

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ONTARIO'S HONEY INDUSTRY?

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OBA has recently received the 2013 Statistical Overview of the Canadian Honey Industry released from Stats Canada in October. The full report can be found on the OBA website, under Bee Industry Info but here are some highlights...
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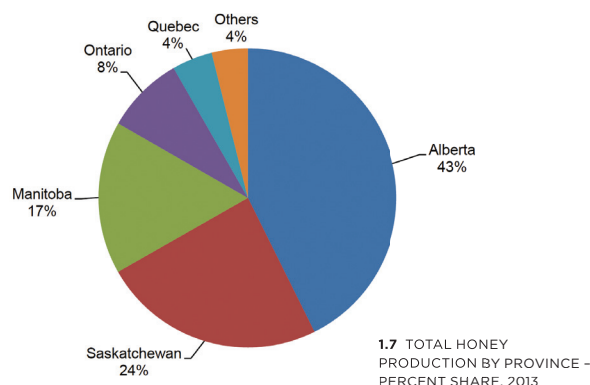
“ONTARIO’S HONEY TRADE DEFICIT MEANS THAT NEARLY \$15 MILLION IS LEAVING THE PROVINCE RATHER THAN GOING INTO THE ECONOMY. WE NEED TO PROMOTE ONTARIO HONEY AND ADDRESS THE BARRIERS TO GROWTH SUCH AS NEONICS, LOSS IN HABITAT AND CHEAP IMPORTS.” —TIBOR SZABO, PRESIDENT-ELECT

OVERVIEW

- In 2013, 3,150 beekeepers kept one or more colonies in Ontario for a total of 97,500 colonies.
- Ontario represents 37% of the country's beekeepers and 14% of the nation's colonies.

HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN

- In 2013, Ontario's honey production at 6.4 million pounds represented 8% of Canada's total. (Chart 1.7)
- Ontario experienced a production decrease of 32.6% between 2012 and 2013, twice the national average. (Table 1.6)



1.6. Total Honey Production¹ by Province

Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Pounds (000)					
Prince Edward Island	265	201	271	184	176
Nova Scotia	416	528	248	400	495
New Brunswick	189	257	208	199	207
Quebec	2,039	4,030	2,867	4,395	3,306
Ontario	5,730	8,814	9,023	9,439	6,363
Manitoba	13,017	12,870	15,400	13,200	12,472
Saskatchewan	17,000	18,404	15,930	23,125	18,200
Alberta	29,116	34,580	34,050	38,000	32,200
British Columbia	2,590	1,988	1,826	1,817	2,069
Canada ²	70,362	81,672	79,824	90,759	75,488

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Production excludes inventory.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

VALUE OF HONEY UP

- Ontario's farm cash receipts were \$20.3 million (12.6% of the nation's total), down 3.5% from 2012. (Table 1.8)
- However, Ontario honey experienced an above-average growth in value. Value per pound for Ontario honey is \$3.20 (up 25.4% from \$2.53 in 2012) compared to the national average of \$2.30 (up 18.5% from \$1.94 in 2012). (Table 1.8)

1.8. Value¹ of Honey by Province

Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
CAD\$ (000)					
Prince Edward Island	530	603	813	551	453
Nova Scotia	1,248	1,584	745	1,260	1,559
New Brunswick	708	963	781	503	517
Quebec	7,837	9,516	10,234	12,291	10,000
Ontario	14,133	20,379	22,537	23,815	20,362
Manitoba	19,916	19,562	24,948	23,100	25,318
Saskatchewan	25,500	28,526	24,692	38,156	37,310
Alberta	48,837	56,230	59,168	68,340	70,054
British Columbia	7,544	6,834	6,774	8,190	10,580
Canada ²	126,253	144,197	150,691	176,206	176,153

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Value excludes inventory sales except for in Quebec.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

IMPORTS UP, EXPORTS DOWN

- Canada is a net exporter of honey, with exports of \$59 million in 2013, and imports at \$26 million.
- Ontario, however, imports significantly more honey than it exports. In 2013, Ontario imported 65% of the nation's total honey imports. (Table 3.3.1) Imports in Ontario nearly doubled from 2012 to 2013 in terms of weight, and more than doubled in terms of value.
- At 4% of the nation's honey exports, Ontario exported 11.5% of its production compared to the national average of 35%.
- Ontario's trade deficit for 2013 was \$14.6 million.

3.3.1. Canada's Honey Imports by Province

Province	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
CAD\$					
Nova Scotia	2,515	1,357	749	760	3,087
New Brunswick	196	462	646	417	0
Quebec	2,059,428	2,646,818	3,878,440	4,750,239	6,736,935
Ontario	15,316,405	9,397,161	7,391,401	8,145,010	16,897,806
Manitoba	190,698	159,536	145,556	38,072	292,122
Saskatchewan	6,067	0	12,755	13,177	13,083
Alberta	39,420	11,822	18,897	79,620	9,986
British Columbia	3,085,752	2,275,641	1,875,952	1,895,226	2,076,442
Canada	20,700,481	14,492,797	13,324,396	14,922,521	26,029,461

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net May 2014)

Comments? enews@ontariobee.com