

Voluntary Report - public distribution

**Date:** 7/7/2003

**GAIN Report Number:** E23100

## European Union

### Honey

### European Commission Decision on Honey

### 2003

**Approved by:**

Justina Torry  
U.S. Mission to the European Union, Brussels

**Prepared by:**

Sandie Kipe

---

**Report Highlights:**

On January 11, 2003 the European Commission passed an amendment to Commission Decision 2000/159/EC on the provisional approval of residue plans of third countries.

---

Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Brussels USEU [BE2]  
[E2]

**Summary**

On January 11, 2003 the European Commission passed a decision amending the provisional approval of residue plans of third countries. This amendment is specifically related to EU requirements in terms residue monitoring in animal products. This amendment effectively de-listed the United States from the list of third countries that are able to export honey to the EU. This decision prohibits the import of honey into the EU from the United States. The Commission Decision states the FDAs residue-monitoring program in the United States is insufficient as a reason for de-listing.

U.S. exports of honey products to the EU have averaged \$1.2 million over the past five years; total U.S. honey exports averaged \$7.6 million over the same time period.

The final decision was published in the Official Journal and can be found at the following link: [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l\\_164/l\\_16420030702en00140016.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l_164/l_16420030702en00140016.pdf)

**Visit our website:** our website [www.useu.be/agri/usda.html](http://www.useu.be/agri/usda.html) provides a broad range of useful information on EU import rules and food laws and allows easy access to USEU reports, trade information and other practical information. More information on honey can be found at <http://www.useu.be/agri/expguide.html> E-mail: [AgUSEUBrussels@fas.usda.gov](mailto:AgUSEUBrussels@fas.usda.gov)

**Related reports from USEU Brussels:**

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E23031	EU Discusses Botulism Warning on Honey	03/06/03