

Study in Terroir

Wildflower Traditional Meads with
Six Honeys from the NY North Country

Arthur Franke

Home Mead Maker

Bergen County Brew Crew

Northern NJ Mead Makers



Agenda

- Wildflower honey & traditional mead terroir
- Traditional meads case study:
 - Honey comparison
 - Process
 - Distributed sensory analysis
- Why home mead makers should care about terroir

Wildflower Honey

Goût de Terroir



unknown &/or unspecified
honey bee forage



“Taste of Place”

Wildflower Honey goût de terroir varies based on...



Hive Location



Hive Placement &
Harvest Times



Hive Conditions



Seasonal &
Annual Weather



Forage Wax/Wane



Local Agriculture



Other Insect Activity

*“Your local
wildflower
honey is
unique!”*

Tough to find opportunities to taste...

Commercial examples focusing on wildflower terroir exist, but are relatively rare, usually serial format.

Home mead maker sentiments vary:

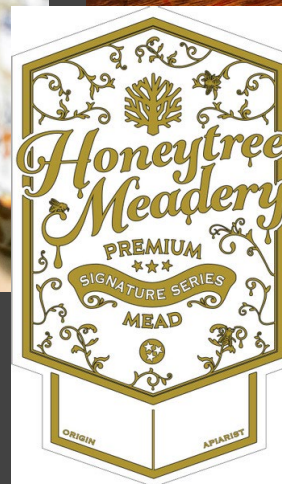
- “It’s just some plain wildflower honey in this mead!”
- May avoid it *due to* the variation
- Competition pressures to show distinct monofloral expression



facebook.com/superstition.meadery/



untappd.com/user/DaveConleyPickleball



honeytreemeadery.com/portfolio/product/

Back Story



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:New_York_Counties.svg



Buy ALL
the honeys!



Not a New Idea

- Ken Schramm & Dr. Dan McConnell, “Mead Matrix” 1994
 - Six “same honey; different yeast”, and six “same yeast; different honey”
- Susan Ruud & Gordon Strong, “Varietal Mead Comparison” 2010
 - Six monofloral honeys, same yeast & recipe proportions
- YouTubers Doin’ the Most and ManMadeMead “Blueberry Honey Face-Off” 2021
 - Blueberry blossom honey from different producers located in different US states

Varietal Mead Comparison
Susan Ruud/Gordon Strong
2010 AHA NHC

Varietal Honey

- Basswood – Northern Brewer/The Bee
- Mesquite – Trader Joes
- Orange Blossom – Local apiary that takes their bees to California for the winter.
- Star Thistle – Sleeping Bear Farms
- Tupelo – Smiley Apiaries
- White Sage – Northern Brewer

BLUEBERRY HONEY FACE-OFF

Honey Location Matters? Blueberry Honey Test

1,460 97 DISLIKE SHARE DOWNLOAD THANKS CLIP SAVE ...

Six Honey



Squeak Creek Apiaries
(Gmail address on Jar)
Antique Market &
Grocery Store
“SqC”

Sugar Shack “Light”
Roadside Honor Bar
“SSL”

Sugar Shack “Cooking”
Roadside Honor Bar
“SSC”

Adirondack Honey
IG:@adirondackhoney
Antique Market,
Grocery & Local
Meadery
“ADK”

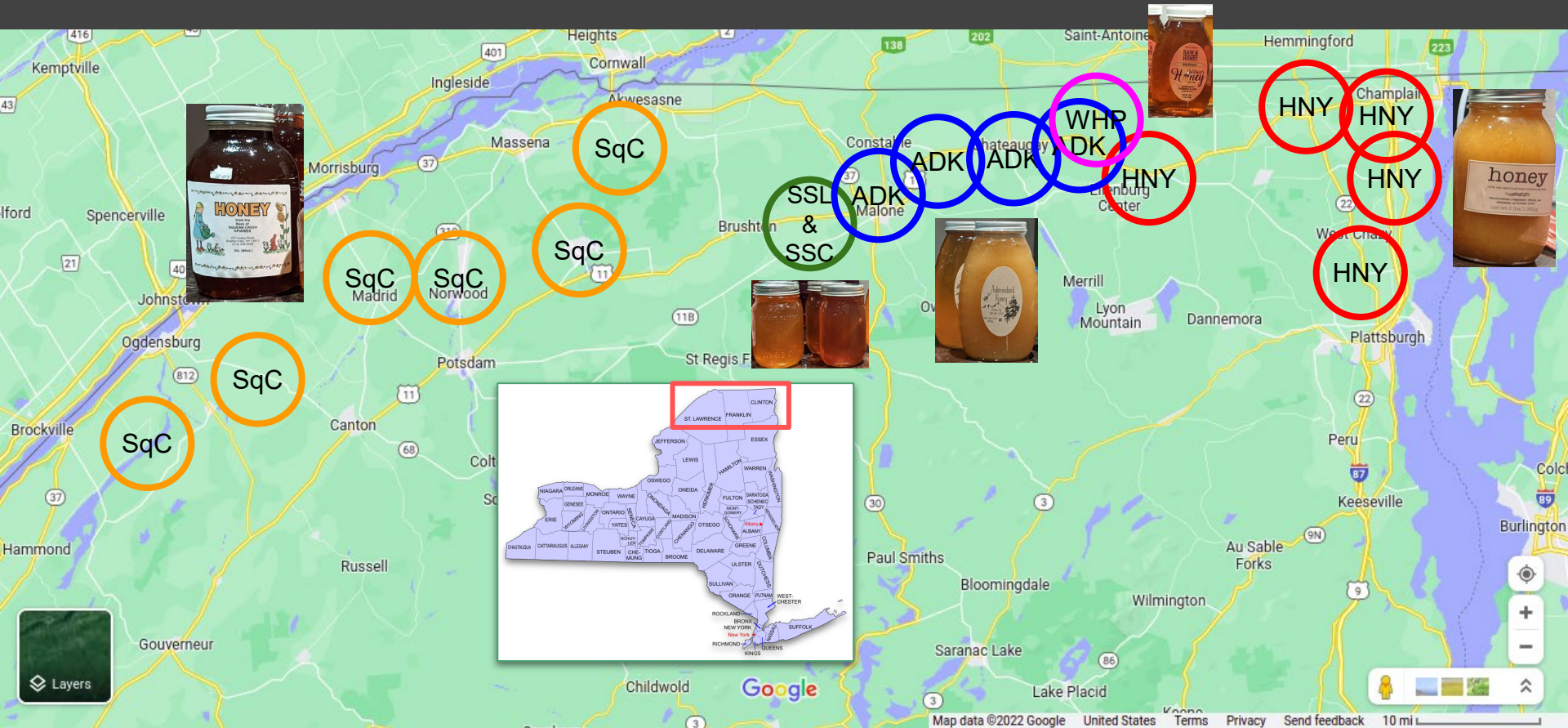
Wilson’s Honey
FB:@wilsonshoneyandpollenation
Grocery Store &
“Gas Guns Guitars Oasis”
“WHP”

Honey NY
IG:@birch_bee
Grocery Store
“HNY”

Hive Locations in Upstate NY



About 3.7 miles radius





Beekeeper-Provided Harvest Date & Forage

Squeak Creek 	Sugar Shack - Light 	Sugar Shack - Cooking 	Adirondack Honey 	Wilson's Honey 	Honey NY 
Summer 2020	Summer 2021	Fall 2020	Fall 2020	2020	Late July 2020
Clover Basswood Japanese Knotweed Purple Loosestrife Goldenrod	Borage Purple Loosestrife Sumac Clover Raspberry Blackberry Knapweed Purple Vetch Alfalfa Elderberry Trees Sunflowers		Wildflowers Clover Basswood Goldenrod	Dutch clover Vetch Basswood Goldenrod Aster Knapweed	Some Dandelion Basswood Sumac Knotweed Milkweed Joe-Pye Weed Aster Clover Locust Some Goldenrod

Snail Mail!

Honey

3/7/22

Dear Arthur Franke, you asked some question about my honey. Sorry for not writing back quickly busy with stuff. One question was wondering when the honey was harvested? We usually harvest it the same month the jar you to was in July so you had summer honey. Second question was what do the bee's eat during that time (July) they eat a numerous about some are borage, purple loosestrife, sumac, clover, nasturty, blackberry, nap weed, purple vetch, alphas, elderberry, kees, sun flowers etc. third and last question north bangor NY.


ALBANY NY 120
7 MAR 2022 PM 4 L



Franke

Aside: If you can't
ask the beek,
what can you do?

NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER [+ Visit NASA.gov](#)



HoneyBeeNet

[+ SCALE HIVES & CLIMATE](#) [+ HONEY BEES](#) [- SITE DATA](#) [+ NEWS](#) [+ LINKS](#)

The banner image for HoneyBeeNet features a collage of honeycombs, bees, and laboratory equipment. The title 'HoneyBeeNet' is prominently displayed in the center in a bold, yellow, 3D-style font. Below the banner is a navigation bar with five buttons: '+ SCALE HIVES & CLIMATE', '+ HONEY BEES', '- SITE DATA', '+ NEWS', and '+ LINKS'. The '- SITE DATA' button is highlighted in blue.

The Biota of
North
America
Program



HoneyBeeNet

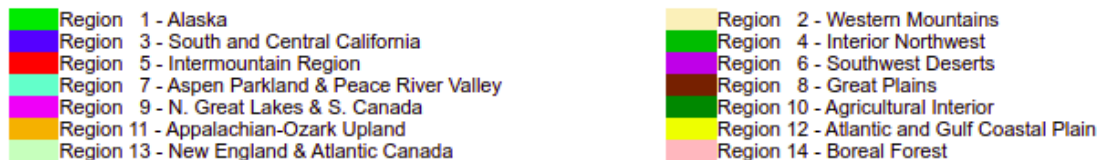
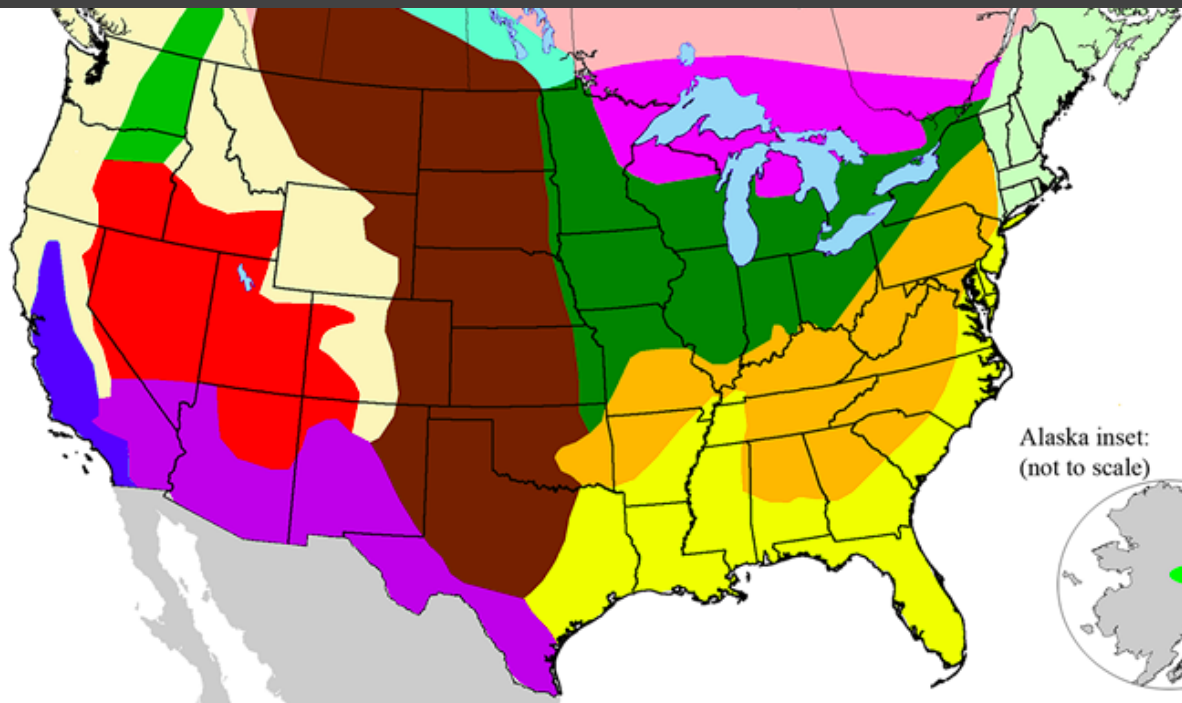
honeybeenet.gsfc.nasa.gov

Regions and sub-regions with data for what grows in each, with focus on bee forage.

Includes both wild and agricultural flora.

Data circa 1992.

PI retired in 2012 and KUDOS for keeping the site live!



This map, and the associated species lists that are provided via the map, are based on content created by George S. Ayers and Jay R. Harman, both of Michigan State University, and are provided in Chapter 11 "Bee Forage of North America and the Potential for Planting for Bees" of the book *The Hive and the Honey Bee*, 1992, Graham, J. ed. Dadant and Sons Inc. Hamilton, Illinois.

NY Region 10

USDA code	Family	Latin Name	Common Name	Plant Type	Begin Bloom Month	End Bloom Month	Sig
PRUNU	Rosaceae	<i>Prunus</i>	Plum (cultivated)	C	3	6	N
TAOFC	Asteraceae	<i>Taraxacum</i>	Dandelion, blow-balls	F	3	9	N
ACER	Aceraceae	<i>Acer</i>	maple	TDB	3	5	N
PYRUS	Rosaceae	<i>Pyrus</i>	Pear	C	4	6	N
BAVU	Brassicaceae	<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Yellow rocket, winter cress	F	4	6	N
VACCI	Ericaceae	<i>Vaccinium</i>	Blueberry, huckleberry	SDB	4	6	N
MALUS	Rosaceae	<i>Malus</i>	Apple	TDB	4	6	N
SALIX	Salicaceae	<i>Salix</i>	Willow, osier	TDB	4	6	N
PRAV	Rosaceae	<i>Prunus</i>	Cherry (cultivated)	TDB,C	4	6	N
CUME	Cucurbitaceae	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Cantaloupe, muskmelon, casaba,	C	5	8	N
CUSA4	Cucurbitaceae	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	cucumber	C	5	9	N
MESA	Fabaceae	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Alfalfa, lucerne	C	5	9	N
ASCLE	Asclepiadaceae	<i>Asclepias</i>	Milkweed, butterfly flower	F	5	8	N
HIERA	Asteraceae	<i>Hieracium</i>	Hawkweed	F	5	9	N
MELIL	Fabaceae	<i>Melilotus</i>	Sweet clover (white/yellow)	F	5	10	Y
POLYG4	Polygonaceae	<i>Polygonum</i>	Smartweed, knotweed, fleece flower	F	5	10	N
TRHY	Fabaceae	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Alsike clover	F	5	9	Y
TRRE3	Fabaceae	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White, dutch clover	F	5	10	Y
RHUS	Anacardiaceae	<i>Rhus</i>	Sumac, sugar bush, lemonade berry	S	5	8	N
ROPS	Fabaceae	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black locust, false acacia, yellow locust	TDB	5	6	N
TILIA	Tiliaceae	<i>Tilia</i>	Basswood, lime tree, whitewood	TDB	5	7	N
CUCUR	Cucurbitaceae	<i>Cucurbita L.</i>	Pumpkin, squash, gourd	C	6	8	N
LOAN2	Fabaceae	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's foot trefoil	F	6	8	N
SOLID	Asteraceae	<i>Solidago</i>	Goldenrod	F	6	10	Y
FAES2	Polygonaceae	<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i>	Buckwheat, brank	F, C	6	9	N
ZEMAM2	Poaceae	<i>Zea mays</i>	Corn, maize	C	7	9	N
ASTER	Asteraceae	<i>Aster</i>	Aster	F	7	10	Y



The Biota of North America Program

North American Vascular Flora



**Taxonomic Data Center
Query ([TDC-Q](#)) Page**



**North American Plant Atlas
([NAPA](#))**



Synonyms and Infrataxa

Show Intraspecific Taxa

Authors

Hide Authors

Common names

Hide Common names

Taxa Per Page

1500

Query Map

Zip/County

Family Key

Bio. Attributes

Selected Characters

Query Photo Gallery



[How to Cite This Website](#)

[Customized Geographic Database](#)

[Instructions for Keying Plants](#)

Nomenclature Query

Can't find a plant name? [Click Here](#) OR [Click here to see Excluded/Anomalous names](#)

Name Reset

Families

A total of 331 families are reported. Selecting a specific family will produce a list of its lower taxa.

APG III - Mod. Classification

Search for Family...

- ACANTHACEAE
- ACHARIACEAE
- ACHATOCARPACEAE
- ACORACEAE
- ACTINIDIACEAE
- ADOXACEAE
- AGAPANTHACEAE
- AGAVACEAE
- AGDESTIDACEAE
- AIZOACEAE
- ALISMATACEAE
- ALLIACEAE
- ALSTROEMERIACEAE
- ALTINGIACEAE
- AMARANTHACEAE
- AMARYLLIDACEAE
- ANACAMPSEROTACEAE
- ANACARDIACEAE
- ANEMIACEAE
- ANNONACEAE
- APIACEAE
- APOCYNACEAE
- APODANTHACEAE
- APONOGTONACEAE
- AQUIFOIACEAE

Genera

A total of 3625 genera and 24184 species and nothospecies are reported. Selecting a specific genus will produce a list of its lower taxa.

Search for Genus...

- Abelia
- Abelmoschus
- Abies
- Abildgaardia
- Abronia
- Abrus
- Abutilon
- Acacia
- Acaciella
- Acaena
- Acalypha
- Acamptopappus
- Acanthocereus
- Acanthomintha
- Acanthoscyphus
- Acanthospermum
- Acanthus
- Acer
- Achillea
- Achlys
- Achnatherum
- ×Achnella
- Achyraea
- Achyranthes
- Achyrocline

Species

A total of 24184 species and nothospecies are reported. Select any name for additional information. Only 1500 names are showing. If the name you need is not visible, please type the first few letters of the scientific name in the search box. [Previous](#) [Next](#)

Search for Species or Epithet...

- Abelia ×grandiflora
- Abelmoschus esculentus
- Abelmoschus moschatus
- Abies alba
- Abies amabilis
- Abies balsamea
- Abies bifolia
- Abies bifolia var. arizonica
- Abies bifolia var. bifolia
- Abies bracteata
- Abies concolor
- Abies concolor var. concolor
- Abies concolor var. lowiana
- Abies firma
- Abies fraseri
- Abies grandis
- Abies lasiocarpa
- Abies magnifica
- Abies magnifica var. critchfieldii
- Abies magnifica var. magnifica
- Abies procera
- Abies ×shastensis
- Abildgaardia ovata
- Abronia alpina

Search by U.S. Zip Code, County or Location

Note: To assist in keying, county-level and zip code data have been expanded to include taxa from the county selected plus adjacent counties.

Zip Code:

Run query

Clear query

Search by county:

-- Select State --

-- Select County --

Biological Attribute Query

Help



To query taxa, select attributes from the following.

- Major plant group
- Habit
- Trophic level
- Duration
- Nativity
- Morphology
- Habitat
- Rarity and endemism
- Exotics, noxious and invasive plants and weeds
- Reported as a Horticulturally important plant
- Horticultural novelty plants
- Human use plants
- Native American medicinal uses
- State flower and tree
- Toxic or allergenic plant
- Plants that attract
 - Reported as a butterfly plant
 - Reported as a honeybee pollen plant
 - Reported as a hummingbird plant

Click 'Run Query' button to filter Nomenclature lists by selected bio attributes

Clear all selections

Run query

BONAP Venn



Franklin County

2 Unique Species

Alder (*Alnus alnobetula*)

Western Ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*)



St. Lawrence
County

81 Unique
Species

Basswood (!?)
White clover (!?)
Apple (!?)

23 Shared
Species

51 Common
Species

43 Shared
Species

0 Shared
Species

5 Unique
Species

False Indigo
Wild Lupine
Redwhisker Clammyweed
Sand Cherry
Pears

Clinton
County



Caveats:

- Presence is not pervasiveness or proximity
- Selection Bias?

Six Honey



Squeak Creek Apiaries
(Gmail address on Jar)
Antique Market &
Grocery Store
“SqC”

Sugar Shack “Light”
Roadside Honor Bar
“SSL”

Sugar Shack “Cooking”
Roadside Honor Bar
“SSC”

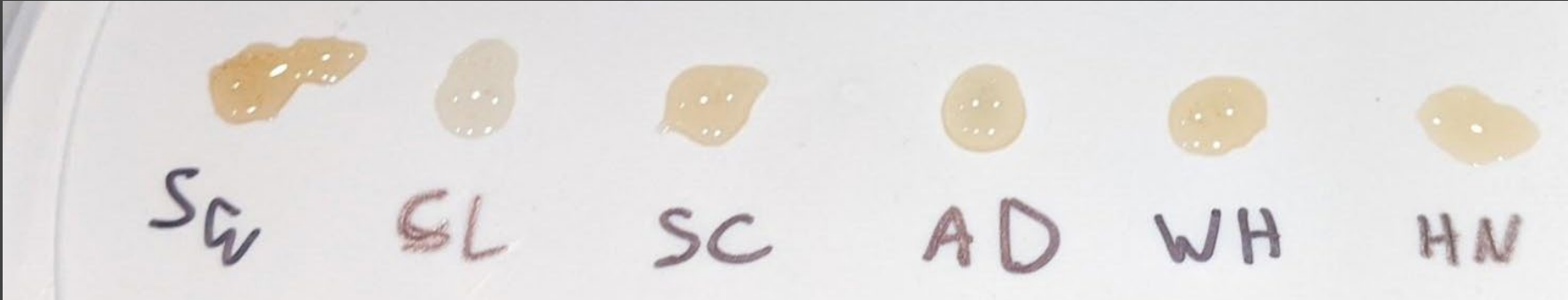
Adirondack Honey
IG:@adirondackhoney
Antique Market,
Grocery & Local
Meadery
“ADK”

Wilson’s Honey
FB:@wilsonshoneyandpollenation
Grocery Store &
“Gas Guns Guitars Oasis”
“WHP”

Honey NY
IG:@birch_bee
Grocery Store
“HNY”

Honey Sensory Analysis

Label	Squeak Creek 	Sugar Shack - Light 	Sugar Shack - Cooking 	Adirondack Honey 	Wilson's Honey 	Honey NY 
Flavor	Apricot Dried Grass	Mango, Peach, Mint	Fig/Raisin, Cinnamon	Banana, Honeysuckle, Pear	Malt, Straw, Vanilla, Brulee	Quince, Ginger, Dates



Nominal Process

- 2.5 lbs (1.135kg) Honey
- 3.28 quarts (3.1kg) Spring Water
- 0.3g FT Blanc Soft Tannin Powder
- Rehydrated Yeast Pitch
 - 100g Tap Water @ 100F
 - 5g GoFerm PE
 - 4g DV10 Dry Yeast
- Fermaid O following TOSNA 2.0

Target starting volume: 4L

Target OG: 1.085 Target ABV: 11.4%

1. Ferment in 6L plastic bucket, under airlock
2. Nutrients at 24h, 48h, 72h, 7d after pitch. Buckets hand whisked for 20 seconds at each addition.
3. Ambient temperature
4. Rack to 1gal glass jugs under airlock, onto 1g Bentonite each. Sit until clear.
5. Rack to clean 1gal glass jugs. Stabilize with k-sorbate & k-meta.
6. Backsweeten to 1.010 semi-sweet.
7. Bench trial to adjust acidity to taste with tartaric acid.
8. Bottle still. Age as long as time permits.



Jan 23: Rehydrated yeast, mixed musts, and pitched



Jan 23: Fermentation



Jan 24 - 31: Timed whisking to aerate, and TOSNA additions



Feb 5: Racked, left to finish fermentation and settle



Feb 5: Lees left behind by racking



March 19: Looking pretty clear...



March 20: Racked off fine lees and stabilized



March 26: Back sweetened to about 1.010



June 19 (or 21): Bottled into eight 12oz, one 330mL, one 250mL (partial)



Process Hiccups



Be sure to *stir in* acid additions after they dissolve!

Sensory Analysis: Tasters



Northern NJ
Mead Makers



Big thanks to:

Mike Bury, Andrew Luberto, Annie Zipser, and Geoff Billiu!

Sensory Analysis: UC Davis Taxonomy

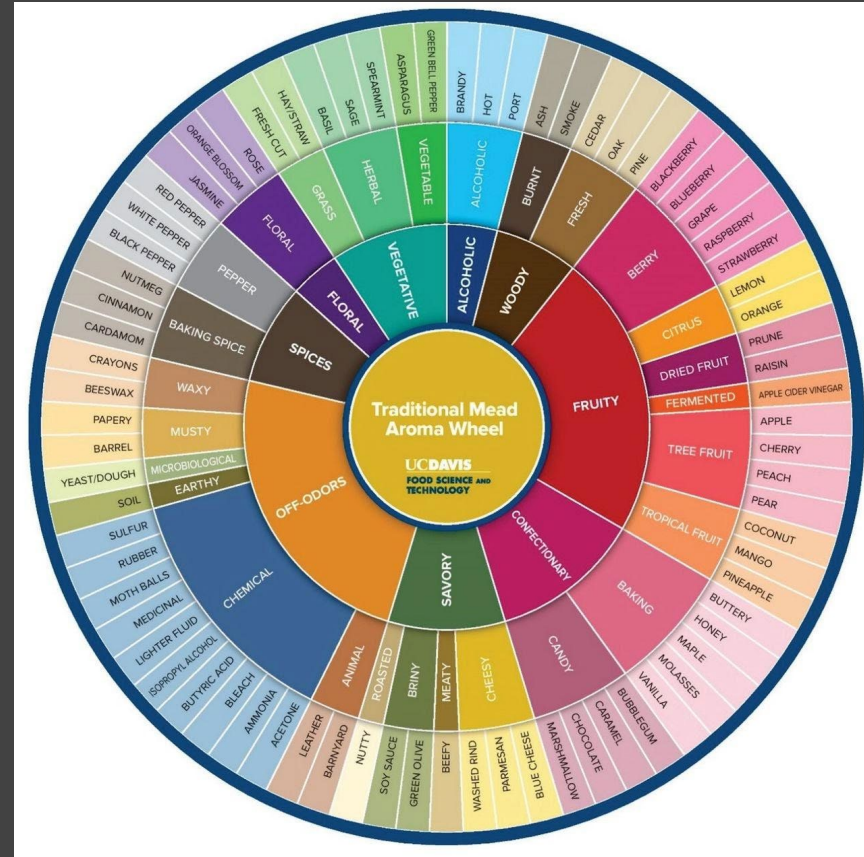
Tasters were asked to refer to the Traditional Mead Aroma Wheel, but not feel limited by it.

BJCP judges were asked to complete score sheets (MIB Semi-Sweet Mead)

Experienced BJCP Mead Judges were asked to speculate on bee forage, if detectable.

Mead makers asked to opine on what adjuncts might complement the mead if it were used as the base of a melomel or metheglin.

Note: did not specify serving temperature, serving order, and limited details on honey provenance



BJCP Score Sheet Results

- Five completed sheets per mead from Philadelphia area judges convened by Mike Bury.
- Notes closest to obvious faults were around alcohol, yeast aromas, and lack of tannins
- Judges' opinions on acid levels sometimes appeared to vary widely

	Lowest Score	Median Score	Highest Score
Squeak Creek	35	35.0	37
Shack Light	38	39.0	41
Shack Cooking	34	36.0	41
Adirondack	34	37.0	37
Wilson's	30	36.0	37
Honey NY	32	35.5	38

Squeak Creek Apiaries

Summer 2020 Harvest

- Clover
- Basswood
- Japanese Knotweed
- Purple Loosestrife
- Goldenrod

acidic (1) alcoholic (1) **apple** (5) apricot (1) bark (1) bitter (1) black (1) blanc (1) blossom (1) **buttery** (3)
 cabbage (1) **candy** (6) chardonnay (2) chemical (1) citrus (2) confection (1) cotton (1) cut (1)
 earthy (2) flesh (1) **floral** (6) fresh (2) fruit (2) **fruity** (4) **grape** (3) grass (2)
 green (1) gross (1) **hard** (2) hay (1) herbal (1) honey (1) lavender (1) **lemon** (2) lemongrass (1) **library** (2) macintosh (1)
 mango (2) marshmallow (1) **mint** (2) muscato (1) necco (1) nerds (1) neutral (1) nutty (1)
 orange (2) **paste** (2) pastry (1) **peach** (4) **pear** (7) peel (1) **pepper** (3) petal (1)
 pineapple (2) plum (1) **rose** (3) sauvignon (1) skin (1) smarty (1) **spice** (2) strawberry (1) sulphur (2) tannic (1)
 tarragon (1) tea (1) tropical (1) umami (1) **vanilla** (2) wafers (1) warm (1) wax (1) waxy (1) **white** (3) woody (1) yeasty (1)
 zest (1)



Sugar Shack Light

Summer 2021 Harvest

- Borage
- Purple Loosestrife
- Sumac
- Clover
- Raspberry
- Blackberry
- Knapweed
- Purple Vetch
- Alfalfa
- Elderberry
- Trees
- Sunflowers

acidity (1) alcohol (1) **apple** (2) ash (1) banana (1) berries (1) bird (1) blanc (1) burnt (1) candy (1) cinnamon (1) citric (1)
citrus (5) clove (1) **coconut** (2) corn (1) delicious (1) dried (1) eucalyptus (1) evergreen (1) finish (1) flora (1)
floral (5) fresh (1) fruit (1) **fruity** (2) golden (1) **grape** (3) **grass** (2) grassy (1) grigio (1) hard (1)
hay (3) honeysuckle (1) husk (1) jasmine (1) lavender (1) lemon (1) **melon** (2) **menthol** (2) **mint** (4)
minty (1) nectar (1) orange (1) **peach** (3) pear (1) pepper (1) perfume (1) **pine** (2) pineapple (1) pinot (1) putty (1)
raspberry (1) **red** (2) **rose** (3) sauvignon (1) scallion (1) seed (1) **skin** (2) **straw** (2) **strawberry** (2)
sugar (1) table (1) tannin (1) tree (1) tropical (1) umami (1) **vanilla** (2) **white** (3) wood (1) **woody** (4)
yeast (1)



Sugar Shack“Cooking” Honey

Fall 2020 Harvest

- Borage
- Purple Loosestrife
- Sumac
- Clover
- Raspberry
- Blackberry
- Knapweed
- Purple Vetch
- Alfalfa
- Elderberry
- Trees
- Sunflowers

acid (2) alcohol (2) **apple** (3) apricot (1) asian (1) baking (1) balanced (1) **beeswax** (3)
blossom (2) bubblegum (1) buttery (1) **candy** (4) caramelized (1) cedar (1) cereal (1) **citrus** (2) confectionary (1)
creamy (1) **earthy** (2) flesh (1) **floral** (3) fruit (1) fruity (1) fusel (1) grape (1) hard (1) hay (1) herbal (1)
honey (4) honeysuckle (1) jar (1) lactic (1) **lavender** (2) lemin (1) **lemon** (2) **lime** (2) malic (1)
nondistinct (1) nutmeg (1) nutty (1) **orange** (5) peach (2) **pear** (8) perfume (1) pineapple (1) red (1)
rind (2) rose (1) rubbing (1) sage (1) smarties (1) soda (1) **spice** (2) straw (1) strawberry (1) sugar (1) sweet (1) table (1) tonic (1)
tupelo (1) **vanilla** (6) vitamin (1) wood (1) **woody** (2)

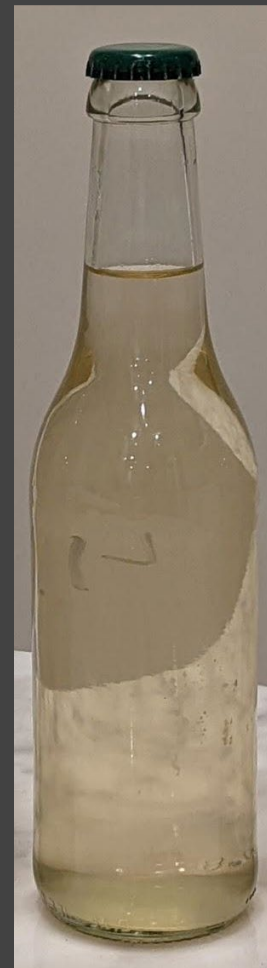


Adirondack Honey

Fall 2020 Harvest

- Wildflowers
- Clover
- Basswood
- Goldenrod

acidic (1) alcohol (3) apple (1) apricot (1) banana (1) beeswax (2) berry (1) bitter (1) cantarito (1) cinnamon (1)
citric (2) citrus (3) coconut (1) confectionary (1) cracker (1) dark (1) dill (1) earthy (1) floral (6) gamey (1)
garden (1) ginger (1) grape (6) green (2) hay (1) herb (1) herbal (3) honey (2) jar (1) leafy (1)
leather (1) lemon (2) lime (3) listerine (1) lychee (1) mango (2) margarita (1) marker (1) marshmallow (1) menthol (1)
mint (2) minty (1) note (2) oak (1) olive (1) orange (3) peach (2) pear (1) pepper (3) petals (1)
rind (2) rose (3) sage (4) sharpie (1) skins (1) slight (1) solvent (1) sontefruit (1) spearmint (1) spicy (1) straw (1)
strawberry (1) sugar (1) sulphur (1) sweet (1) tangerine (1) tea (1) tropical (1) vanilla (4) vegetal (2) vitamin (1)
wax (1) waxy (2) white (6) zest (1)



Wilson's Honey

2020 Harvest

- Dutch clover
- Vetch
- Basswood
- Goldenrod
- Aster
- Knapweed

alcohol (4) apple (1) autolysis (1) banana (1) barrell (1) basil (1) black (3) bread (1) breadly (1) citrus (1)
citrus (7) classic (1) coconut (1) dough (1) earthy (3) floral (4) fruit (6) fruity (1)
grape (1) grassy (1) hay (1) herbacious (1) herbal (1) honey (1) honeysuckle (2) hops (1) jar (1) jasmine (1) kiwi (1) lavender (1)
lemon (1) leychi (1) lime (1) mango (2) marshmallow (1) melon (2) mild (1) nectar (1) oak (1) olive (1) orange (2)
pastry (1) paw-paw (1) peach (7) pear (2) pepper (4) pineapple (1) plum (1) resin (1) rose (1)
saaz (1) spice (1) stone (4) straw (1) toasty (1) tree (2) tropical (5) umami (1) vanilla (1) vitamin (1)
vodka (1) warm (1) wax (2) white (5) wood (1) woody (1) yeast (1) yeasty (1)



Honey NY

Late July 2020 Harvest

- Some Dandelion
- Basswood
- Sumac
- Knotweed
- Milkweed
- Joe-Pye Weed
- Aster
- Clover
- Locust
- Some Goldenrod (usually harvest before)

apple (1) beechwood (1) black (1) buttery (1) candy (2) cherry (1) citrus (1) classic (1) clove (1) cough (1) **earthy** (5)
eucalyptus (6) **floral** (4) funk (1) granny (1) grape (1) hay (2) herbal (2)
honey (1) honeydew (1) honeysuckle (1) jasmine (1) lavender (2) lemon (2) light (1) lime (1)
medicinal (5) melon (1) menthol (3) mint (3) nutty (1) oak (1)
orange (5) peach (1) pear (1) peel (3) pepper (3) pine (1) pith (1) powder (1) raspberry (1) rose (1)
smith (1) smores (1) spearmint (1) straw (2) talcum (1) tannic (1) **vanilla** (5) white (3) wood (1)
zest (2)





Most Frequent Noted Descriptors, Descending Order

Squeak Creek	Sugar Shack - Light	Sugar Shack - Cooking	Adirondack Honey	Wilson's Honey	Honey NY
 <p>Pear Fruit(y) Floral Candy Apple White Grape Pepper Buttery</p>	 <p>Citrus Floral Woody Mint White Grape Hay Peach Rose</p>	<p>Pear Vanilla Orange Honey Candy Beeswax Apple</p>	 <p>White Grape Floral Vanilla Sage Citrus Herbal Orange Pepper Lime Rose</p>	 <p>Citrus Peach Floral Tropical Alcohol Earthy Stone Pepper</p>	 <p>Eucalyptus Vanilla Earthy Orange Medicinal Floral Menthol Mint</p>
<p>Fruity, vs. waxy/musty?</p>	<p>"Water white"</p>	<p>"Classic Honey"</p>	<p>Varied by temperature</p>	<p>Polarizing "Wine-like"</p>	<p>Error on acid additions?</p>

Taster-Suggested Adjuncts

Most Frequent
Noted Descriptors

Suggested
Adjuncts

	Squeak Creek 	Sugar Shack - Light 	Sugar Shack - Cooking 	Adirondack Honey 	Wilson's Honey 	
	Pear, Fruit(y) Floral, Candy Apple, White Grape Pepper, Buttery	Citrus, Floral Woody, Mint White Grape Hay, Peach Rose	Pear, Vanilla Orange, Honey Candy, Beeswax Apple	White Grape Floral, Vanilla Sage, Citrus Herbal, Orange Pepper, Lime Rose	Citrus, Peach Floral, Tropical Alcohol, Earthy Stone, Pepper	Eucalyptus, Vanilla, Earthy Orange, Medicinal Floral, Menthol Mint
	Vanilla Oak Raspberry Cocoa Nibs Berries Lemongrass Basil Apple Pear	Spices Sage Mint Juniper Cucumber Fruit Pink Peppercorn Citrus Stone Fruits	"Pleasant Trad" Berries Meyer Lemon Oak Citric Fleshy Fruit Vanilla	Jasmine Oak Blueberries Stonefruit Lychee "Not more citric" Mango Peach	Honeydew Melon "Light floral or delicate fruits" Tropical Fruits Chilis Pineapple	"Mojito?" Rosemary Herbs Pymment Cocoa nibs



Why should home mead makers care about terroir?

Competitions



Prep the judges on honey expression, even if not a traditional

Why should home mead makers care about terroir?

Changing Environment



Honey DOOMBLOOM

Why should home mead makers care about terroir?

Be the
“Taste Makers”



Try this where you are!
Report out with notes!

What Next?

- Local wildflower “vertical” series (year over year change)
 - Melomel with different wildflower honeys, for effect
 - Could “single-hive mead” be the next single-barrel/ single-vineyard?
 - If you can’t source monofloral, can you locate something close?
-

Take-Aways

- Wildflower honey varies, even *very* locally!
- Think about sensory contributions when selecting wildflower and competing, even if not in a trad
- Share the experience of how your local honeys vary in space and time!

Thank you!

Arthur Franke

@arthurjfranke, /r/weirdomel

Hive Locations in Upstate NY



About 3.7 miles radius

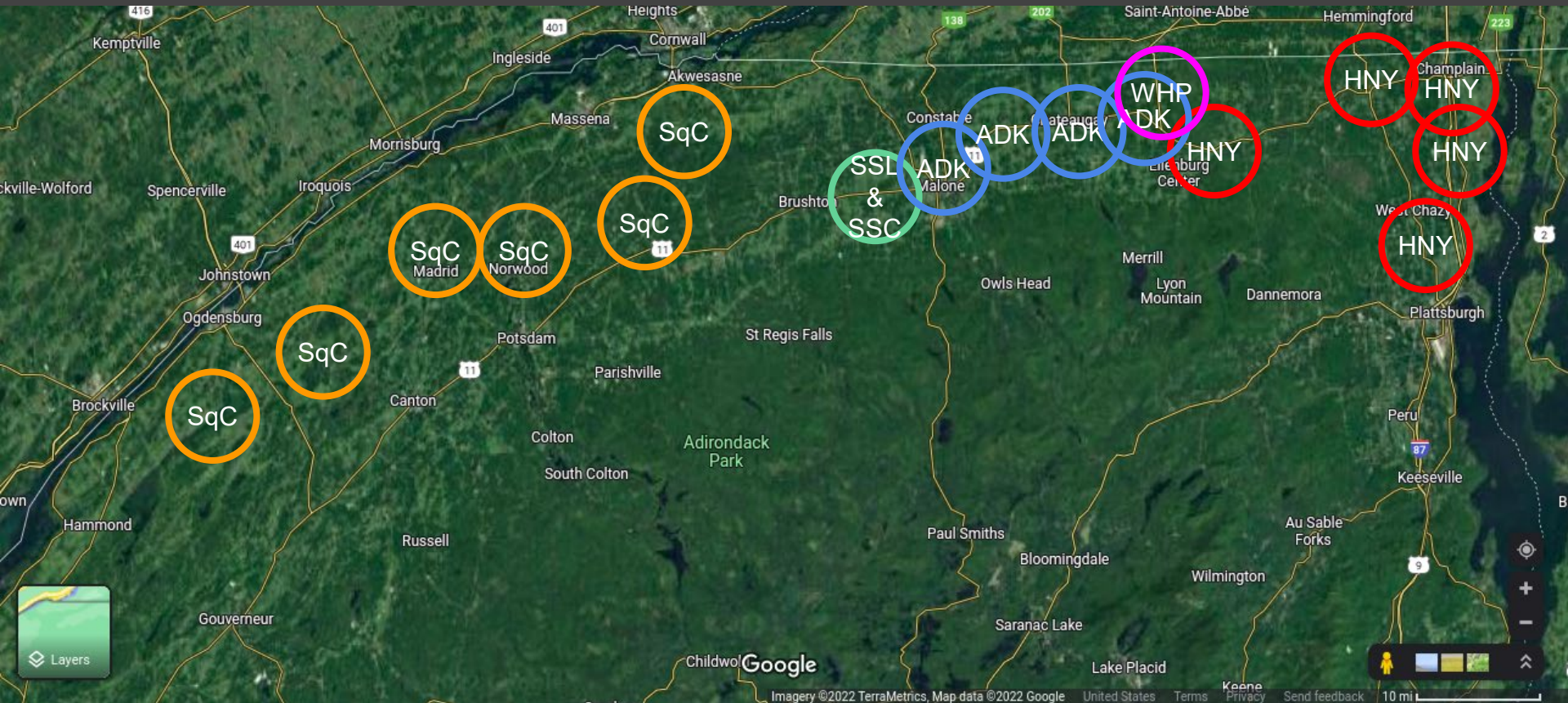


Photo Credits

- Baskets of Veggies: Photo by [Megan Thomas](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Spotted Lanternfly Adult: Photo by [Magi Kern](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Green and yellow beehives: Photo by [Floris Bronkhorst](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Beekeeper with frame: Photo by [HiveBoxx](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Bees on comb: Photo by [Boba Jaglicic](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Clouds: Photo by [Daoudi Aissa](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Wildflowers: Photo by [Annie Spratt](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- Japanese Knotweed: By W.carter - Own work, CC0, commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=87826184

Squeak Creek Apiaries

- Gmail address on jar
- Harvest Dates: Summer 2020
- Hive Locations
 - "In the St. Lawrence Valley" from Black Lake to Helena, NY
- Beek-Identified Forage
 - Clover
 - Basswood
 - Japanese Knotweed
 - Purple Loosestrife
 - Goldenrod



Sugar Shack Light & “Cooking” Honey

- Roadside Honor Bar
- Harvest Dates: Fall 2020 / Spring 2021
- Hive Locations
 - North Bangor, NY
- Beek-Identified Forage
 - Borage
 - Purple Loosestrife
 - Sumac
 - Clover
 - Raspberry
 - Blackberry
 - Knapweed
 - Purple Vetch
 - Alfalfa
 - Elderberry
 - Trees
 - Sunflowers



Adirondack Honey

- Instagram @adirondackhoney
- Harvest Dates: Fall 2020
- Hive Locations
 - Malone, NY
 - Burke, NY
 - Chateaugay, NY
 - Churubusco, NY
- Beek-Identified Forage
 - Wildflowers 🍯_🍯
 - Clover
 - Basswood
 - Goldenrod



Wilson's Honey

- Facebook @wilsonshoneyandpollination
- Harvest Dates: 2020
- Hive Locations
 - Churubusco, NY (?)
- Beek-Identified Forage
 - Dutch clover
 - Vetch
 - Basswood
 - Goldenrod
 - Aster
 - Knapweed



Honey NY

- Instagram @birch_bee
- Harvest Dates: Late July, 2020
- Hive Locations:
 - Champlain, NY
 - Mooers, NY
 - Ellenburg, NY
 - Beekmantown, NY
 - Chazy, NY
- Beek-Identified Forage:
 - Some Dandelion
 - Basswood
 - Sumac
 - Knotweed
 - Milkweed
 - Joe-Pye Weed
 - Aster
 - Clover
 - Locust
 - Some Goldenrod (usually harvest before)

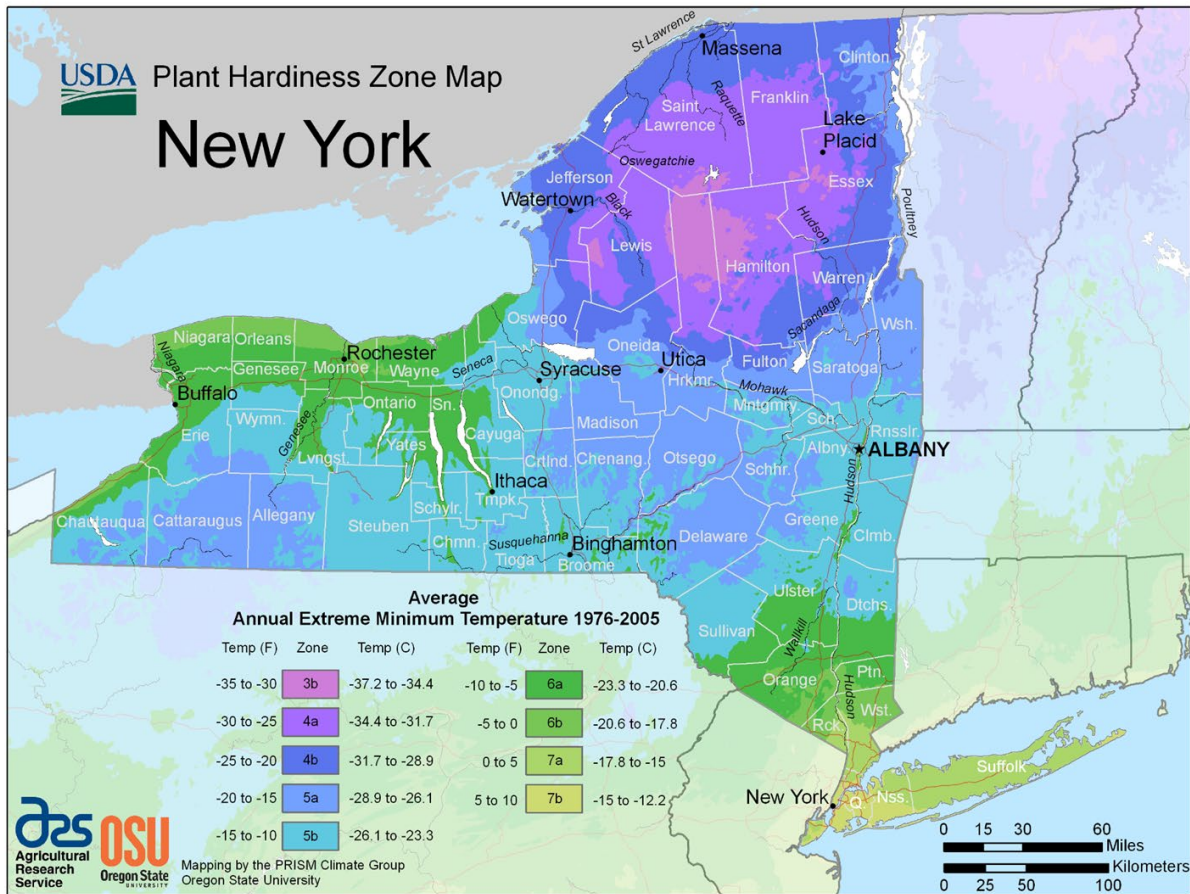


Recipe & Process- Actuals

Honey Label	Go Ferm (g)	Pitch Water (g)	Dry Yeast (g)	FT Blanc Soft (g)	Must Water (g)	Must Honey (g)	Must pH (strips)	Must OG (refract)
Squeak Creek	5.02	100.64	4.03	0.31	3,100	1,135	4.4	20.7 1.087
Sugar Shack - Light	5.03	101.0	4.01	0.31	3,110	1,140	4.4	20.4 1.085
Sugar Shack - Cooking	5.00	116.4	(0.71) 4.00	0.30	3,145	1,135	4.4	20.4 1.085
Adirondack Honey	5.00	102.8	4.01	0.30	3,105	1,140	4.4	21.0 1.088
Wilson's Honey	5.03	101.6	(1.27) 4.03	0.31	3,105	1,135	4.4	21.0 1.088
Honey NY	5.01	101.6	4.00	0.31	3,105	1,140	4.4	20.5 1.086

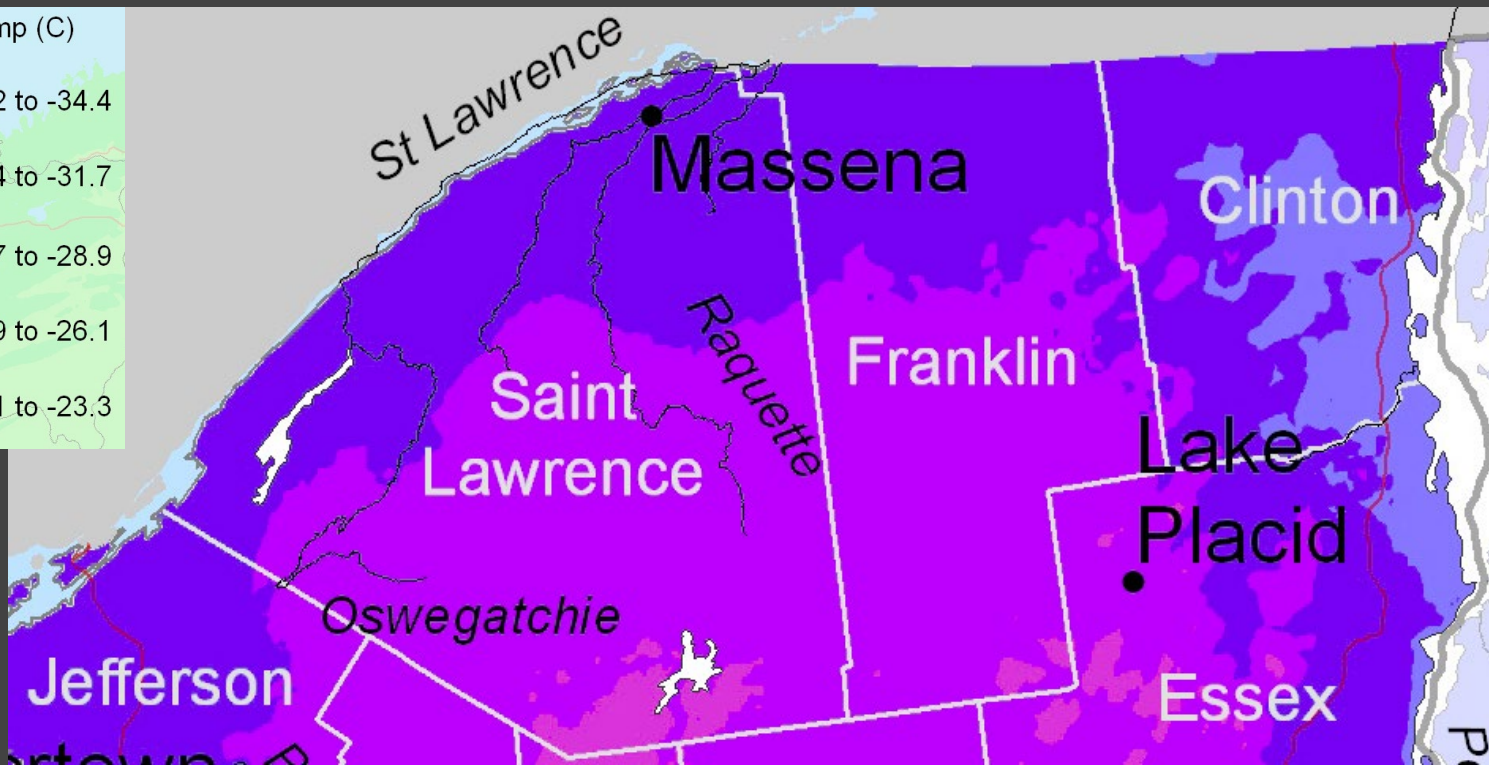
USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

Describes typical winter climate, but does not comment on what grows where.



USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map: Zoom

Temp (F)	Zone	Temp (C)
-35 to -30	3b	-37.2 to -34.4
-30 to -25	4a	-34.4 to -31.7
-25 to -20	4b	-31.7 to -28.9
-20 to -15	5a	-28.9 to -26.1
-15 to -10	5b	-26.1 to -23.3



Monofloral Honey

US FDA: “you may label the honey with the name of the plant or blossom if you or the honey producer has information to support the conclusion that the plant or blossom designated on the label is the chief floral source of the honey”

EU: Different countries may legislate guidelines for monofloral labeling, often using pollen count percentage, organoleptic properties, and/or combinations of other methods