



MIDWEST HONEYBEE EXPO HONEY SHOW RULES

February 6, 2026 – Madison, WI
www.midwesthoneybeeexpo.com

CHAIRPERSON: Stephanie Slater, 262-215-2791, stephanie.d.slater@gmail.com

ENTRY FEE: FREE

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES TIME: Friday, 2/6/26, from 7:30 AM until 10:30 AM. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE. Judging will commence at 10:30 am. The honey show will be open to spectators beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, 2/7/26.

LOCATION: Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall, Mendota 6 Room (M-6)

RELEASE TIME: All entries will remain in the show area for public viewing after the judging. All entries will remain on display until 3:30 PM, Saturday, 2/7/26, after which exhibitors may pick up their entries.

JUDGES: Pam Carter, Kelsey Gerhart

SECRETARIES: Tera Kapraun, Dalton Day

GENERAL RULES

I. ELLIGIBILITY

1. (i) The honey show is open to all PAID ATTENDEES of the Midwest Honey Bee Expo who wish to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein.

(ii) Mail-in entries will not be accepted at this honey show.

(iii) Exhibits may be submitted on behalf of qualified individuals either in person, or by third parties, or by proxy.

*(iv) The honey show is NOT open to individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries, nor to individuals who are immediate family members of those individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries. "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.

II. Exhibitor Declarations & Affirmations

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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 honey bees owned and kept by the Exhibitor. Any exhibit previously submitted for consideration in any prior honey show sponsored by the Midwest Honey Bee Expo, except for mead, is not eligible for this competition.

5. 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.*

III. Double Entries Prohibited

6. Each Exhibitor may make only one exhibit per category. 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.

7. With the exception of Extracted Honey, in instances where the exhibit may qualify for consideration in multiple categories, the Exhibitor shall have the right to choose which category 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 category selected by the Exhibitor. The Judge shall have discretion to make the final determination as to proper color designation regarding all exhibits of Extracted Honey.

8. Double Entries are strictly prohibited. A "Double Entry" is when an exhibitor has more than one exhibit placed in a single exhibition category. 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 recategorizing an exhibit pursuant to the rules herein, the following procedure shall apply: Prior to the judging of any other exhibits in the affected category, 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 category; 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).

IV. Security

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

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

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

12. 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.

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

VI. Food Safety

14. All food & beverage exhibits must be prepared under sanitary conditions and follow food safety guidelines. All food & beverage exhibits must be sealed and shelf-stable, or otherwise prepared and packaged in such a way as to be able to withstand spoilage. Any entry that appears to be unsafe or unpalatable will not be judged and will be disqualified.

15. Any food or beverage item made with any dairy (or other perishable) ingredient(s) or components, or any exhibit that calls for or requires refrigeration for proper storage or holding, should be transported to the honey show, and presented to the Honey Show Secretary in a cooler, insulated/temperature-stable bag, or some other temperature-controlled container. The Exhibitor MUST notify the Show Secretary of the necessity of refrigeration or cold storage for any item at the time of submission of the exhibit. Any exhibit, or

component of an exhibit, that the Judge(s) deem unfit or unsafe due to a temperature-related storage or transport issue will not be judged and may be subject to disqualification.

VII. Miscellaneous

16. All exhibits submitted in categories 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.

17. Regarding 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.

18. For all exhibits which require or give the Exhibitor the option of using any display case, dish, base, frame, stand, or any other exhibition aide, the same should be presented in the same clean, neat, and uniform manner to compliment and add merit to the accompanying exhibit.

19. All weight requirements refer to the net *contents* of the exhibit. For instance, a 16-ounce jar of honey should *contain* 16 ounces of honey. This does not include the weight of the container, the lid, the label, or any other packaging.

20. For all exhibits which call for the submission of a white descriptive card or index card with the exhibit, any size card or sheet of paper from 3”x5” to 8.5”x11” will be accepted. Additionally, the Exhibitor may submit multiple cards for any exhibit as the Exhibitor sees fit. Should the Exhibitor wish to submit multiple cards, they should be secured together by staple or paper clips.

21. 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. **If the Exhibitor submits a second bottle for chilled tasting, they must note such on the descriptive card submitted with the exhibit.*

22. Copyright of any submitted recipe, artwork, literary work, or other media remains with the exhibitor, but the host organization has the unrestricted right to publish images of submitted recipes, artwork, literary work, or other media in its newsletter, on its website, and via its social media outlets, plus unrestricted rights to use the same in any related material for PR purposes.

23. Where the submission of a “recipe” is required, that term includes the complete list of ingredients, quantities thereof, and the procedure used to combine and prepare the exhibit.

24. The Presiding Judge may, based on the number of exhibits submitted, combine one or more categories into a single category, or divide a single category into one or more subcategories.

26. Return/Disposition of Exhibits-

(a) Exhibitors who wish to retrieve their exhibits at the conclusion of the honey show must make arrangements to pick their exhibits up at the specified release time on Saturday, February 7, 2026, between 3:30 and 5:00 pm. If an exhibitor wishes to have their exhibit(s) released to a third party or proxy, they must indicate so in writing.

(b) 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.

27. The honey show committee reserves the right to reject any exhibit submitted if it is objectionable in any way. For these purposes, the definition of “objectionable” includes, but is not limited to: representations of nudity, graphic violence, profanity, obscenity, or any depictions of a sexually explicit nature. The decisions of the Presiding Judge on this issue will be final.

28. The beeswax used in all entries containing beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all

natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

Prizes and Awards

It is the intention that ribbons will be given in all categories even if there is only one entry in the category. Entry into a category does not guarantee an award. 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 category 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, Prize Cards & Sweepstakes:

Ribbons will be awarded to all First through Third place winners in each category (*in the black jar category, only a first-place prize will be awarded*), and to all Major Award winners as follows:

- Major Awards:
 - **Best of Show** – awarded to the individual with a first-place exhibit that is voted best of all first place exhibits in this show.
 - **Sweepstakes** – awarded to the individual with the highest accumulated prize points across all categories.

Prize Points & Sweepstakes

Prize points will be awarded to all First through Third place winners in all categories as follows: First Place = 6 points; Second Place = 5 points; Third Place = 4 points. These points will be used to calculate the winner of the Sweepstakes awards. Sweepstakes will be awarded to the exhibitor who earns the highest number of prize points across all categories

Appeals

After the announcement of awards, any exhibitor may meet with the category judge to discuss their entry and ask questions. An Exhibitor may appeal the Bench Judge's ruling concerning their own exhibit in instances where the Exhibitor believes the Bench Judge misinterpreted or misapplied a rule regarding the judging of their exhibit. The Presiding Judge, after hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue may, as he or she deems appropriate, uphold, reverse, or amend the decision, award(s), and/or official record in such a manner as to affect the most just result available. The decision of the Presiding Judge is final.

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

EXTRACTED HONEY (Category H)

- H1 Light Extracted Honey
- H2 Medium/Amber Extracted Honey
- H3 Dark Extracted Honey
- H4 Creamed Honey
- H5 Chunk Comb Honey
- H6 Section Comb Honey
- H7 Cut Comb Honey
- H8 Full Frame Comb Honey (shallow/medium)
- H9 Black Jar

BEESWAX (Category W)

- W1 Beeswax Block
- W2 Six Identical Pieces of Beeswax
- W3 Beeswax Candles

ARTS & CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING (Category A)

- A1 Notions, Potions, & Lotions
- A2 Photography Related to Beekeeping
- A3 Beekeeping Gift Basket
- A5 Painted Hives

FOOD ITEMS MADE WITH HONEY (Category F)

- F1 Baked Items made w/Honey
- F2 Honey Condiments (non-spicy)
- F3 Honey Condiments (spicy)

RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL Categories:

EXTRACTED & COMB HONEY

Extracted Honey

Extracted honey is judged in three subcategories: (H1) light, (H2) medium or amber, and (H3) dark. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these three subcategories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as three (3) identical one-pound jars, as specified in rule #16 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 three (3) 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 three (3) 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).

Section Comb Honey

An exhibit of section comb honey is three (3) identical sections. Ross rounds and square section entries must be displayed in the original square or circular section. Sections must be in containers made for the display of their respective style of section comb honey. The main display panel of the containers may not be obscured or obstructed in any way. One or more of the containers may be opened to facilitate the Judge's evaluation of the exhibit. There should be no leaking of honey from the 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 container; completeness of capping; 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).

Cut Comb Honey

An exhibit of cut comb honey is three (3) 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 the 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 container; 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).

Full Frame Comb Honey

An exhibit of full frame comb honey is one (1) standard Langstroth style frame (shallow or medium) of capped honey. The use of plastic foundation is prohibited; exhibits with comb drawn on plastic foundation will be severely penalized. Frames must be shown in protective casing and both sides of the comb should be visible. There should be no leaking of honey from the comb into the case. The frame must be easily accessible for judging. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; completeness of capping; uniformity of appearance and color (including the honey in the comb); cleanliness of the comb and frame; absence of uncapped cells, “wet” or “watery” cappings, or travel stains on the cappings; freedom from granulation, pollen, and brood; cleanliness of the exposed portions of the frame, including freedom from propolis and bur comb; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). Total weight of the exhibit may be used as a tiebreaker.

Black Jar

An entry consists of not less than two ounces, nor more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. 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. The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the exhibit. The label should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of the jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

**Black Jar entries are not eligible for Best in Show. *In the Black Jar category, 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 a 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 should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The preferred

colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

The block should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Alternatively, at the Exhibitor's option, the block may be presented in a protective display case. If a show case is used, it must not exceed 12" (length) x 12" (width) x 4" (depth), and the wax block must be readily accessible for judging. The show case will not be judged, aside for cleanliness. 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, and aroma (for off aromas). See General Rules for acceptable beeswax information.

Six Identical Pieces of Beeswax

An exhibit is defined as six (6) identical pieces of beeswax. Each piece should be not less than one ounce (1 oz.), nor more than two ounces (2 oz.). The beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. . The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

The pieces should be smooth-surfaced, free of blemishes, and identical in every way. The pieces should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Alternatively, at the Exhibitor's option, the pieces may be presented in a protective display case. If a show case is used, it must not exceed 12" (length) x 12" (width) x 4" (depth), and the pieces must be readily accessible for judging. The show case will not be judged, aside for cleanliness. 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. See General Rules for acceptable beeswax information.

Beeswax Candles

An exhibit is defined as three (3) identical beeswax candles. The beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

Wicks should be trimmed to one-half inch in length. The candle should have a flat base with wicks waxed and well centered. One of the candles in each exhibit will be lit by the judge and allowed to burn. The exhibit

must be presented with one (1) free-standing, fireproof base or candleholder. 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. See General Rules for acceptable beeswax information.

ARTS & CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING

Notions, Potions, & Lotions

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any health, bath, or beauty product of their own creation, not encompassed in another category in this show. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey, beeswax, and/or propolis produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented in a resealable, unembellished container appropriate to the item. Entries should not be less than one ounce (1oz.) *, not more than eight ounces (8oz.) in weight. All entries will be sampled. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, texture, aroma, tactile feel, functionality, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each entry. **Lip balms exhibits may have a minimum weight of not less than one tenth of an ounce (.1oz.).* See General Rules for acceptable beeswax information.

Photographs Related to Beekeeping

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related photography of their own composition. The photograph must be related to some aspect of apiculture and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. All photographs must be either 4"x6" or 5"x7" in size. The photograph must be mounted, matted, or framed. The photograph must stand up for display; either equipped with an easel back, or the entrant must provide an easel on which to display the exhibit. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each exhibit.

Beekeeping Gift Basket

**The prohibition contained in the general rules regarding no identifying marks on any exhibit, shall not apply to exhibits in this category. The Exhibitor may use their own labels on all items included in the exhibit.* 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. Items in the display will be opened and/or sampled for judging. 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 card with an inventory and a description of all items in the basket (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit. The information contained on the card should clearly identify each item in the display. See General Rules for acceptable beeswax information.

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 card with a description of the composition must accompany each entry.

FOOD ITEMS & BAKED GOODS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind; this is a honey show. These culinary categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and effect of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities.

Baked Items made w/Honey

An Exhibitor may submit one example of a baked item prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of no less than six (6) 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. 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, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.

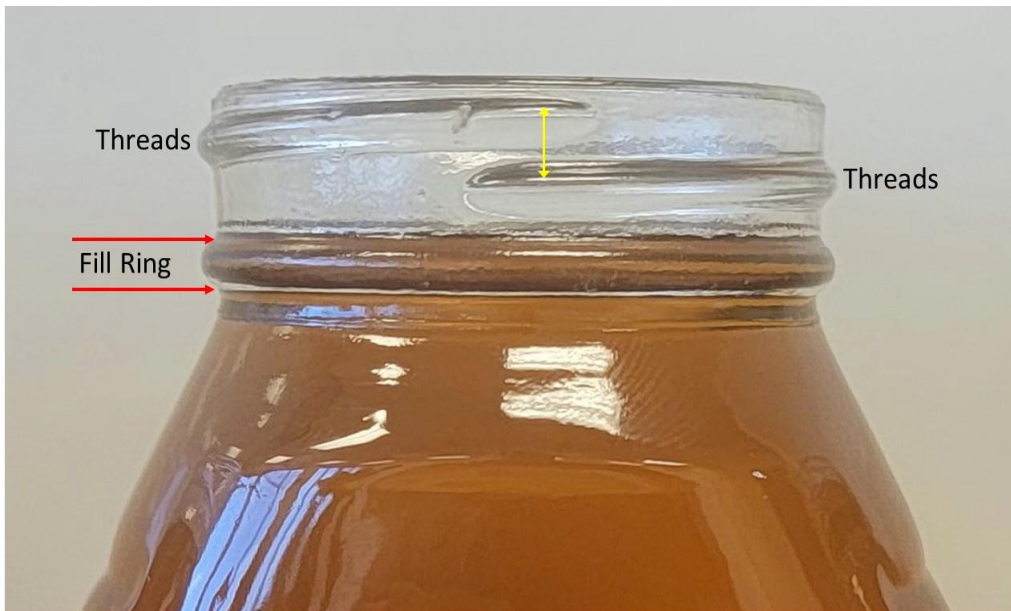
Honey Condiments

A condiment is a spice, sauce, pickle, preserve or other preparation that is added to food to impart a specific flavor, to enhance the flavor, or to complement a dish. Honey condiments are judged in two categories: (F2) non-spicy; and (F3) spicy. An Exhibitor may submit one example of a honey condiment prepared by the Exhibitor in each of these categories.

An exhibit in this category consists of one (1) properly sealed, properly filled, standard, clear, half-pint or pint canning jar with a metal, two-part lid and ring band closure. Entries that are not properly sealed will not be judged and will be disqualified. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: cleanliness, proper fill, visual appeal, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the condiment and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.

If the proper canning of an exhibit requires a headspace in the jar that deviates from the jars fill ring, the proper headspace for the product should be used, and the same should be noted on the white descriptive card submitted with the exhibit.

Appendix



***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.



Queenline Style Jar



Classic Style Jar