



## Regulations for Specific Products

### Selling Honey

Honey is an excellent product for direct marketing because it provides an opportunity for customers to experience each unique flavor and aroma before purchasing. Beekeepers who extract their own honey can sell it in the raw form both to the end consumer and wholesale markets. They do not need a WSDA Food Processor's License. However, honey must be free from all contaminants, all Washington honey must be labeled and graded prior to sale, and hives must also be registered.

This fact sheet includes information on:

- Selling processed honey;
- Labeling honey;
- Grading honey; and
- Registering hives.

#### Selling Processed Honey

If honey is processed in some way (e.g., heated, pasteurized, blended, spun, or has added ingredients or flavors), then the producer will need to be licensed with WSDA as a food processor. This requires a sanitary, licensed facility and documented steps on how you process honey. For more information, please visit the WSDA Food Safety Program online at [www.agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/FoodProcessors](http://www.agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/FoodProcessors) or email [foodsafety@agr.wa.gov](mailto:foodsafety@agr.wa.gov) or call (360) 902-1876.

#### Labeling Honey

Washington State law requires that honey be labeled with the following information:

- Identification of the product: "Honey";
- Name and address of the producer or distributor;
- The net weight; and
- The grade of the honey.

#### Grading Honey

For retail sale, honey must be graded based on the USDA standards. Please see the "United States Standards for Grades of Extracted Honey" available at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/extracted-honey-grades-and-standards>.