

Inserts to IHMR June

Add to MMMA section:

Studies by the Canada's Safe Foods for Canadians (SFCA) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have reported an overall increase in the number of honey samples that have been adulterated, from 13% (2019-2020) to 25% (2020-2021) and 22.5% in 2022. The volume of imported honey doubled during that period, from 5.2 million kgs. In 2018 to 10.6 million kgs. In 2022. The Canadian Honey Council is recommending that honey sampling by government agencies be increased according to declines in prices, and that imported honey judged to be adulterated be destroyed. Since the amount of honey sampled in past studies represents only a small amount of all honey imports into Canada, the problem of adulterated product is judged to be much larger than the numbers report. The Canadian Honey Council urges the CFIA to use the testing tools available to it, and increase testing for products from sources which are known to be suspect.

The results from honey sampling by both the Joint Research Center and the CFIA are very startling and significant. However, the underlying extent of adulteration is far greater than these samplings show. A key reason is that neither of these very valuable studies were able to investigate all the parameters of adulteration or used all the scientific tools capable of exposing honey adulteration, nor did they consider all of the multiple modern modes of adulteration of honey. If they had, their results would have been dramatically enlarged.

If we seek the truth and the whole truth as prerequisites to solving real problems and coming to valid judgments, then we have to employ comprehensive data, investigate all relevant parameters and not allow the cartels to define what parameters are to be looked at and what tests are to be employed.

The new EU Honey Directive takes the principled and scientifically correct stance that it is not those who potentially derive profits from adulteration who have the task to determine what modes to investigate nor what scientific methodologies to use.

Add to Ongoing Environmental Crisis section:

There a book "How to Lie with Statistics" by Darrel Huff. Distortion with statistics has occurred with recent reports of increases in hive numbers. As Kelvin Adee has pointed out, Adee Honey Farms, the largest beekeeping operation in the world, believes that their bees were counted 3-4 times. The deeper reality is the continuing stress on the bees and the difficulty and expense of maintaining global bee populations. Maintaining healthy bee populations amid the increasing vicissitudes and volatility of climate change remains difficult.

In the upper Midwest there are reports of railroad bridges and dams threatened with collapse in June, 2024. In Florida, southern areas have seen more than 14 inches of rainfall in 7 days. Severe weather and a major heat wave are affecting the country.

The NOAA reports that September 2023 was the hottest on record, 2.5 degrees F above average.

Concerns about groundwater depletion in the Bread Basket of the USA are familiar to those in California's Central Valley and now those concerns are affecting farmers in many states in the central Midwest. Efforts to cut water use and plant crops such as sorghum that need less water than corn, and to monitor ground water are being made in order to conserve water for communities.

India's capital Delhi is facing a water crisis in June, 2024, after the country undergoes its "longest spell" of recorded heatwave. Other countries facing similar weather conditions include Thailand and Vietnam (CNBC June 14, 2024).

In Antarctica the melting of the "Doomsday Glacier" (Thwaites Glacier) is predicted to accelerate sea level rise, with implications as far away as Florida, according to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (May, 2024). Scientists worry that the speed of change of the glacier has been underestimated, and that the sea level rise as much as 10 feet would be devastating to hundreds of millions living in coastal communities worldwide.

Copernicus Global Temperature Graph

Source: <https://climate.copernicus.eu/copernicus-2023-hottest-year-record>

Food adulteration and global warming are two phenomena which require advanced science and cool eyed objectivity to solve. Obscuring the facts only perpetuates these dual crises. Carlo Buontempo, Director of the Copernicus Climate Change Service states: "The extremes we have observed provide a dramatic testimony of how far we now are from the climate in which our civilization developed." Samantha Burgess asserted: "2023 was an exceptional year with climate records tumbling like dominos. Not only is 2023 the warmest year on record, it is also the first year with all days over 1°C warmer than the pre-industrial period." Excerpts from the report:

"...2023 became the warmest year on record"

"Close to 50% of days were more than 1.5° C warmer than the 1850-1900 pre-industrial levels"

"Annual average air temperatures were the warmest on record, or close to the warmest, over sizeable parts of all ocean basins and all continents except Australia."

"Global average sea surface temperatures remained persistently and unusually high, reaching record levels."

"2023 was remarkable for Antarctic Sea Ice"

"The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide and methane continued to increase and reached record levels in 2023."

"A large number of extreme events were recorded across the globe, including heat waves, floods, droughts and wildfires."

By mid 2024 climate disasters of floods, heat waves, forest fires, tornados, droughts – all driven by self-feeding processes – are causing bridge collapses, dam destruction and other infrastructural collapses.

All such processes threaten production of authentic honey. In contrast, the production of adulterated honey under the four modern modes of adulteration is unaffected!

Insert: beginning of Conclusion:

The U.S. honey industry awaits 1) determination of final antidumping duty rates for certain exporters; 2) legal developments in class action suits involving monopoly and adulterated honey.