



# Results of CBP's Honey Import Testing

*August 4, 2021*

Fiscal Year 2020 Report to Congress



Homeland  
Security

*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*

# Message from the Acting Deputy Commissioner of CBP

August 3, 2021

I am pleased to submit the following report, “Results of CBP’s Honey Import Testing,” which has been prepared by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

This report was compiled pursuant to direction set forth in Senate Report 116-125, which accompanies the Fiscal Year 2020 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-93). This report provides to the Committees on Appropriations the results of CBP’s targeted testing to reduce the quantity of fraudulently imported honey into the United States.

Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Chairwoman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

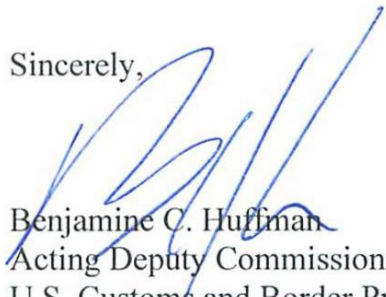
The Honorable Chris Murphy  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (202) 344-2001.



Sincerely,

  
Benjamin C. Huffman  
Acting Deputy Commissioner  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

# Executive Summary

Imports of Chinese honey and honey products sold at unfair prices injure the U.S. domestic honey industry. CBP is responsible for facilitating the lawful entry of honey imports and for enforcing antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders. CBP is expanding and enhancing current targeting and enforcement efforts to address fraudulent honey importations; in particular, CBP is testing to identify illegally transshipped honey from China subject to antidumping duties. As discussed in CBP's September 25, 2020, report to Congress titled "Strategy for Increasing Targeted Testing of Honey Imports," CBP is engaged in an interdisciplinary, collaborative approach that emphasizes enhancements in four key areas: risk analysis, sampling, testing, and appropriate enforcement actions when noncompliance is confirmed.

CBP is conducting enhanced risk analysis, along with random sampling, to improve its targeting of suspect honey imports and to reduce the quantity of honey that is imported fraudulently to the United States. This document provides the mandated follow-up report on the results of honey import testing. This report also provides an update on CBP's acquisition of nuclear magnetic resonance technology for testing of honey imports.

To protect American businesses and the health and safety of American consumers, CBP will continue to monitor honey imports for classification and AD/CVD evasion concerns.



# Results of CBP’s Honey Import Testing

## Table of Contents

I.	Legislative Language .....	1
II.	Background .....	2
III.	Results of CBP’s Honey Import Testing.....	3
	A. Laboratory Testing Results .....	3
IV.	Conclusion.....	4
V.	Appendix - List of Abbreviations.....	5

# I. Legislative Language

This document was prepared pursuant to direction set forth in Senate Report 116-125, which accompanies the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-93).

Senate Report 116-125 states:

The Committee provides \$1,500,000 above the requested amount and directs CBP to initiate comprehensive testing of imported honey to verify the country of origin and detect adulteration. Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this act, CBP shall brief the Committee on options to use predictive analytics to identify likely violators. The Committee further directs CBP to use the best technology available to conduct these tests and to take all necessary actions, including developing a comparison database, and to support the purchase and use of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance testing for this task. The Committee directs that CBP, after consultation with domestic honey producers, report to the Committee within 270 days of the date of enactment of this act on a strategy for increasing targeted testing to reduce the quantity of honey fraudulently imported into the United States. Within 545 days of the date of enactment of this act, CBP shall provide the Committee with a report on the results of honey import testing. A public version of both reports should also be released and posted on the public website.

## II. Background

On December 10, 2001, the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) published an antidumping (AD) duty order on honey (Honey Order) from the People's Republic of China (China). Current AD cash deposit rates range from \$0.98 to \$2.63 per kilogram and 183.80 percent to 221.02 percent ad valorem. U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is responsible for facilitating the lawful entry of these honey imports and for enforcing DOC's AD and countervailing duty (CVD) orders.

On December 20, 2019, Congress published Senate Report 116-125, which accompanies the FY 2020 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-93). Senate Report 116-125 directed CBP to draft a report on a strategy for increasing targeted testing to reduce the quantity of honey fraudulently imported into the United States and to provide the Committee with a second report on the results of that honey import testing. Pursuant to this requirement, on September 25, 2020, DHS released to Congress the "Strategy for Increasing Targeted Testing of Honey Imports." This follow-up report provides the results of CBP's honey import testing.

### III. Results of CBP's Honey Import Testing

To identify and reduce the quantity of honey fraudulently imported into the United States, and to ensure proper enforcement of the Honey Order, CBP is leading a coordinated, interdisciplinary honey enforcement strategy. This strategy aims to benefit and protect American businesses and the health and safety of American consumers. In furtherance of this strategy, CBP is providing a progress update on its sampling and risk analysis, laboratory testing results, and enforcement actions.

#### A. Laboratory Testing Results

As directed by Congress, CBP recently acquired nuclear magnetic resonance technology to complement its current testing protocols for COO determination for honey imports.

## IV. Conclusion

To identify and reduce the quantity of honey fraudulently imported into the United States, and to ensure proper enforcement of the Honey Order, CBP's strategy emphasizes enhancements in four key areas: sampling, risk analysis, testing, and enforcement actions when noncompliance is confirmed. CBP will continue the random honey import sampling and testing. To protect American businesses and the health and safety of American consumers, CBP will continue to monitor honey imports closely for AD/CVD evasion concerns.



## V. Appendix - List of Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
AD	Antidumping
CBP	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
China	People's Republic of China
CVD	Countervailing Duty
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DOC	Department of Commerce
FY	Fiscal Year
Honey Order	Antidumping Duty Order on Honey