

NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 19, NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 3

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE NEBRASKA HONEY STANDARDS REGULATIONS

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NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 19 - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Chapter 3 - THE NEBRASKA HONEY STANDARDS REGULATIONS

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### TITLE 19 - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

#### Chapter 3 - THE NEBRASKA HONEY STANDARDS REGULATIONS

001 Scope. This Standard applies to all honeys produced by honey bees and covers all styles of honey presentations which are processed and ultimately intended for direct consumption and to all honeys packed, processed or intended for sale in bulk containers as honey, which may be repacked for retail sale, or for sale or use as an ingredient in other foods.

#### 002 Definitions.

002.01 Honey is the natural sweet substance produced by honey bees from the nectar of plants or from secretions of living parts of plants or excretions of plant sucking insects on the living parts of plants, which the bees collect, transform by combining with specific substances of their own, deposit, dehydrate, store and leave in the honey comb to ripen and mature.

002.01A Blossom Honey or Nectar Honey is the honey which comes from nectars of plants.

002.01B Honeydew Honey is the honey which comes mainly from excretions of plant sucking insects (*Hemiptera*) on the living parts of plants or secretions of living parts of plants.

003 Description. Honey consists essentially of different sugars, predominantly fructose and glucose as well as other substances such as organic acids, enzymes and solid particles derived from honey collection. The color of honey varies from nearly colorless to dark brown. The consistency can be fluid, viscous or partly to entirely crystallized. The flavor and aroma vary, but are derived from the plant origin.

004 Essential Composition and Quality Factors.

004.01 Honey sold as such shall not have added to it any food ingredient, including food additives, nor shall any other additions be made other than honey. Honey shall not have any objectionable matter, flavor, aroma, or taint absorbed from foreign matter during its processing and storage. The honey shall not have begun to ferment or effervesce. No pollen or constituent particular to honey may be removed except where this is unavoidable in the removal of foreign inorganic or organic matter.

004.02 Honey shall not be heated or processed to such an extent that its essential composition is changed and/or its quality is impaired.

004.03 Chemical or biochemical treatments shall not be used to influence honey crystallization.

004.04 Moisture Content. No water may be added to honey in the course of extraction or packing for sale or resale as honey. Honey shall not have a moisture content exceeding 23%.

004.05 Sugars Content.

004.05A Fructose And Glucose Content (Sum Of Both).

004.05A(1) Honey not listed below - not less than 60 g/100g.

004.05A(2) Honeydew honey, blends of honeydew honey with blossom honey - not less than 45 g/100g.

004.05B Sucrose Content.

004.05B(1) Honey not listed below - not more than 5 g/100g.

004.05B(2) Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), Citrus spp., False Acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), French Honeysuckle (*Hedysarum*), Menzie Banksia (*Banksia menziesii*), Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), Leatherwood (*Eucryphia lucida*), *Eucryphia milligani* - not more than 10 g/100g.

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004.05B(3) Lavender (*Lavandula spp*), Borage (*Borago officinalis*)  
- not more than 15 g/100g.

004.06 Water Insoluble Solids Content.

004.06A Honeys other than pressed honey - not more than 0.1 g/100g.

004.06B Pressed honey - not more than 0.5 g/100g.

005 Annotation. Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,181 (LB 114 of 2011).