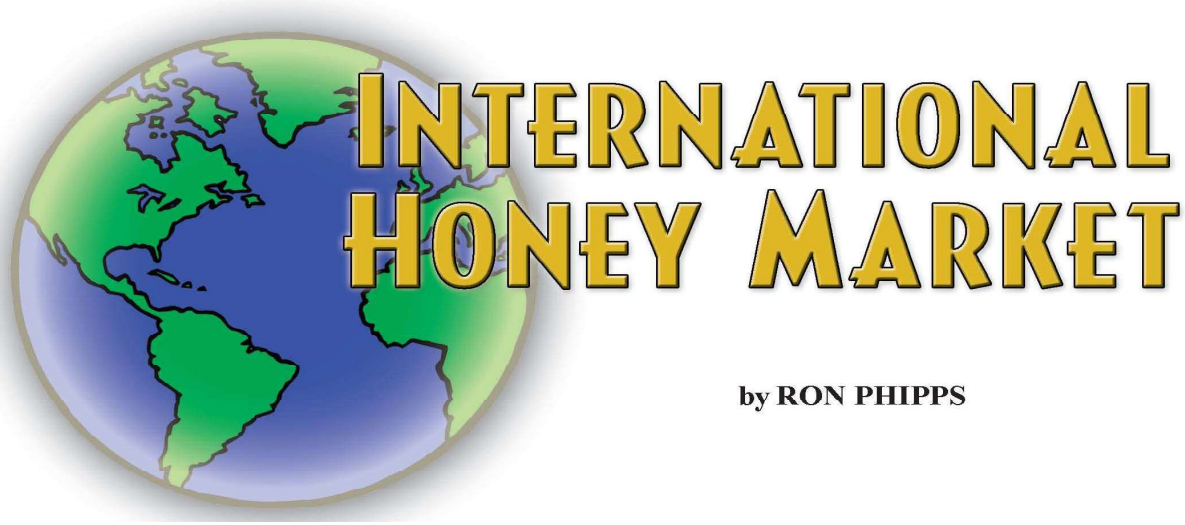


International Honey Market Report

November 2025

Ron Phipps

Don Quixote said, "The dogs bark, Sancho, a sign that we're riding."

Introduction

The international honey industry, of which the American Honey Industry is a crucial part, is approaching a Sea Change. That Sea Change includes the growing crises of the fate of bees and those who tend them and the need to protect the world's pollinators upon which global food security and ecological sustainability depend. The traffic in adulterated honey affects all countries, and antidumping duties and tariffs being implemented in the U.S. affect those countries exporting to the U.S. market. Opposition to the adulteration of honey and to the dumping of honey at low prices is having dramatic international growth. As prices in the international honey market collapse due to the weight of multiple modern modes of honey adulteration, the survival of beekeeping in the East and West is in jeopardy.

This crisis is accompanied by a shift in ownership of honey processing companies. Export of honey from some countries involves traders from third countries. There is both vertical and horizontal integration mediated by undisclosed surrogates like investment bankers, hedge funds, and international law firms backed by unknown entities. Efforts are being made by entities in densely populated nations like China to take control of farm lands, agriculture, energy resources, and advanced technology, including the technology of the future. The thrust towards monopoly and control of global resources is a crucial economic dynamic which underlies the deepening collapse of honey prices below the cost of beekeeping operations. This trend is evident and its details are being explored.

All great Rivers are the confluence of Multiple Tributaries. The Sea Change forecast herein is also a confluence of many tributaries which I will describe and outline below. They include: 1) U.S. antidumping rate decisions and rulings, and tariffs imposed on imports by country in 2025,

2) scientific advances in detecting adulteration in its multiple modern modes, and 3) appreciation of the impact upon beekeeping of shifts in global ecology.

Honey Price and Quantity Trends

U.S. honey production declined 4% in 2024 to 134,000,000 pounds (60,798 metric tons). North Dakota, South Dakota and California were the top states producing honey. Varroa mites and CCD were stressors on colonies in 2024. The price of Dakota Extra Light Amber in August, 2025, was reported to be $1.85/lb. for major producers (National Honey Report). The number of U.S. bee colonies in April, 2025, was 2,990,000.

U.S. honey imports in 2024 were about 74% of total honey volumes, at 529,784,719 pounds (240,306 metric tons). It should be noted that antidumping duties were being collected in 2024 on honey from Argentina, Brazil, India and Vietnam. These duties are paid by the importer.

In 2025, some imported honey may have been rushed in order to avoid the duties which were threatened on April 1, 2025 and imposed later. During the first half of 2025, the average customs value of all U.S. imported honey declined from $1.07 in 2024 to $1.03/lb. (imports from New Zealand are not included in the average since high priced manuka honey is unique to that region). Vietnam ($0.59/lb.), Turkey (0.54/lb.) and Taiwan ($0.48/lb.) had the lowest customs value pricing during that period. Argentina's average import price fell from $1.05/lb. to $0.83/lb. and Uruguay's price also fell from $1.05 to $0.74/lb. U.S. imports of Indian honey for retail sale reached a value over $7 million for 8 months in 2025, with imports of all retail packed honey at a level of $45 million for that period.

The total volume of imported honey during the first half of 2025 was 246,432,245 lbs., and reached 356,095,295 by the end of August. Total value of honey imported January to August, 2025, was $385,472,654. The average customs value, not including New Zealand honey, was $0.98/lb., a decline from the same period in 2024 when the value was $1.05/lb.

Chart 1. U.S. Honey Imports by volume and country Jan.-August 2025

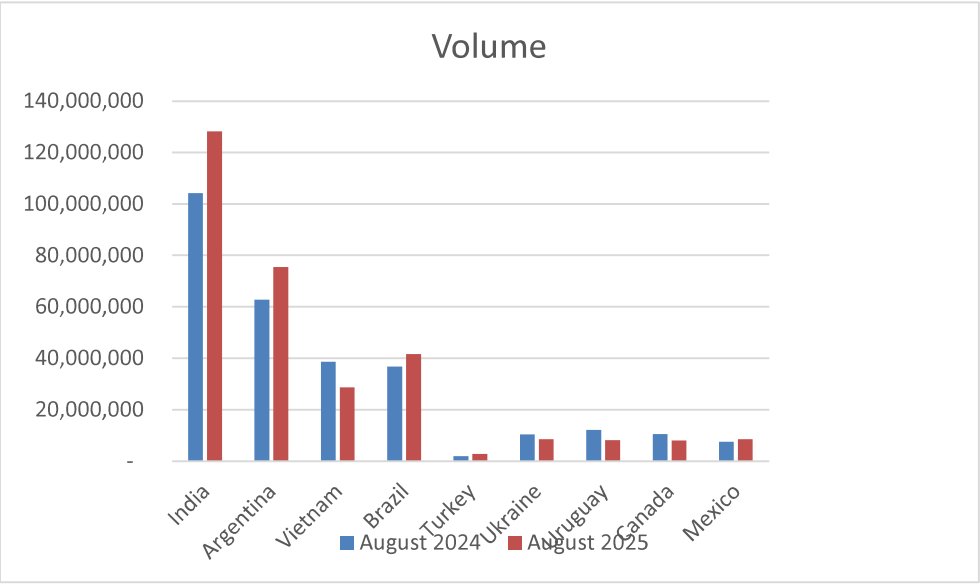
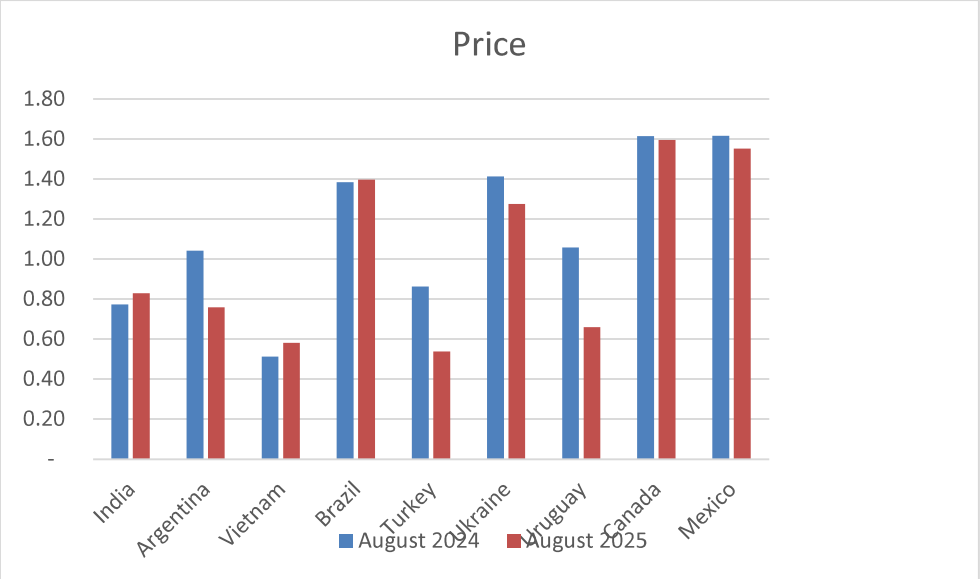
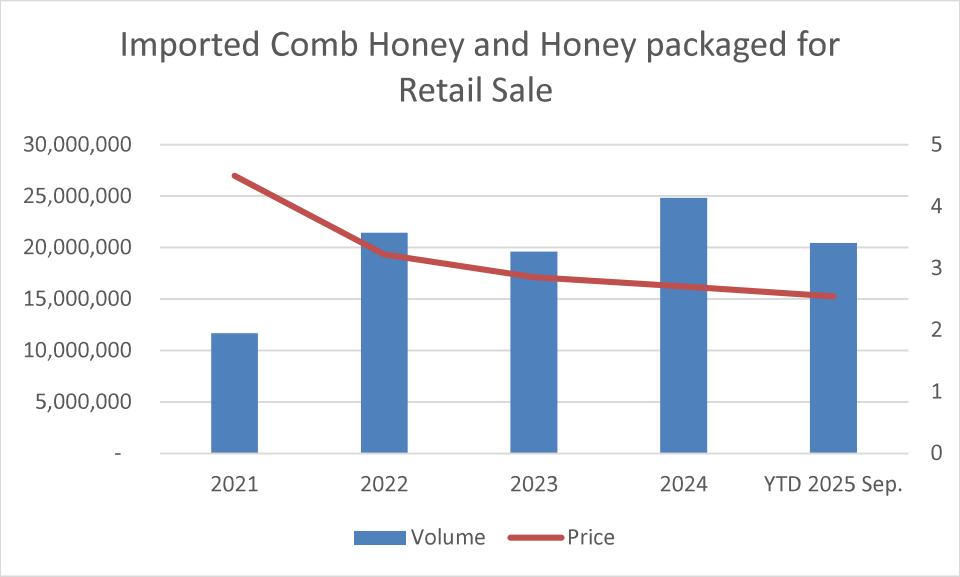


Chart 2. U.S. Honey Imports by value and country Jan.-August 2025



President Trump announced the imposition of tariffs on imports from many countries in early April, 2025. Since that time importers and exporters rushed to ship and receive shipments before the effective date of new tariffs. We anticipate that after August, 2025, import volumes from countries with new high tariffs will decline.

Chart 3. U.S. Retail Packed Honey Imports



There is no antidumping duty on retail packed honey, but the 2025 tariffs imposed on specific countries will be applicable. Imports of packaged honey by weight from January to August 2025 are on track to exceed 2024 imports. Since the antidumping duties were imposed, this category of honey has been attractive especially due to the lack of antidumping duty. It includes very

expensive Manuka honey from New Zealand valued at $14.7 million. Imports from India reached $7 million during that period.

That loophole has been manipulated and is being legally challenged.

U.S. Tariffs and Antidumping Update

While the honey producers have been fighting for, and honey importers and packers against, antidumping duties on imported honey, tariffs have been imposed on many countries exporting honey to the U.S., such as Brazil, India and Vietnam. The tariffs are collected at entry based on the customs value of the goods and are in addition to the antidumping duties in place.

Tariffs have been implemented on honey producing countries in the past several months and as of November 15, 2025 they are:

- Brazil (July 30, 2025)- 50% tariff rate on imports (10% + 40%)
- India (July 31, 2025)- 25% (August 6, 2025)- increased to 50%, effective August 27, 2025
- Vietnam – 20% tariff announced in July, 2025
- Argentina – 10%
- Uruguay – 10%
- Canada – 0%
- Mexico – 25%
- Italy – 15%
- Turkey – 15%

Canadian origin bulk honey imported under the USMCA is exempt from duties according to our current understanding. Whether or not some changes will be made in the above tariffs, we cannot predict. Many markets are hoping for an end to the tariff turmoil which has brought instability and unpredictability which businesses dislike.

These tariffs we expect will affect future imports. Import volumes and values in this report reflect activity before the beginning of September, 2025. A drop off in volumes would be expected, after August, especially since inventories have been building up. Of course, Argentina, Brazil, India and Vietnam have the option to reduce export pricing; such a reduction would affect calculations under the antidumping order and possibly provoke increases in the antidumping rates.

The past year has seen an unprecedented surge in tariffs on goods imported into the U.S. This has led to inflation pressure and a slowdown of the global economy. As this article is being composed, the legality of the imposition of tariffs by the Trump administration under the International Economic Powers Act is being deliberated in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The goal, we all know, was to revitalize American manufacturing, which over the past 5 decades has been outsourced to countries with low labor costs, and poor environmental regulations. This is a strategically worthy goal. We may remember that during the period of the American revolution, the British imposed high tariffs on imported goods coming into their colony, America. In response, American women gathered in groups and started spinning wool and cotton and weaving cloth for their families and communities. To some degree we anticipate this could happen for various industries overly dependent on foreign imports.

Antidumping Updates

The Court of Appeals Federal Circuit issued a decision in favor of imposition of antidumping duties on imports of Vietnamese honey made during the Critical Circumstances period, which was determined as the period from August 25, 2021 to November 23, 2021. Companies including Sweet Harvest, Export Packers, Honey Solutions/Honey Holding, Sunland Trading and members of the National Honey Packers and Dealers were plaintiffs in the appeal, which was not successful. The decision cited "massive imports over a relatively short period" at dumping level prices which would harm the domestic honey industry. The antidumping rate for Vietnamese exporters is in the range of 100-156% for that period, according to the notice in the Federal Register, May 2025. The total amount of antidumping duties assessed for those 3 months is estimated to be in the range of $35,000,000. The amount of antidumping duties owed, which would be more than that amount, is an unprecedented penalty for those affected in the honey trade. U.S. honey imports from Vietnam for 12 months in 2021 were $83,286,989.

It is well known that a surge of imports to beat the imposition of potential antidumping duties is prohibited by antidumping laws. That crucial clause to protect domestic industries has been repeatedly and grievously violated, including in the prior China honey case. Similar violations have occurred for other products.

Dumping margins of 1.22 to 31.52 percent were announced in October, 2025, in preliminary results of administrative review of the antidumping order on raw honey from Argentina for the period June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024

As witnessed in the Chinese antidumping case, it is easy to counter antidumping duty rates. In the Chinese case, as the rates went up, the exporters valued the honey at increasingly low prices, allowing the market to remain open and the imports to continue. After some years, tariffs on Chinese honey were imposed per pound, rather than ad valorum. At this time, imports of Chinese honey are near zero.

Honey exports worldwide

India has achieved a remarkable milestone on the global stage by becoming the 2nd largest honey exporter in the world, according to Indian news reports. In just four years, India jumped from 9th place to 2nd. The U.S. is the main buyer of Indian exported honey.

Chart 4. World Honey Exports 2024

Reporter	TradeFlow	ProductCode	Product Description	Year	Partner	Trade Value 1000USD	Quantity	Quantity Unit
China	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	264,859.15	169,573,000	Kg
New Zealand	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	250,680.86	10,777,800	Kg
India	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	179,776.00	94,778,500	Kg
Argentina	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	170,816.01	78,375,300	Kg
Ukraine	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	166,952.06	85,812,300	Kg
European Union	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	154,964.41	25,446,700	Kg
Germany	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	116,137.40	20,928,500	Kg
Spain	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	103,157.67	26,742,300	Kg
Brazil	Export	040900	Natural honey	2024	World	100,559.62	37,931,300	Kg

Source: World Integrated Trade Solution

News from Brazil is that the crop of orange blossom honey was very bad. Prices reached $4600/metric ton ($2.09/lb. FOB Brazil) and Europe took it at this level. As there hasn't been much honey cropped at the time of this report the prices remained firm at the beekeepers in late 2025. Main crops of ELA and LA will begin in January. The crops in Southeast and South of Brazil start mainly in March with the Eucalyptus organic. There is more demand from Europe now, at both Apimondia and Anuga many companies were looking for organic honey.

Honey Adulteration News

"The Great British Honey Scandal" podcast aired in 2025, with an interview with an Italian trained honey sommelier and with beekeepers concerned with honey authenticity https://podcasts.apple.com/my/podcast/the-great-british-honey-scandal/id1487320403?i=1000723490737 (https://observer.co.uk/news/national/article/the-scandal-of-fake-foreign-honey). A comparison of supermarket honey, which was judged to have a "horrid, metallic" taste, and specialty honey with subtle flavors such as lime tree was made by the sommelier. Honey samples from a UK supermarket were sent to a German laboratory, and not one sample passed all of the tests. Inferences were made about lack of oversight on honey adulteration by UK authorities. Bernard Heuvel, head of the European Professional Beekeepers Association, explained that some "honey," that was in fact 90% syrup and only 10% honey, had passed analytical tests for honey, showing the weakness of some tests.

There is a lot of smoke and mirrors regarding honey adulteration. For example, the National Honey Board recently conducted a sampling and testing of honey at retail and found that of about 100 samples, only 4 failed. The predominant percentage of samples was US honey.

However, the vast majority of products sold as "honey" in the U.S. are not of U.S. origin. Nor are the parameters used in the testing modalities specified. If the problem of fraudulent honey were so minor, American beekeepers would have no complaint, nor would the prices of some honey be so inconsistent with the cost of producing authentic honey.

The phenomena of inauthentic and adulterated food products, and the scientific compulsion to employ much more powerful methods of analysis of fraud, is increasingly universal in the American and international markets. All kinds of food products have new labels referring to their products as "real," "natural," "genuine," "pure," etc. Retailers are responding to increasing consumer awareness of adulteration.

India is a country of particular note. During the past two and a half decades, India's export of "honey" has mushroomed from a basis of complete absence from the international market. The export prices have collapsed to levels below the costs of production. Yet India has minimal anti-dumping rates for its exports of honey or pseudo honey to the U.S. India is widely reported – including by Indian honey actors – to have adopted all the modern modes of honey adulteration developed by China. Those modes include 1) extraction of immature, green unripened honey, 2) washing honey by Chinese resin technology to remove dark colors, offensive flavors, antibiotics, 3) blending genetically engineered bio-sweeteners, 4) using an apparatus for feeding bees during the nectar flow when bees pollinate agricultural and wild crops. The net effect is the creation of pseudo honey for which there are no ceilings to quantities and no floors to prices.

"Therein lies the rub" as Shakespeare said.

After recent discussions with Dr. Enrique Beddascarrasbure, a scientist researching honey in Argentina, I want to add some new developments. The cardinal problem of adulteration of honey, which has been judged the third most widely adulterated food product in the world, and how to expose it, quantify it and explain its significance. The fundamental need is to have the interaction between the botanical and the zoological world completed, which will allow a level playing field to be restored. Dr. Beddascarrasbure is one of the world's authorities on green and immature honey, and has recently said, "I completely agree with the need to unite efforts in the academic sector to fight against current and future fraud. Surely corrupt individuals will continue working to increase their profits by deceiving consumers and harming beekeepers worldwide. But I also believe it is essential to redouble our efforts to unite beekeepers in the fight against fraud." He points out that in collaboration with other scientists simple techniques have been developed to differentiate freshly collected nectar from partially ripened honey and honey ripened in the combs, and has published a study (https://doi.org/10.58149/wtmq-vz93).

New networks of data that investigate, quantify and verify the adulteration of honey are part of a comprehensive strategy to combat fraud in defense of genuine honey. Studies by academic scientists who act independent of private laboratories but in coordination with government laboratories are developing analysis based upon comprehensive understanding of the complex chemistry of honey. In my own talks with the European Commission and the Joint Center for Research, the need for independent academic guided research has become crystal clear if the harm to beekeepers and agricultural interests throughout the world is to be overcome. That

collaboration is advancing and therein lies hope for beekeepers facing a market manipulated with pseudo honey created by multiple modern modes of adulteration including the pervasive extraction of immature honey.

The article which we cited in previous reports on beekeeper protests in India demonstrates that Indian beekeepers are victims of the adulteration which has arisen from adaptation of the modes of adulteration originating in China. The Chinese honey industry is trying to perpetuate these modes of illicit production and adulteration which have brought the beekeepers of the world to their knees. "The Indian beekeepers alleged that companies were not buying their original mustard honey because they were involved in rampant sugar syrup adulteration...by mixing 80% syrup in 20% honey" (*Times of India*, March 10, 2025).

Indian honey producers confessed at a U.S. meeting: "All of our honey is extracted as immature honey." Vietnamese honey exporters have said, we have no trouble producing mature honey, but if we did so we could not satisfy the demands for large quantities at low prices.

The use of Chinese resin technology, which is illegal to use on honey in the U.S., is suspected of being used to transform conventional honey to "organic" honey.

Those orchestrating contemporary honey adulteration should not dictate what testing methodologies be used to investigate and confirm adulteration. This would inevitably lead to the suppression of evidence, and allow them to serve as judge, jury and accused. Under European rules, inspectors failing to ask the right questions and conduct a proper investigation can be fined and lose their licenses. Therein lies the sting of independent and sophisticated investigation.

ISO Honey Definitions

China continues to be the largest exporter of honey worldwide. Currently there is Chinese participation in the International Standards Organization section in charge of honey. European beekeepers caution: "China is trying to circumvent CODEX rules through standardisation. The aim is to set up a Trojan horse in order to try to change the definition of honey in CODEX in the future and then legalise their adulteration." China has been opposing opposition to the most prevalent form of modern adulteration, that is the extraction of unripened honey, which is an interruption of the essential interaction of bees with the botanical components they gather in pollination processes. After returning pollen and nectar to the hive, the bees must interact with those materials and transform nectar into authentic honey. Avoidance of those processes means the nectar is not transformed into honey. For over 15 years, the Chinese honey authorities have been lobbying assiduously.

Many of us in the honey industry, including myself and colleagues, have witnessed the Chinese extraction of immature, green, unripened high moisture honey, which is then transported to sophisticated factories where the moisture is reduced through various factory practices, including via the use of vacuum chambers. Walter Haefeker, former President of the German beekeepers association, has photographed and talked about what he witnessed, comparing these processes to "modern sophisticated beer breweries." He compares "fast" honey and "slow" honey.

Sometimes the moisture can range from moderately high to extremely high levels. Of the different modern modes of adulteration of honey, this is the most pervasive and consequential. If, and when, honey is extracted quickly and beekeepers move the hives prematurely, as they do in China, to other floral sources, the quantity of green honey that can be extracted is much greater than if the bees are permitted, as the Codex standard requires, to complete the interaction and transform the collected nectar to produce authentic honey. The cost of production for unripened, green, immature honey, is greatly reduced. The reason this modern mode of production, originated in China, has been exported from China to other countries like India and Vietnam, is that it means there is no ceiling to the quantity that can be produced and no floor to the prices at which it can be sold. The authenticity and the health benefits of the honey are totally absent, leading to pervasive consumer fraud.

Twenty years ago, European beekeepers vigorously opposed the Chinese practice of collecting unripened honey. The Chinese response was succinct "your problem is you don't produce honey in the modern way. We produce huge amounts of honey, sell at low prices, and make high profits." The Chinese honey companies call their exported product "water honey." Along with other modes of adulteration, bioengineered sweeteners that will pass the carbon isotope test, and the use of resin technology these fraudulent practices, if not prohibited, will destroy centuries old methods which have been essential to pollination of numerous agricultural products. Robbing the consumers of authentic honey and the beekeepers of financial incentives to care for the honey bees could lead to agricultural disaster. We can only hope that the retail sector will exercise their social responsibility.

The Chinese exporters are pushing for weak standards, and meaningless definitions. They want the gravy train to keep roaring down the tracks depositing fortunes in their multiple bank accounts.

To consolidate the progress in understanding the authenticity of honey, and the ways by which that authenticity can be distorted, we need a synthesis of deeper scientific knowledge of the chemical diversity of honey and effective ways of assuring the authenticity. Those conducting systemic and repeated adulteration of honey have escaped punishment.

There is growing awareness that the Stable Carbon Isotope Analysis (SCIRA) method of identifying adulteration in honey is archaic, outdated, and inadequate. New methodologies, more sophisticated databases and more powerful analytic tools are being developed by academic scientists with access to advanced technologies. Scientific tools to detect both immature honey and honey subject to resin technology are being developed.

Efforts to overcome honey fraud must be grounded in collaboration among government laboratories, independent academic centers, private laboratories and institutions of enforcement.

Honey and Health

Honey soothes coughs, according to a 2021 review of 14 clinical trials. Researchers found that honey consumed in "various forms – straight out of the jar, with milk or coffee, or in a syrup mixed with other ingredients – reduced cough severity and frequency when compared with a placebo" (*New York Times*, Nov. 17, 2025).

Studies such as these were described during the 2008 Symposium on Honey and Human Health, which was supported by the American Honey Producers Association and the American Beekeeping Federation, and organized by the Committee for the Promotion of Honey and Health. Studies of obesity reduction, healthy sleep, anxiety reduction and diabetes were presented by researchers at that time. More recent studies indicate benefits to prevent Alzheimers and other forms of dementia, and boosting the immune system. All of this research regarding honey's health halo pertains to, and only to, authentic honey. Because honey has such a wide chemical diversity, the benefits may vary depending on the specific type.

American Honey Institute

Under the leadership and guidance of Prof. Dr. Brian McCornack and Gary LaGrange, the American Honey Institute was established at Kansas State University, a land grant institution in Manhattan, Kansas. Knowledge of science, agriculture and sophisticated instrumentation has been brought together to develop new sampling and analytical procedures, and examination of the causative genetic, environmental, production and processing variables which give rise to the immense chemical diversity of honey. The education of those interested to learn beekeeping techniques, including U.S. military veterans, is an important part of the new project. Gary LaGrange, an extraordinarily kind and insightful man, is especially sensitive to the benefits that beekeeping activity may bring to veterans suffering from different forms of post-traumatic stress. This noble idea may be helpful in our industry, also suffering from the stress of honey fraud.

The AHI is also bringing together expertise to assist in areas such as the creative marketing of honey and exploration of the honey's health benefits. The leaders have a vision of a clean honey industry providing products benefitting consumers' taste and health.

Acquisitions of agricultural operations

In March, 2025, the private equity firm New Water Capital Partners acquired major honey packer Dutch Gold Honey of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In previous years Sweet Harvest was sold to Blue Road, another private equity firm. Not only are honey packers being acquired by surrogate owners but beekeeping operations are being acquired by honey packers owned by investment groups. These acquisitions are aimed at horizontal and vertical integration.

An analogous phenomenon has occurred in the world's primary dairy lands in New Zealand. A decade ago I participated in a global ecological conference. A professor friend from Australia told me that among the elder sons of New Zealand's dairy farmers is found a high rate of suicide. The tradition of the elder son of the dairy farmers inheriting the family farm has been broken as Chinese economic interests offer such high purchase prices to the farmers that they sold to those entities, and the collapse of the family farming tradition in the highly productive dairy farms

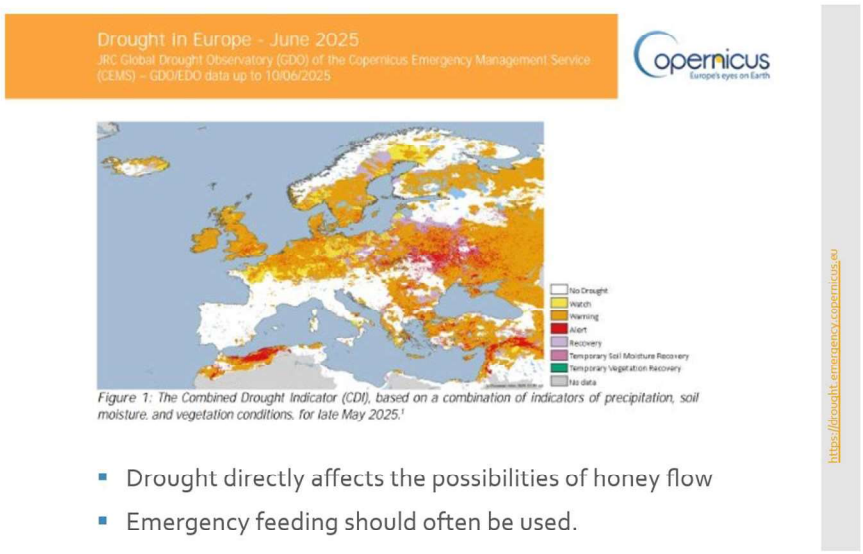
ensued. Now in the U.S. a similar pattern of acquisition has occurred among American beekeepers who are selling their multigenerational bee farms, unable to compete with the global flood of adulterated honey.

American farmers explained to reporters on 60 Minutes (Nov. 9, 2025) that their input costs, including interest, have increased, that tariffs pass down to the consumer, and some farmers whose families started farming in the late 1800s are facing bankruptcy. U.S. soybean exports to China, an important source of farm income, declined to zero in 2025. The economic shocks have put psychological stress on farmers of corn, soybeans, cotton and wheat.

Beekeeping and Climate Change

Etienne Bruneau, President of the Apimondia Scientific Commission Beekeeping Technology and Quality, one of the great apiarists and leaders of Apimondia, has given important presentations regarding the stresses on bee health and honey production related to climate change. I reference readers to his video from 2019 with graphs and statistics (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEoEcKs6yDc). Here I will reproduce some information presented during his speech at Apimondia in September, 2025, which included a big picture perspective on the climate challenges and suggestions for practical measures to be taken to protect the bees.

Excerpts from "How to adapt honey production to climate change":

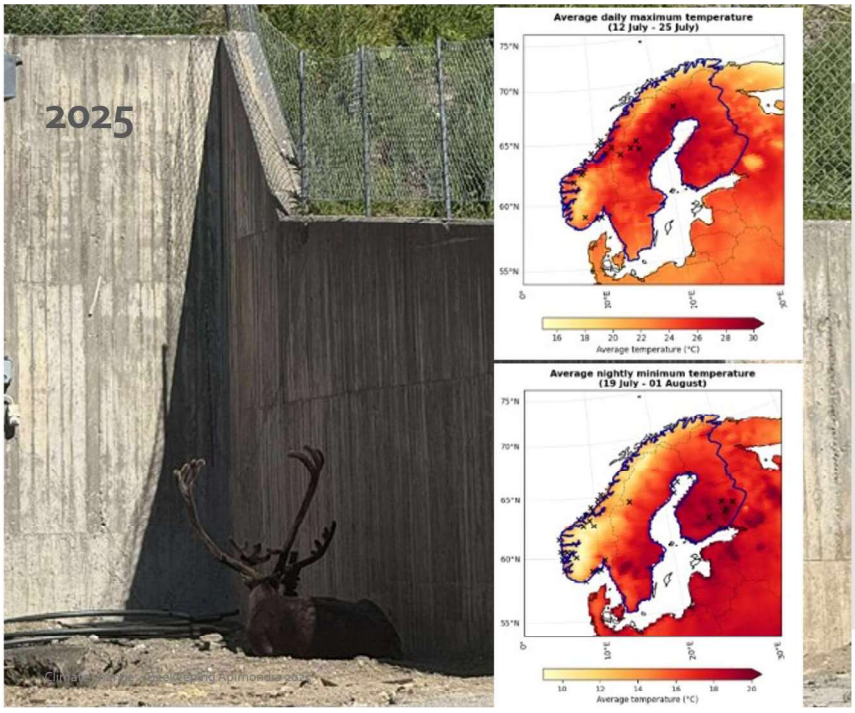


Climate change - Beekeeping Apimondia 2025

Drought warnings are shown for most of northern Europe in May 2025, and drought alerts can be seen in red in many regions in the map above.

Increase of heatwave

In Namsskogan and Gartland, Norway, temperatures reached 30°C and more for 19 days in a row, while in Ylitornio, Finland maximum temperatures stayed above 25°C for 26 days in a row, something hitherto unknown this far north in Europe.



Temperatures in northern Europe stayed above 77 degrees F. for 26 days in a row, something hitherto unknown this far north in Europe.

- Bruneau recommends: The optimum is 77° F (25°C) for honeybees
  - If T° too low → thermoregulation + clustering
  - If T° too high → thermoregulation and beard in front of the hive
  - Cooling Cost = 1.4 X Heating Cost
  - For hives, we must limit the bees' thermoregulation needs as much as possible
- We must help the bee to reduce heat loss and intake
- Heat management must become an important point of attention
  - For wintering
  - In summer during heat episodes
- Type of hive, size, thickness, materials used (thermal, hygrometric and radiative properties), protection (reflective colours)
- The orientation, the proximity of other hives, the nature of the soil will play a role
- Avoid exposure to the sun's rays during the hot hours of the day

He points out:

- The increase in atmospheric CO_2
- Is beneficial for crop productivity but it should reduce nutritional quality.
- Reduces the protein concentration of a source of floral pollen that is essential for North American bees.

Climate can weaken colonies and affect pathogens such as varroa, Tropilaelaps and hive beetle.

Commercial characteristics of honey are changing. (End of excerpts from Bruneau).

Climate affects the characteristics on which successful production and ultimately the marketing of honey depends. Global climate change is dramatic this year and it is creating stresses and shortages of agricultural production of many crops, such as cocoa beans and coffee. As oceans continue to warm, droughts, hurricanes, floods and heat waves increase the volatility of weather disasters. The human tragedies and economic losses evoke our empathy and concern.

Scientific data indicates that the recent hurricane Melissa achieved its great force as a consequence of warming oceans, changes in ocean currents and continental weather. Southern California experienced a month's worth of rain in one day, an arctic vortex came early to the Midwest and northeast.

In July/August, 2025, horrendous forest fires broke out in Manitoba, Canada. Prior to that, the large honey producing region of North and South Dakota had ideal weather and moisture conditions to produce a bumper honey crop. As the Canadian wild fires intensified and expanded during the flowering time, vast amounts of smoke moved from Canada south into the prime U.S. honey areas of the Dakotas. The bees would not leave their hives to pollinate crops. This is devastating to the anticipated U.S. clover and alfalfa honey crop.

As the planet warms, not only the oceans but the earth warms and the water tables fall. A drier earth has lower water tables which in turn reduces the organic content and nutrients in the soil. As a consequence, the productivity of trees and the botanical kingdom declines. This is true of nectar bearing plants, whose decline affects the productivity of honey bees. The implications in both direct and indirect effects cannot wisely be ignored.

In November, 2025, the COP climate summit met in Brazil in a region bordering on the Amazon rainforest. It was attended by representatives from 193 countries. Calls for new urgency were made as projections are that the planet may soon reach an increase in temperature of 2.5C. Climate agreements are sought to slow down the increase.

Nature is trying to wake us up from our dogmatic slumber. How will we respond? The protection of nature is inseparable from the protection of bees and, indeed, our human family.

Conclusion

We are entering an unprecedented period, with new duties based on the value of the imported honey. We don't know if there will be more changes, or stabilization. But the market may have a long, protracted climb. The most fundamental problem is that of global honey adulteration, which has to be effectively addressed.

This is not simply a fight of injustice and falsity vs. Justice and Truth. The fight for a healthy market with fair remuneration to beekeepers is also a fight between lobbyists and which lobbyist has the best connections. It is a fight between Goliath and David. Sometimes David wins.

Ron Phipps held a National Science Foundation fellowship in theoretical physics developing the Cosmology of an Infinite, Open and Integrated Universe. He is President of Chamber Players International. He has served in various honey organizations including Apimondia and the National Honey Board, and speaks nationally and internationally about the international honey market.