

Randolph County Honey Show Rules

A sanctioned show of the American Honey Show Training Council

HOST: _Randolph County Beekeepers Association _ (hereinafter: RCBA)

CHAIRPERSONS: Mark Case

EXHIBIT FEE: \$5 per person

ARRIVAL TIME: August 1, 2026; Between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

LOCATION: Randolph County Agriculture Center, HWY 64, Asheboro NC

JUDGING: August 1, 2026, Beginning at 2:30 PM

RELEASE TIME: August 1, 2026, between 7:30 PM and 8:30 PM.

General Rules of the Honey Show:

1. The honey show is open to any who wishes to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein.
2. You may select to enter a 'novice' category if you have never earned a first, second or third place in a category.
3. Exhibitors under 16 years of age may choose to enter in either adult or junior. You must decide at the time of entry which grouping you wish to enter.
4. Each Exhibitor must sign an affidavit stating that each exhibit he or she submits was produced by the Exhibitor in conformity with the rules set forth herein.
5. Each Exhibitor may enter only one exhibit per category. More than one individual from a family or household may submit exhibits across different categories: however, family members and individuals from common households may not submit multiple exhibits in the same category.
6. Unless specifically otherwise provided for under an individual category's rules, ALL honey, beeswax, propolis, pollen, or royal jelly exhibited, or made part of any exhibit, must be produced by the exhibitor from honeybees owned and kept by the Exhibitor.
7. All beeswax items, unless otherwise specifically allowed herein, must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, free from any additives or enhancements. *The use of synthetic, artificial, or adulterated beeswax or drawn honeycomb is strictly prohibited. Exhibits found to be containing any of the above will be disqualified. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.*
8. Regarding the requirement of uniformity, items within or comprising any single exhibit should be alike and matching in every way: jars, containers, closures, contents, composition, orientation,

placement, presentation, etc., should be identical across all individual items comprising any single exhibit.

9. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way.
10. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, exhibitors may not enter the area where the exhibits have been placed.
11. The Secretary, Stewards or Judges are the only persons who may enter the honey judging area.
12. Judges will enter the honey show area after the close of exhibitor acceptance. This is to ensure as close to a blind judging as possible.
13. Exhibits must be unmarked or identifiable in any way, except as provided herein. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to each exhibit as provided in the rules for each exhibition category. **The Exhibitor shall be responsible for placing the ID labels on each exhibit** as directed for each exhibition category, unless otherwise specified herein.

JUDGING & AWARDS:

It is the intention that awards will be given in all categories even if there is only one exhibit in the category. However, in order to receive an award, that exhibit must be worthy of placement. Placing an Exhibit into a category does not guarantee an award.

All exhibits shall be judged by individuals who are trained and certified AHSTC Honey Judges. The Senior judge shall have final say in any matter pertaining to the contest if called upon and shall have the authority to exclude or disqualify any exhibit(s) for good cause. The Judge(s) shall have the final say regarding the evaluation of any and all exhibits. The decisions of the Senior judge are final. Exhibitors found willfully cheating, or purposefully altering or disfiguring an exhibit for the purpose of influencing the validity of judging will be disqualified from the contest.

Club Member Category Prizes:

Ribbons will be awarded as follows:

In each category: First place; Second Place; Third Place; Fourth Place.
Awards will be presented at the August 1, 2026, RCBA meeting. The meeting is a covered dish social event, open to all. Bring some food items to share with others. Best in show is subject to the discretion of the Honey Judge.

The following categories will be accepted and judged at the Honey Show:

- H1** Extracted Honey
- H5** Creamed Honey
- H11** Black Jar Honey
 - W1** Beeswax Block
- W2** Beeswax Bars
- W7** Beeswax Candles
 - A14** Photography - color
 - A15** Photography - black and white
- F3** Breads Made with Honey
- F4** Cookies made with Honey

- A1** Arts and crafts
- A22** Beekeeping Antiquities
- B1** Meads (open)

The following novice categories will be accepted and judged at the Honey Show:

- H2** Novice Extracted Honey
- W3** Novice Beeswax Item
- W5** Novice Beeswax Candles

The following junior categories will be accepted and judged at the Honey Show:

- H1j** Extracted Honey
- H5j** Creamed Honey
- W4** Beeswax Bars
- W7j** Beeswax Candles
 - A14j** Photography - color
 - A15j** Photography - black and white
- F3j** Breads Made with Honey
- F4j** Cookies made with Honey
- A1j** Arts and crafts

Rules for Individual Categories:

Extracted Honey H1a H1b H1c & H1j (junior)

Extracted honey is judged in three subcategories: (a) light, (b) medium or amber, and (c) dark. Entrants may submit one exhibit in each of these three categories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as three (3) one-pound jars. All forms of extracted honey are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), "Queen-line" or "Classic" style jars; any exhibits submitted in any other style of jar or container will be disqualified. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be severely penalized. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). *See Appendix hereafter for notes on correct jars and fill level.

Novice Extracted Honey H2

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a First, Second or Third prize in any extracted honey category at any prior honey show. An exhibit consists of one (1) one-pound jar of extracted honey. All forms of extracted honey are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), "Queen-line" or "Classic" style jars; any exhibits submitted in any other style of jar or container will be disqualified. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be severely penalized. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). *See Appendix hereafter for notes on correct jars and fill level.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the exhibit. The label should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of the jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

Creamed Honey (soft set) H5a H5b & H5j

Creamed Honey is judged in two subcategories: (a) natural, and (b) flavored. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these two subcategories. Creamed or Soft Set honey is honey that has been subjected to a manual or mechanical process to assist and control the otherwise natural process of granulation. An entry of creamed honey is three (3) identical wide-mouth jars, no less than eight ounces (8oz.), nor more than sixteen ounces (16oz.) in net weight. Creamed honey must be displayed in identical, clear, straight-sided, glass jars with one-piece lids. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; cleanliness and purity of the honey; uniformity of product within the jar; fineness of crystals; appropriate set or firmness (should be spreadable but not runny); freedom from foam, frosting, or visible moisture; freedom from added flavors, striation, or colors; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors); and moisture content (only if in question).

The exhibitor must submit a white card describing the process and procedure (including all steps and equipment) employed to produce their creamed honey.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the jars comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar. An ID label should also be affixed to the white card accompanying the exhibit.

Black Jar H11

An entry consists of not less than two ounces, nor more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. Entries should be submitted in black or colored jar which entirely obscures the contents of the jar. Judges evaluate entries for flavor only. Black jar is not eligible for best in show. Black jars become the property of the show after judging.

Beeswax Block W1

An exhibit consists of one (1) block of pure beeswax. The block must weigh between one to two pounds, no more, and should have a thickness no greater than 1.5 inches. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The block should be smooth-surfaced and free of blemishes, decorations or embellishments.

Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

The block should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Alternatively, at the Exhibitor's option, the block may be presented in a protective display case. If a showcase is used, it must not exceed 12" (length) x12" (width) x 4" (depth), and the wax block must be readily accessible for judging. The showcase will not be judged, aside for cleanliness. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; finish; absence of pouring or casting defects including cracks, raised edges, unevenness, rippled or wavy surfaces, and aroma (for off aromas). *The presence of the word "BEESWAX" imprinted on one surface of the block shall not be counted as a flaw or defect. However, any such mark or imprint shall be judged for casting flaws and sharpness of detail.

The labels should be affixed on the underside of the block or on the board that it is presented on as well as another ID label on the exterior right hand corner of the bag or display case.

Beeswax Bars W2

An exhibit is defined as six (6) identical one (1) ounce beeswax bars.

Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

The bars should be submitted on a plain, white paper plate, in a zip-top bag. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

Beeswax Bars- label is placed on the top center of the board the bars are displayed on and another on the exterior right hand corner of the bag or display case

Novice Beeswax Item W3

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a First, Second or Third prize in any beeswax category at any prior honey show. An exhibit consists of one (1) beeswax item, weighing no less than one (1) ounce and no more than eight (8) ounces. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The beeswax should be clean, and free of impurities. The item should be smooth-surfaced, and free of blemishes. The item should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail. The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the exhibit. The label should be affixed on the bottom of the item.

Beeswax Bars W4 (junior)

An exhibit is defined as three (3) identical one (1) ounce beeswax bars. *Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of*

beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The bars should be submitted on a plain, white paper plate, in a zip-top bag. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

Beeswax Bars- label is placed on the top center of the board the bars are displayed on and another on the exterior right hand corner of the bag or display case

Novice Beeswax Candle W5

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a First, Second or Third prize in any beeswax candle category at any prior honey show. An exhibit is defined as one (1) beeswax candle. The beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Wicks should be primed and trimmed to one-half inch in length. The candle should have a flat base with wicks waxed and well centered. The candle will be lit by the judge and allowed to burn. The exhibit must be presented with one (1) free-standing, fire-proof base or candleholder. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); proper wicking; performance; uniformity; casting or rolling flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place an ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the bottom of the candleholder the candle is submitted with, and another label on the bottom, or at the base of the candle.

Beeswax Candles (open) W7 W7j

An exhibit of molded or dipped candles shall consist of two (2) identical candles. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. *Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of that of commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.* Molded candles must have flat finished bases with wicks well centered. Dipped tapers should have the last drip left on, and the wicks on dipped tapers must be left joined. Molded taper candles must be displayed in an appropriate candle holder. Taper candles will be removed from the holder and replaced after judging. The minimum length of all molded or dipped candles is eight

inches. Wicks must be waxed and trimmed to one-half inch in length. Floating candles should be submitted with a dish of sufficient size and capacity to allow the candles to float freely.

*All exhibitors of floating candles shall bring an empty exhibit bowl with a plastic container filled with the exact amount of water the exhibitor wants to be emptied into the bowl at set up.

One candle will be lit.

Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); performance; uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

Photographs Related to Beekeeping A14 A15 A14j A15j

Photographs Related to Beekeeping are judged in color (A14) or black and white(A15) categories. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these categories.

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related photograph of their own composition. The photograph must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. Photographs must be either 4"x6" or 5"x7" in size. The photograph must be mounted, matted, or framed. The photograph must stand up for display; either equipped with an easel back, or the entrant must provide an easel on which to display the exhibit. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each exhibit.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the frame on the back of the exhibit (centered near the top), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind, this is a honey show. These beverage & culinary categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and impact of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey, will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities.

Breads Made with Honey: F3 F3j

The Exhibitor may submit one example of a bread baked by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of one (1) standard size loaf, or two (2) rolls, biscuits, muffins, or mini-loaves. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit. *In the event an exhibit in this

category is too large to fit in a commonly available cake box, the exhibitor may submit his/her exhibit in some other appropriate, resealable container.

Cookies Made with Honey F4 F4j

The Exhibitor may submit one example of a cookie prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of no less than six (6), nor more than twelve (12), pieces or servings. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.

Artwork and Crafts Related to Beekeeping A1 A1j

Artwork is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, often in a visual form such as (but no way limited to) painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. Artwork is usually unique and one of a kind. Crafts typically use material that can often be reproduced. Crafts often use premade components to combine into a tangible form for reproduction. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related artwork or craft of their own composition. The artwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor.

The artwork or craft must be mounted or freestanding in design. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white index card with a description of the item must accompany each entry.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor may obscure the signature or identifying mark.

Beekeeping Antiquities A22

An exhibit in this category is any item related to beekeeping produced, manufactured, or published at least fifty (50) years prior to the date of the current exhibition. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related item meeting the following criteria. The item must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and must be at least fifty (50) years old. The submission of reproductions is allowed; however, a strong preference shall be given to original

items. Judges evaluate entries on the following: originality, age, rarity, condition, provenance, nostalgic impact, and influence on the world of beekeeping. *A white index card with a description of the item and a summary of its provenance must accompany each exhibit. For purposes of this contest, the term “provenance” shall be defined as follows: Any record(s) or documentation supporting an exhibit’s source, origin, creation, record of ownership, custody, or authenticity. The submission of original documentation regarding an exhibit's provenance is strongly encouraged.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit. In such instances where the affixing (or removal) of a label to an original item might damage the item, the placement of a single label on the white card accompanying the item will be acceptable.

BEVERAGES MADE WITH HONEY (Category B)

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind; this is a honey show. These beverage & culinary categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and impact of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey, will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities.

Meads B1

Meads are judged in an open category. An exhibit consists of one, clear, uncolored, glass standard 750ml wine bottle. Punt bottles are acceptable as long as they are standard pattern wine bottles. Tee tasting, or mushroom-style corks are acceptable closures; traditional, inserted corks will not be accepted by the Show Secretary. Bottles should be filled to a point precisely two (2) centimeters from the bottom of the cork. Sparkling/ carbonated must have a champagne type closure.

All mead must be produced by the Exhibitor and from honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the container and closure; cleanliness and clarity of the contents; correct fill level; color; clarity; lack of sediment and aroma.

*A white card with a description of the type or style of mead and the full recipe (including all ingredients and ingredient quantities) must accompany each exhibit. The Exhibitor should also note on the white card if they have submitted a second bottle for chilled tasting.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the front, bottom, center of the bottle, ½ inch from the bottom of the bottle. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit. *In the event an Exhibitor elects to submit a second bottle to be chilled for tasting, the Show Secretary will affix an additional identifying label around the neck of the bottle to be chilled.



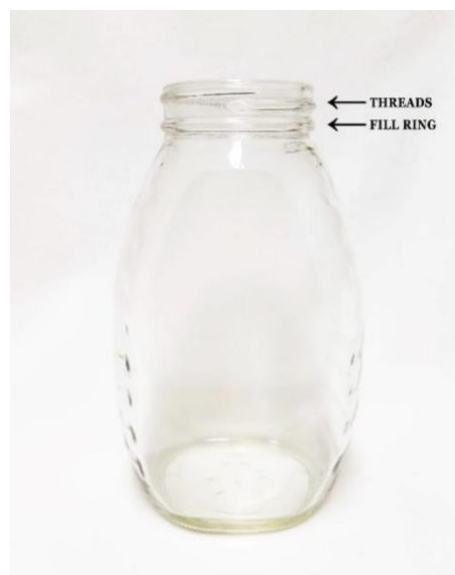
Appendix

Notes on Correct Fill Level:

- The fill ring is the raised ridge, or ring of glass, immediately above the shoulder of the jar and below the threads. It can be distinguished from the threads in two ways:
 - a) the fill ring forms a complete circle, without ends; and
 - b) the fill ring will be completely parallel with the bottom and top of the jar.
- Liquid honey in a circular shape forms a concave surface sometimes referred to as a meniscus. For the purpose of filling jars, the edge of the meniscus should clearly be at the top of the fill ring, without going over.



Queenline Style Jar



Classic Style