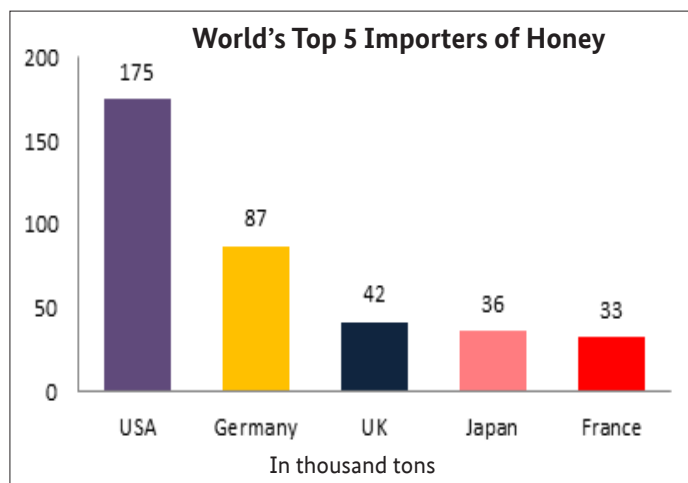


Honey Sector in Nepal

In 2015, the value of the global honey production was estimated at 6,682 million USD. Despite a decrease of four per cent compared to the record year 2013, the sector is expected to grow by 30 per cent by 2021. China is the world's largest producer (482 thousand metric tons) and among the biggest exporters (289 million USD).

In fiscal year (FY) 2015/16 Nepal's honey production was of approximately 3500 metric tons. Due to a low level of production in fiscal year 2012/13 there was a sudden fall of export volumes from which the sector has slowly been recovering over the past two years. The official export quantity in fiscal year 2015/16 was six tons. It is estimated that in the honey sector an important proportion of the exports is happening via informal channels - not reflected in official statistics. The key export markets for Nepalese honey are China, Malaysia and India.

Programme Name	Nepal-German Trade Promotion Programme (TPP)
Cross-Project Collaboration with	Inclusive Development of the Economy Programme (INCLUDE), The National Metrology Institute of Germany (PTB)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Commerce
Duration	February 2013 - December 2017



Honey is listed as "other export potential sector" in the Nepal Trade Integration Strategy (NTIS) 2016 and no longer as "priority product". The main challenges for the honey sector in Nepal remain quality issues. Nepalese honey cannot be directly exported to European markets, because quality requirements are not met although there is a high demand for honey in European market. Furthermore, the production level is still too low to export bulks that are demanded by big importers. Despite the greater difficulties to export to certain markets, the honey production level is growing in the country, linked to the substitution of imported honey.

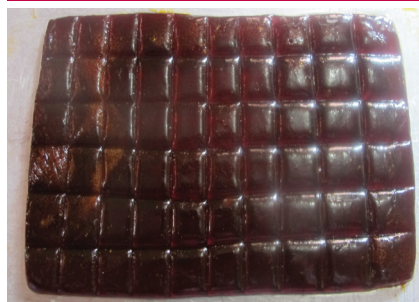
DID YOU KNOW?

About 70 percent of the honey produced in Nepal comes from wild flora, which is by definition organic.

Certain types of honey are also called "mad honey" for their natural psychoactive and hallucinogenic effect deriving from the rhododendron pollen.

Nepal is the only country in the world, where honey is produced between the ranges of 70 meters to 4,200 meters above the sea level.





▲ Honey Chocolate



▲ Honey Biscuit



▲ Honey and Sugar Bar

Value Added Honey Products

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) has been supporting the honey sector since 2005. Cooperatives in selected districts are supported with skill development trainings and technical assistance in order to enhance production and processing. The support also aims to strengthen the export potential of the honey sector by coming up with and promoting a good beekeeping practices manual to address quality issues. The German National Metrology Institute (PTB) provides technical advisory services to quality infrastructure institutions of Nepal like the

Department of Food Technology and Quality Control and the Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology for quality enhancement in the honey sector as well.

List of publications by GIZ

- Nepalese Honey: Potential and Challenges in Export (2015)
- Honey Subsector. Value Chain Study (2014)
- Video: INCLUDE: A Success Story on Beekeeping (available on YouTube)

SWOT Analysis of the Nepalese Honey Sector

- Unique flavour due to climatic conditions and flora diversity
- Availability of technical support and subsidies from the government to beekeepers
- Number of associations/cooperatives and development partners working in the promotion of the honey subsector
- New bee promotion policy of the Nepal Government



- Non-inclusion of Nepal in the list of countries that are authorized to export honey to EU
- Absence of proper equipment and laboratory facilities to test for residue presence
- Lack of regulations, strategies, quality control, standardisation procedures
- Low production level of honey



- Growing consumption in and outside the country
- On-going product diversification
- Availability of corporate buyers and private sector operators within the country
- Coordination mechanisms among the different stakeholders



- Competition from both India and China as two of the world's fastest growing honey exporters
- Use of pesticides in bee pasture areas
- Lack of interest among organised private sector to invest in the honey value chain
- Problem in bee migration due to resistance by local farmers
- Multiple taxation (both formal and informal)



Sources: Honey in Nepal Approach, Strategy and Intervention for Subsector Promotion, published by GTZ 2008; Honey Subsector. Value Chain Study, published by GIZ 2014; NTIS 2010; ITC Trademap; World: Honey - Market Report. Analysis And Forecast To 2025, published by Indexbox 2017; TEPC; Economic Survey. Fiscal Year 2015/16, published by Ministry of Finance 2017

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