

# The Pacific Bee Journal



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**DEVOTED**

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OF THE

**PACIFIC COAST STATES  
AND TERRITORIES**

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## EDITORIAL

**Honey of California.**

Since Texas is so far ahead, in that government report, California should explain herself, especially since Nebraska is looking for California laurels. 1899 was a short year for California. Southern California produced but 74 cars. Where would Texas be in a year like 1897 with a Southern California crop of 500 cars, or even 1901 with

300 cars. I notice, too, that Texas produces but fifty per cent. on the dollar of investment while Colorado gives ninety per cent. and California in an off year, 100 per cent. on the investment. The value of our crop in 1897 was \$1,000,000. Southern California's in 1901 was \$600,000.

I append that part of the report of 1899.

	Val.	Val.	Per c.
	bees.	honey.	to inv.
California,	\$336,885	\$331,939	100
Colorado,	195,096	171,740	90
Texas,	949,483	488,527	50

Of course the government is bound to miss some of the statistics, and California reports from 6000 farms, while Texas reports from 60,000 farms.

**THE UNITED STATES YEARLY HONEY CROP.**

**Gleanings Estimate February 15, 1902, 7000 Cars. U. S. Government Report, 1899, 6664 Cars.**

Believing we all should know the extent of our business, I do not see why we keep quiet about statistics, and allow others to belittle our industry. A man who is doing a big business, "says so," and thereby increases his business by his enthusiasm (Though our industry is really in its infancy and that infant very poorly managed, we do not realize how he is growing, and already he is past management by his parents or his relatives, and can only be controlled by the whole bee-keeping family.) Our product in good years always goes to crowded centers, demoralizing prices and leaving places of scarce supply unsupplied, and when off years come our surplus is gone, on which we could have realized fancy prices and keep our markets supplied, the adulterator comes with his nasty stuff and ruins our market.

The United States Honey Report of 1899 shows California produces

170 cars of honey; Texas, 220 cars (marketed mostly at home); New York, 160 cars; Missouri, 140 cars; Iowa, 120 cars; Kentucky, 180 cars; Illinois 135 cars; Ohio, 85 cars; Colorado, 81 cars; Arkansas, 65 cars; pounds. I have figured out the car loads at 22,000 pounds to the car. This makes 26,000-pound cars, leaving 4000 as weight of cases.)

**Texas' Home Market.** Texas produces 200 cars per annum, which we are told is consumed mostly at home. At government figures they realize 10 cents per pound. The bigger part of this product is chunk honey. We are also told there is no adulteration. Why? Their production is even, they always have a supply to meet the demand, and keep it growing.

**California's Mixers.** I have before me a bottle labeled "Honey" (in large letters) with syrup (in small letters.) "Made of choice mountain honey blended with cane sugar; this syrup has a more delicious flavor than honey and yet retains all that rich flavor for which California honey has become famous." Southern Syrup Company, Los Angeles.

Made of honey, yes, and syrup and that nasty stuff, glucose. You can taste it and it is rank, brassy, and leaves the taste in the mouth. Don't see how any one could use the second bottle. Sold at retail for 10 cents for almost two pounds; not much honey in it at 6 cents, nor sugar at 4½ cents. A rank libel on California honey. That's where our trade goes in an off year.

#### HONEY AS A FOOD.

A writer in Health has the following in regard to honey as a food:

"Starch and sugar, when eaten, undergo a digestive change before they

are assimilated. In honey this change has been made a considerable extent by the bees. It is easy of assimilation, and concentrated, and furnishes the same element of nutrition as sugar and starch—imparts warmth and energy. As a medicine, honey has great value and many uses. It is excellent in most lung and throat affections, and is often used with great benefit in place of cod-liver oil. Occasionally there is a person with whom it does not agree, but most people can learn to use it with beneficial results. Children, who have more natural appetites, generally prefer it to butter. Honey is laxative and sedative and in diseases of the bladder and kidneys it is an excellent remedy. It has much the same effect as wine or stimulants, without the injurious effects, and is unequalled in mead and harvest drinks. As an external application, it is irritating when clear, and soothing when diluted. In many places it is much appreciated as a remedy for croup and colds. In preserving fruit, the formic acid it contains makes a better preservative than sugar syrup, and it is also used in cooking and confectionery.

"In early times it is said, Palestine flowed with milk and honey, but we have far more of both today than the people of any age ever had. Honey does not injure the teeth as candies do."

#### INTERESTING STATISTICS.

Which I came across in May, 1902, Gleanings.

	Area, sq. m.	Car loads.	Lbs. to sq. m.
Texas,	265,780	210	18
California,	158,360	225	31
Cuba,	42,000	210	144
Jamaica,	4,200	75	358

The figures of gross yield was in pounds. I have reduced them to car loads of 22,000 pounds.