



Options to Beekeepers for Selling Honey in Texas

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	Source of Honey	Honey Restrictions	Bottling Location	Quantity Limits	Who you can sell to	Type of Sales	Licensing
Beekeeper Honey Producer (beekeepers selling honey produced from their own bees/hives are "farms" and TX DSHS follows the guidance of the FDA for farm activities and food facility registration)	PURE RAW Honey from your bees or pure raw honey purchased and then blended with pure raw honey from your bees	Filtering, packaging, and labeling are allowed. Drying is allowed. NO "manufacturing/processing" activities are allowed. Pasteurizing and whipping are considered processing activities and not allowed.	At "farm" or where you do farm operations.	No Limit	Sell retail or wholesale (direct to the consumer or to a third-party that will re-sell the honey such as an individual, corporation, store, restaurant, etc.) by you or anyone associated with the farm. Not limited to sales within Texas..	Transaction can be in person, or a phone, mail, or online order.	No license required as long activities stay within the "allowable farm activities". Food handlers certificate recommended, but not required.
Cottage Food Operator	Purchased honey or honey from bees you manage.	No restrictions Adding flavoring and/or spices is permitted as long as the product is a Time and temperature control for safety food (TCS food)	Produced & packaged in your home kitchen	Annual gross income of \$50,000 or less from the sale of all cottage foods.	Sell direct to the consumer by you or your employee(s). NO sales to restaurants, stores, or businesses. Limited to sales within Texas.	At least one half of the transaction must be made in person. If sold online, the delivery must be in-person. If sold in-person, the honey can be shipped to the purchaser.	No license required. Must have successfully completed and keep current, an accredited basic food safety education or training program for food handlers.
Licensed Food Mfg.	Purchased honey or honey from bees you manage.	No restrictions	Bottled in an inspected and approved facility/room.	No limit. The license fee depends on the size of the operation.	Sell retail or wholesale (direct to the consumer or to a third-party that will re-sell the honey such as an individual, corporation, store, restaurant, etc.) by you or anyone associated with the company. Not limited to sales within Texas.	Transaction can be in person, or a phone, mail, or online order.	Texas Food Manufacturing License is required. Must have successfully completed and keep current, an accredited basic food safety education or training program for food handlers.

NOTE: This table briefly explains the options for beekeepers to sell honey in Texas. There are other important requirements, in particular, regarding labeling that must be followed. Please read and follow all the requirements for the type of sale. As a beekeeper, you are a Beekeeper Honey Producer and can legally sell pure raw honey without a Food Manufacturing License. Anyone, including beekeepers, can sell flavored honey as a Cottage Food Operator.

Disclaimer: I am not an attorney and my opinions should not be considered legal advice. Conduct your own research or consult an attorney.