

# DEPARTMENT 34 – BEE CULTURE

To be shown in the Illinois Building  
Superintendent: Jeremy Margaron (#217-855-9034)  
*Premiums Offered: \$3,067.00*

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## INFORMATION

### Entries

An entry fee of \$2.00 per exhibit is required for all classes except for the professional division, which requires a \$42.00 per exhibitor fee covering all classes within the division. A \$3.00 Office Fee is also required for each exhibitor. Entries in all classes shall be made by through the online fair entry system at the Illinois State Fair website. Payment must be made via credit card at the time of entry. No other type of entry will be accepted. Assistance with entries is available at the Competitive Events Office, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All entries must be submitted online on or before July 15, 2025. Fees will not be refunded. Exhibitors are highly encouraged to bring a copy of their entry receipt to check-in.

### Deadlines and Check-in

Entry Deadline	Tuesday, July 15
Entry check-in	Wednesday, August 6, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Exhibit Pick-up	Sunday, August 17, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

### General Requirements & Criteria for Competition

1. General rules apply to all divisions in this department. Please read carefully.
2. The professional division will be limited to four exhibitors.
3. Only one entry will be allowed each exhibitor/apiary in each class.
4. All articles in this department must have been produced in Illinois by the exhibitor.
5. Frames of cut-comb must have been produced on foundation other than brood foundation, containing no vertical crimp wire and suitable for cutting.
6. Entries must be dropped off at the Illinois Building before the end of the check-in period.
7. Entry tags are prepared for each class entered and will be available at the time of check-in.
8. There are to be no labels on any jar entries.
9. Judging will be conducted Thursday, August 7, 2025, starting at 8:00 a.m. and going through Friday, August 8, 2025, until complete.
10. The judges in this department will be governed by the code of rules adopted by the American Beekeeping Federation.
11. The general display of apiary products will be judged for educational value and advertising value (normally for products in general, not a brand) with attractive arrangement, originality and appearance.
12. Judges will use score card in judging. Points will be deducted for entries displaying less than specified amounts.
13. 12 sections only will receive full score for quantity in display of comb honey and not less than 50 lbs. for extracted; 15 lbs. only will receive full score for quantity in display of molded or commercial forms of beeswax; 10 lbs. only will receive full score for quantity in art designs in beeswax. In molded wax, a color between straw and canary yellow is preferred. Beeswax bleached with chemicals will receive a lower score.

14. Moisture points will be awarded based on the following table.

Range	Points	Range	Points	Range	Points
0 – 16.0	20	16.9 – 17.0	15	17.9 – 18.0	10
16.1 – 16.2	19	17.1 – 17.2	14	18.1 – 18.2	9
16.3 – 16.4	18	17.3 – 17.4	13	18.3 – 18.4	8
16.5 – 16.6	17	17.5 – 17.6	12	18.5 – 18.6	6
16.7 – 16.8	16	17.7 – 17.8	11	18.7+	0

15. Ribbons will only be awarded for first through sixth places.
16. On Wednesday, August 13, 2025, the Illinois State Fair Commodities Auction will be held. The Champion Chunk Honey in Glass (Division 3401, Class 06) will be sold at the auction with all proceeds going to the exhibitor.
17. Exhibits not picked up at the conclusion of the show will be given to charity unless prior arrangements have been made with the Superintendent.

### **Special Awards**

**Best Display Booth:** An award will be given to the first-place winner for the Best Display Booth in the Professional Division.

**Sweepstakes:** An award will be given to the exhibitor with the largest number of points accumulated for each division.

### **Division 3401 – Open**

Class No.	Class Description		Premiums
01	Amber chunk honey	3 1-lb. jars, any type of jar glass or plastic	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
02	Amber extracted honey	3 1-lb. queenline or classic jars, strained without pressure filter	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
03	Beeswax - candles	1 pair, molded	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
04	Beeswax - art designs	Not less than 3 lbs.	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
05	Beeswax - molded in commercial forms for sale	Not less than 3 lbs.	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
06	Chunk honey in glass	3 2.5-lb. square jars	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
07	Comb honey in round sections	3 sections	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
08	Crystallized (or creamed) honey in glass	Not less than 3 1-lb. containers	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
09	Dark extracted honey	3 1-lb. queenline or classic jars, strained without pressure filter	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
10	Frame of honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	Shallow frame preferred	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
11	Light chunk honey	3 1-lb. jars, any type of jar glass or plastic	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
12	Light comb honey	3 wooden sections	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
13	Light cut-comb honey	3 plastic boxes	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7
14	Light extracted honey	3 1-lb. queenline or classic jars, strained without pressure filter	\$19-\$17-\$16-\$14-\$12-\$10-\$9-\$8-\$7

**Division 3402 – Professional**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Premiums</b>
<b>01</b>	<b>Professional Class Entry</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Exhibitors wanting to enter this division need only enter class 01 on the online system. Exhibitors will be placed in each of the following classes by the Competitive Events Office.</b>	
02	Amber chunk honey in glass jars	Not less than 3 jars (1-lb. round preferred)
03	Amber comb honey in round sections	3 sections
04	Display of amber cut-comb	6 1-lb. plastic boxes
05	Display of amber extracted honey	30 lbs., strained without pressure filter
06	Display of dark extracted honey	6 1-lb. jars
07	Display of art designs in beeswax	Not less than 10 lbs.
08	Display of beeswax molded in commercial shapes	Not less than 15 lbs.
09	Display of designs in comb honey and comb building	
10	Display of light comb honey	Not less than 12 wooden sections
11	Display of light cut-comb	6 1-lb. plastic boxes
12	Display of light extracted honey	Not less than 50 lbs., strained without pressure filter
13	Display of varieties of honey	30 lbs., various size containers
14	Finely crystalized (or creamed) honey	Not less than 3 1-lb. glass containers
15	Frame of amber honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	Shallow frame preferred
16	Frame of honey for extracting	Either full depth or shallow frame
17	Frame of light honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	Shallow frame preferred
18	Honey Gift Pack	Box, basket or other suitable container of apiary products, contents to be 5 lbs. or less
19	Light chunk honey in glass jars	Not less than 3 jars (1-lb. round preferred)
20	Light comb honey in round sections	3 sections
21	Light or amber chunk honey in glass jars	Not less than 3 2.5-lb. square jars
22	Color Photography	An original 8" x 10" color apiculture photograph, suitably framed for display
23	Best Display Booth	

**\*END OF DEPARTMENT 34 – BEE CULTURE\***