

# Chapter 5

## Analysis of Serbian Honey Production and Exports

### **ABSTRACT**

*In this chapter, the emphasis of research was put on an analysis of production and turnover of honey on the global market. After reading this chapter, readers will be familiar with volume of the world and European production of honey. They will find out the geographic structure of honey production in Serbia, i.e., will understand how the increase in number of hives and the volume of honey production affect the export potential. Readers will find out which factors operate restrictively on the development of honey sector in Serbia. They will understand the role of increasing amounts and values of honey export and will notice the correlation with the positive index values of comparative advantage of honey export from Serbia to the international market. The conclusions of numerous authors, who were engaged in honey sector in their countries and especially the issues and problems of the Serbian honey sector, will be presented to them. These issues and problems haven't been comprehensively researched until now.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Around 1.2 million tons of honey produces annually worldwide, of which one third in overturn on international market. Chinese production dominates and amounts approximately 361.33 thousand tons and a share of 24.57% of world production. In second place after the production of honey is the

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European Union with an average production of 197.76, then Turkey with 79.98 thousand tons and share of 5.4%. In fourth place after the production of honey is Argentina with the average production of 78.62 thousand tons and a share of 5.34% (in period 2001-2013).

According to data of experts, the annual consumption of all kinds of sugar shouldn't exceed 38 kg per person. In Russia, this amount is 41 kg, in U.S.A. around 60 kg, and in both countries a share of honey in that annual sugar consumption is the same and amounts only 0.8%. Industry in U.S.A. consumes more than 50% of total honey (domestic and imported), and the same is with other developed countries. There evaluates that Russian industry now consumes only around 5% of honey which is manufactured in the state (and it uses sugar and artificial honey), which is very low and inflicts damage to beekeeping, by not having contribution to honey purchase. Germans are the biggest manufacturers of honey, with annual consumption of 88.000 tons, i.e. in average 1,100 gr per capita per year. The consumption of honey increases in developing countries, while it has stabilized in high-developed countries and maintained at the same level. Thus, the production of honey in U.S.A. amounts around 0.50 kg for fifty years back, thanks to an active advertisement. The production of honey declines, for example, in Great Britain (and in some other developed countries).

European demand for honey is still very strong and exporter constantly seek for new suppliers, therefore demand is higher than supply. The European production is not sufficient to settle domestic needs, which represents a chance for exporters in developing countries. As it was previously stated, EU was the biggest world producer of honey and was responsible for over 20% of total world production. China, USA and Turkey are other great consumers of honey in the world.

In this chapter the authors were dealing with the production and turnover of honey. At the very beginning, readers, after a brief introduction, were introduced to structure and dynamics of the world honey production, the consumption characteristics, depending on consumers' aptitudes. Most of the text in this study is the analysis of Serbian honey sector: volume of production, number of hives and a yield per hive, aiming to consider problems and initiate their resolution. After the recognized production potentials, the analysis was directed to export structure. In detail review of export/import, expressed through the amount, value and unit price is of special importance. Finally, there was presented the coverage of import by export and the trade balance. According to those indicators, the authors have singled out ten countries which import Serbian honey. Available data, after already consistent methodology,

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