

TEXAS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2023 HONEY SHOW RULES

CHAIRPERSON: Sandra Smith

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per entry

ARRIVAL TIME: Thursday Nov 2nd from 3 PM until 5 PM; and Friday Nov 3rd, from 7:30 AM until 10 AM.

LOCATION: Mayborn South Rm 6.

RELEASE TIME: All entries will remain in the show area for public viewing after the judging. All entries will remain on display until 2 PM, Saturday, Nov 4th for auction pick up. All winning honey and wax entries will be auctioned in the THBEA charity auction after the Honey Show Award Ceremony. (Arts/Crafts/Gadgets not sold at auction available for pick up 2pm Saturday Nov 4th)

JUDGES: Brutz English

SECRETARY: Jimmie Oakley

GENERAL RULES

1. The honey show is open to anyone who wishes to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein. The honey show is also open to individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries; however, no individual serving as judge, steward, or show secretary may participate in judging, or be in the same room during judging of the category in which they, or immediate family members, have entered. "Immediate Family Member" is defined as individuals who are spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, first cousins, parents of common children, stepparents, stepchildren, or any individuals residing in the same residence.

2. Entries must be received between 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Nov 2nd, 2023, and between 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM on Nov 3rd, 2023, at South Room 6 of the Mayborn Convention Center in Temple, TX **No entries will be accepted after this deadline.**

3. Each Exhibitor must sign an affidavit stating that each exhibit he or she submits was produced by the Exhibitor in conformity with the rules set forth herein.

4. Each Exhibitor may make only one exhibit per class. More than one individual from a family or household may submit exhibits across different categories; however, family members and individuals from common households may not submit multiple exhibits in the same category.

5. With the exception of Extracted Honey, in instances where the exhibit may qualify for consideration in multiple classes, the Exhibitor shall have the right to choose which class to enter their exhibit; the Exhibitor's selection will not be overturned by the Judge(s); and, said exhibit will be judged based on the criteria set forth in the class selected by the Exhibitor. The Judge shall have discretion to make the final determination as to proper color designation in regard to all exhibits of Extracted Honey.

6. Double Entries are strictly prohibited. A "Double Entry" is when an exhibitor has more than one exhibit placed in a single exhibition class. As used in this rule, the term "Double" is not limited to two, but also encompasses any number greater than one. The Show Secretary shall not knowingly accept any subsequent exhibit which would create a Double Entry. Whenever a Double Entry is created by the decision of a judge in reclassifying an exhibit pursuant to the rules herein, the following procedure shall apply: Prior to the judging of any other exhibits in the affected class, the exhibits constituting the double entry shall be identified and examined by the head Judge; the head Judge shall make a determination as to which of the exhibits constituting the Double Entry is the best under the criteria listed for the affected class; the best exhibit of those comprising the Double Entry will be returned to the show bench, and the other(s) will be disqualified. Whenever a Double Entry results in the disqualification of one or more exhibits, and after the results are publicly announced or posted, it shall be the responsibility of the head judge to personally inform the affected exhibitor of the determination of the Double Entry and subsequent disqualification of the exhibit(s).

7. Unless specifically otherwise provided for under an individual category's rules, ALL honey, beeswax, propolis, pollen, or royal jelly exhibited, or made part of any exhibit, must be produced by the exhibitor from honeybees owned and kept by the Exhibitor. Any exhibit previously submitted for consideration in any prior TBA honey show, with the exception of mead, is not eligible for this competition.

8. All beeswax items, unless otherwise specifically allowed herein, must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, free from any additives or enhancements. The use of synthetic, artificial, or adulterated beeswax or drawn honeycomb is strictly prohibited. *Exhibits found to be containing any of the above will be disqualified.*

9. In regard to the requirement of uniformity, items within or comprising any single exhibit should be alike

and matching in every way: jars, containers, closures, contents, composition, orientation, placement, presentation, etc., should be identical across all individual items comprising any single exhibit.

10. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way.

11. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, exhibitors may not enter the area where the exhibits have been placed. The Secretary, Stewards or Judges are the only persons who may enter the honey judging area.

12. Judges will enter the honey show area after the close of exhibitor acceptance. This is to ensure as close to a blind judging as possible.

13. Copyright of any submitted recipe, artwork, literary work, or other media remains with the exhibitor, but the TBA has the unrestricted right to publish images of submitted recipes, artwork, literary work, or other media in their newsletters, on their websites, and via their social media outlets, plus unrestricted rights to use the same in any related material for PR purposes.

14. All exhibits submitted in classes containing the designation "Extracted Honey" are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), "Queen-line" or "Classic" style jars; any exhibits submitted in any other style of jar or container will not be accepted by the show secretary.

15. For all mead, beer, and other honey beverage categories, any Exhibitor may, at their discretion, submit a second bottle for chilled tasting. If the Exhibitor chooses to submit a second bottle for chilled tasting, the Exhibitor must submit two identical specimens, both suitable for judging. After the exhibit is submitted, the show secretary will randomly select one of two bottles to be placed in a cooler or refrigerated container. The show secretary will place the other bottle on the judge's bench. Both bottles submitted will be evaluated for the same criteria as a single bottle exhibit.

16. Exhibits must be unmarked or identifiable in any way, except as provided herein.

17. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to each exhibit as provided in the rules for each exhibition class. The Exhibitor shall be responsible for placing the ID labels on each exhibit as directed for each exhibition class, unless otherwise specified herein.

18. Each Exhibitor must affirm the inclusion of any image, likeness, or work of any individual other than the Exhibitor, portrayed in or made part of any exhibit, was done so with the prior, informed consent of said individual, and that each exhibit is submitted with the full consent of all parties.

19. Exhibits and other items not retrieved by the deadline posted for pick-up, shall be deemed abandoned, and shall be donated to the Honey Show Committee for future use or disposal. The sponsoring

organization, nor the Honey Show Committee, is not responsible for any items left after the pick-up deadline.

Prizes and Awards

It is the intention that ribbons will be given in all classes even if there is only one entry in the class. Entry into a class does not guarantee an award. In order to receive an award that entry must be worthy of placement. A Judge may, in his or her sole discretion, make or withhold the award of any given prize(s) or placement(s) in any class over which said Judge officiates. The decisions of the Judges are final.

Exhibitors found willfully cheating, or purposefully altering or disfiguring an entry for the purpose of influencing the validity of judging will be disqualified from the contest, as well as from any future honey shows sponsored by the association/conference for a period of not less than three (3) years.

Ribbons, Awards, and Scoring:

Ribbons and awards will be given to Best in Class winners, the Ann Harmon Award of Beekeeping Excellence winner, and to First, Second, and Third place winners in each class. **In the Black Jar class, only a First Place prize will be awarded.*

Example scoring ranges in First through Third place winners are as follows: Best in Show = highest points in of entries in class; First Place range = 90 - 100 points; Second Place range = 80 - 89 points; Third Place range = 70 - 79.

For example, if there is only one entry in a category and the score is an 84 it may not automatically receive 1st place ribbon.

If multiple entries score in the same range, they will be awarded first through third in sequential order. The points awarded via these score cards will be used to calculate the winner of the Ann Harmon award as provided herein. ***The Ann Harmon Award of Beekeeping Excellence will be awarded to the exhibitor who displays the greatest diversity in beekeeping skills, at the highest level. To qualify for the Ann Harmon award the Exhibitor must average in a top score from the extracted honey (H1 through H3) class plus two other entries.*** Score cards for participants in the TBA Honey Judging Program will be provided after the show.

Appeals

After the announcement of awards, any exhibitor may meet with the class judge to discuss their entry and ask questions. An Exhibitor may appeal the Judge's ruling concerning their own exhibit in instances where the Exhibitor believes the Judge misinterpreted or misapplied a rule in regard to the judging of their exhibit. The Exhibitor must first present their protest to the Judge who judged their exhibit, and calmly and clearly

state the basis for their protest. The Judge should hear the Exhibitor out, and then typically should explain to the Exhibitor the basis for their initial decision and discuss the Exhibitor's concerns with them. The Judge, together with the Exhibitor, will then bring the protest to the Presiding Judge. After hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue, if the Judge concedes an error, or if the Presiding Judge decides in favor of the Exhibitor, the Presiding judge may amend the decision, award(s), and/or official record in such a manner as to affect the most just result available. If, after hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue, the Presiding Judge decides the Judge's original decision was correct, the Presiding Judge may uphold the Judge's original decision. The decision of the Presiding Judge is final.

*All entries become the property of TBA. Some winning entries will be included in the THBEA Auctions. No entries will be returned unless specifically worked out with the Honey Show Team. (*With the exception of Gadgets and Art.)

THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES WILL BE ACCEPTED & JUDGED AT THE HONEY SHOW:

EXTRACTED HONEY (Class H)

- H1 Light Extracted Honey
- H2 Amber Extracted Honey
- H3 Dark Extracted Honey
- H4 Creamed Honey (soft set)
- H5 Chunk Comb Honey
- H6 Cut Comb Honey
- H7 Black Jar

BEESWAX (Class W)

- W1 Beeswax Block
- W2 Beeswax Candles
- W3 Beeswax Figurines

ARTS & CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING (Class A)

- A1 Artwork Related to Beekeeping
- A2 Crafts Related to Beekeeping
- A3 Beekeeping Gadgets
- A4 Beekeeping Gift Basket - themed
- A5 Painted Hives - Jr Division (18 and under)
- A6 Painted Hives

BEVERAGES MADE WITH HONEY (Class B)

- B1 Traditional Meads
- B2 Fruit Meads
- B3 Spiced Meads
- B4 Specialty Meads
- B5 Beers & Ales made with honey

FOOD ITEMS MADE WITH HONEY (Class F)

- F1 Honey Cake (open recipe)
- F2 Honey Cookies

Photography (Class P)

- P1 Photography (macro)
- P2 Photography (scenic)
- P3 Photography (portrait)

RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL CLASSES:

EXTRACTED & COMB HONEY

Extracted Honey

Extracted honey is judged in three categories: (a) light, (b) medium or amber, and (c) dark. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these three categories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as **two (2) identical one-pound jars**, as specified in rule #14 under the General Rules of the Honey Show. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be severely penalized. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). *See Appendix hereafter for notes on correct jars and fill level.

Creamed Honey (soft set)

Creamed or Soft Set honey is honey that has been subjected to a manual or mechanical process to assist and control the otherwise natural process of granulation. An entry of creamed honey is **two (2) identical wide-mouth jars**, no less than eight ounces (8oz.), nor more than sixteen ounces (16oz.) in net weight. Creamed honey must be displayed in identical, clear, straight-sided, glass jars with one-piece lids. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; cleanliness and purity of the honey; uniformity of product within the jar; fineness of crystals; appropriate set or firmness (should be spreadable but not runny); freedom from foam, frosting, or visible moisture; freedom from added flavors, striation, or colors; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors); and moisture content (only if in question).

Chunk Comb Honey

One entry of chunk honey is **two (2) identical one-pound jars**. Chunk honey must be displayed in straight sided, uncolored, glass, wide mouth, jars. The glass should not be embossed. Such jars are available from many commercial beekeeping suppliers. Only one chunk of comb should be in each jar for competition. The chunk of comb must be in one piece, of uniform thickness, and with a straight mid rib. Virgin comb with this year's wax is preferred. All foundation should be unwired, thin surplus. The cuts should be clean and uniform. The chunk comb should be cut and sized to appropriately fit the container. The honey should fill the rest of the jar to the correct fill line. The comb should be

oriented in the container as found naturally in the hive. Comb with watery cappings should be avoided. The comb should extend the length of the jar. The chunk of comb should account for at least fifty percent (50%) of the internal volume of the jar. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the entry; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; absence of pollen, brood, uncapped cells, "wet" or "watery" cappings, or travel stains on the cappings; freedom from granulation; absence of floating wax debris in, or on the surface of, the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors).

Cut Comb Honey

An exhibit of cut comb honey is **two (2) identical boxes**. The boxes must be transparent on all sides made for displaying cut comb. Each box of cut comb should weigh a minimum of twelve (12) ounces. The chunk of comb must be in one piece, with a straight mid rib and of uniform thickness. Virgin comb with this year's wax is preferred. All foundation should be unwired, thin surplus. The cuts should be clean and uniform. There should be no leaking of honey from comb into the box. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; uniformity of the items that comprise the entry; uniformity of appearance and color (including the honey in the comb); cleanliness of the jar and lid; completeness of cappings; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; absence of pollen, brood, uncapped cells, "wet" or "watery" cappings, or travel stains on the cappings; freedom from granulation, pollen, and brood; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors).

Black Jar

An entry consists of **not less than two ounces**, nor more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. Entries are to be submitted in black or colored jar which entirely obscures the contents of the jar. The required jar will be provided by the Show Secretary at the sign-in table, and the Exhibitor will transfer their entry into the jar and return the exhibit to the Show Secretary. Judges evaluate entries for flavor only.

**Black Jar entries are not eligible for Best in Show.*

*(Optional)*In the Black Jar class, only a First Place prize will be awarded.*

BEESWAX & CANDLES

Beeswax Block

An exhibit consists of **one (1) block of pure beeswax**. **The block must weigh between one to two**

pounds, no more, and should have thickness no greater than 1.5 inches. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The block should be smooth-surfaced and free of blemishes, decorations or embellishments. Beeswax wax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; finish; absence of pouring or casting defects including cracks, raised edges, unevenness, rippled or wavy surfaces, etc.; and aroma (for off aromas).

Beeswax Candles

An exhibit, **for dipped tapers is defined as two pairs of two connected candles (a total of four candles), or three (3) identical molded candles.** The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Beeswax wax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a Pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The minimum length of all taper candles is eight inches. Dipped tapers should have the last drip (waxicle) left on; the wicks must be left joined.

Molded candles must have flat finished bases with wicks well centered. Wicks on molded candles must be trimmed to one-half inch in length. Items comprising the exhibit should be uniform in every aspect, including height, thickness, weight, appearance, and performance (where appropriate). Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); proper wicking; performance; uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

Beeswax Figurines

A figurine is a small sculpted, carved, cast or molded statue that represents a person, animal, plant, creature, or deity (either real or fictional). A figurine may be free-standing, or be supported by a base, stand, or appropriate fixture. An entry is defined as three (3) identical beeswax figurines, depicting any person, animal, plant, creature, or deity of the exhibitor's choosing. **Each figurine may be no more than sixteen (16) ounces in weight, and no less than two inches (2") in height, nor more than twelve inches (12") in height.** Figurines may be molded or hand-formed. Beeswax wax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. Additionally, the use of colored or dyed beeswax is acceptable. For exhibits utilizing colored or dyed beeswax, the wax should be of uniform color throughout, free of marbling, striations, or any unevenness in coloration. Items comprising the exhibit should be uniform in every aspect, including height, thickness, weight, appearance, and performance (where

appropriate). Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

ARTS & CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING

Artwork Related to Beekeeping

Artwork is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, often in a visual form **such as (but no way limited to) painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.** An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related artwork of their own composition. The artwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The artwork must be mounted or freestanding in design. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. ***A white index card with a description of the item must accompany each entry.**

Crafts Related to Beekeeping

A craft is a pastime or a profession that requires particular skill and knowledge of a specialized field or subject. **Craftsmanship typically denotes experience, knowledge, skill, and expertise in making things by hand.** An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related craftwork of their own composition. The craftwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The craftwork must be mounted or freestanding in design. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. ***A white index card with a description of the item must accompany each entry.**

Photographs Related to Beekeeping

Photographs Related to Beekeeping are judged in three categories:

- (a) Macro; (b) Scenic; and (c) Portrait. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these categories. Specific requirements pertaining to each respective categories are:
 - (a) Macro- close up, and All photographs must be 8"x10" in size;
 - (b) Scenic- any outdoor setting, and All photographs must be 8"x10" in size;
 - (c) Portrait- depicting a person, and All photographs must be 8"x10" in size.

(d) All photos must be mounted on foam core board not larger than 11x14".

The photograph(s) must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The photograph(s) must be mounted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white index card with a description of the item and the category where it is to be judged should be taped to the back of each entry.

Beekeeping Gadgets

A gadget is a mechanical or electronic device or tool, especially one of an ingenious or novel nature. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related gadget of their own creation. The gadget must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original creation of the Exhibitor. Judges evaluate entries on the following: craftsmanship, ingenuity, functionality, creativity, and originality. *A white index card with a description of the item and its operation must accompany each exhibit.

Painted Hives

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any painted beehive of their own composition. Acceptable styles of hives are limited to the exterior components of a Langstroth-style hive, a Warre-style hive, a top-bar hive, a horizontal-style hive, or a nucleus hive. Hives must include a minimum of a top, one box, and a bottom/stand, but the Exhibitor may include additional boxes at the Exhibitor's discretion (up to a maximum total of three boxes).

The artwork on each hive must be the original composition and work of the Exhibitor. The exhibit must not be signed or bear any identifying marks. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white index card with a description of the composition must accompany each entry.

Beekeeping Gift Basket

An Exhibitor may submit one gift basket of homemade products containing honey and/or beeswax of their own design. Each basket shall contain a minimum of four (4), and a maximum of eight (8) items, all containing honey and/or beeswax as ingredients. Additionally, each basket may contain up to four (4) other bee or beekeeping-themed items not containing honey and/or beeswax as ingredients. All items in the basket must be the original composition(s) of the Exhibitor. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency,

creativity, and originality. *A white index card with a description of the items in the basket (including all recipes and ingredients) must accompany each exhibit.

BEVERAGES MADE WITH HONEY

Meads

Meads are judged in four categories: (B1) Traditional, (B2) Fruit, (B3) Spiced, and (B4) Specialty mead.

Traditional meads contain only honey, water, yeast, and no other flavoring additives. Varietal meads include melomels, pyments, cysers, metheglins, hippocras, sac meads, and desert meads. Entrants may submit one exhibit in each of these respective categories. An exhibit consists of one, clear, uncolored, glass standard 750ml wine bottle. Punt bottles are acceptable as long as they are standard pattern wine bottles. Tee, tasting, or mushroom-style corks are preferred; traditional, inserted corks will be accepted by the Show Secretary. Bottles should be filled to not less than 1" nor more than 1.5" from the bottom of the cork. All mead must be produced from honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the container and closure; cleanliness and clarity of the contents; correct fill level; color; clarity; aroma; flavor; body; balance; complexity; finish; and influence of honey on the final product. *A white index card with a description of the type or style of mead and the full recipe (including all ingredients) must accompany each exhibit. The Exhibitor should also note on the white card if they have submitted a second bottle for chilled tasting.

Beer & Ale Made with Honey (Braggot)

An Exhibitor may submit one example of a beer or ale prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of one (1) glass, standard 12oz or 16oz beer bottle. Clear glass is preferable, however colored glass is acceptable. Standard, unmarked crimped closures or lightening closures will be accepted. Bottles should be filled to not less than 1" nor more than 1.5" from the bottom of the cap or closure. All beer and ale must be produced from honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: cleanliness, fill, color, clarity, aroma, flavor, body, balance, complexity, and finish. *A white index card with a description of the type or style of beer or ale and the full recipe (including all ingredients) must accompany each exhibit. The Exhibitor should also note on the white card if they have submitted a second bottle for chilled tasting.

FOOD ITEMS & BAKED GOODS

Honey Cake (open recipe)

An entry consists of **two (2) standard size cakes no less than six inches (6 in.)** in diameter or across. Exhibits may be, but are not required to be, iced or glazed. The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented on 2 cardboard bases, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake boxes; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. ***A white index card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients & procedure) must accompany each entry.**

Honey Cookies

An exhibit consists of no less than fifteen (15) pieces or servings. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. Exhibitors, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. ***A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.**

Appendix

**The correct jars for extracted honey entries.*

CLASSIC



QUEENLINE



***Notes on correct fill level:**

- The correct fill level on a “Queen-line” or “Classic” style honey jar is at the fill ring of the jar. The fill ring is the raised ridge or ring of glass immediately above the shoulder of the jar, and below the threads. It can be distinguished from the threads in two ways: a) the fill ring forms a complete circle, without ends; and b) the fill ring will be completely parallel with the bottom and top of the jar. There should be enough honey in the jar to clearly touch the fill ring, without going over.
- Liquid honey in a circular shape forms a concave surface sometimes referred to as a meniscus. For purposes of filling jars, the edge of the meniscus should clearly touch the fill ring, without going over.
- When the lid is properly closed on the jar, there should be no visible light beneath the bottom of the lid and the surface of the honey.
- A jar of honey being over-filled is preferable to one being under filled.

