

FARM FRIDAY FUN

WITH ARIZONA AGRICULTURE

HONEY FACTS



When sealed in an airtight container, honey never expires!



Bees are very busy! They need to visit 2 million flowers and fly over 55,000 miles to produce a single pound of honey. That's an impressive feat considering most beehives produce 30 to 100 pounds of honey each year.



Honey is used as a natural treatment for dandruff, stomach ulcers, and even seasonal allergies.



On average, a honey bee produces 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey over the course of its entire life.



Bees can produce purple honey! The color and flavor of honey is determined by the type of plants bees visit.



There are 20,000 species of bees on earth and only seven are known to make honey. The species of honey bee used for commercial beekeeping in the U.S. is called *Apis mellifera*.



A productive bee colony makes two to three times more honey than it needs to survive the winter. Beekeepers take the excess honey not being used by bees, and even feed bees sugar syrup in the autumn to ensure they have enough to eat!



Bees pollinate \$20 billion worth of U.S. crops annually, and approx. 1/3 of all food eaten by Americans is either directly or indirectly derived from the honey bee population.



Along with honey, bees also provide us with Royal Jelly, beeswax, bee pollen, and other interesting and exotic foods.



There's a competition held in Ontario, Canada, each year to create the most impressive bee beard. A queen bee is placed under the chin of participants, and other bees gather around her to form the beard.

