

## Procedure for Becoming a Certified Honey Producer

1. To participate a NCSBA member, in good standing, must apply to the Honey Board.
2. Criteria for participation:
  - A. Agree to abide by provisions of the NC Honey Standard, and
  - B. Agree to process and bottle honey by sanitary and healthy procedures, and
  - C. Pay an initiation fee of \$25 to the NCSBA which will provide certification for a period of two years, at which time certification may be renewed.
  - D. Application may be made through, a member of the Honey Board, an officer, or regional rep of the NCSBA. This person will be the initial approving authority.
  - E. The initial approving authority will determine if further investigation is necessary before his or her endorsement after which it will be forwarded to the Honey Board for final approval.
  - F. Upon final approval by the Honey Board, the applicant will be notified and his or her name will be listed on a "Certified Producer" registry to be included on the official NCSBA website, and
  - G. Upon final approval by the Honey Board, the applicant may purchase "Certified" labels from a vendor approved by the Honey Board.
3. The Honey Board will contract with a vendor to provide "Certified" labels to approved applicants. The "Certified" labels will bear a Registered Trademark symbol owned by NCSBA which gives it the sole authority for determining criteria and circumstances under which this label may be used.
4. As a condition for using the "Certified" labels, applicants agree to adhere to all provisions of the Honey Standard, at all times. A violation will result in termination of the privilege.
5. The beekeeper shall designate the appropriate category for his/her honey:

**Category #1**

Honey that is produced in North Carolina and is pure and natural. Honey that meets all of the requirements of the NC Honey Standard, except that it is not designated from a specific floral source. Terms such as "Fall" honey and "wildflower" honey are acceptable. Claims such as "raw" and "Organic" are not acceptable. Honey may be labeled as "USDA Grade A Honey, however, it is the producer's responsibility to meet those standards. Honey may be labeled as "fat free food" but not "fat free honey", and as "cholesterol free food" but not "cholesterol free honey."

**Category #2**

Honey that meets requirements in Category 1, plus is certified as to specific floral source, such as "sourwood" in accordance with requirements of the NCSBA Honey Standard. Subject to testing by NCSBA.

**Category #3**

Honey that is certified as Pure and Natural Honey, and is identified as to place or origin, if not North Carolina.

6. The Honey Board will promote the "Certified" label as value added for those who participate in this program. As part of the promotion, a website will be maintained to explain and promote the "Certification" program, to list registrants approved to participate in the program and for other appropriate promotions.

**Application**                      NCSBA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NCSBA Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Hives \_\_\_\_\_ Where Located \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to adhere to terms of the North Carolina Honey Standard as adopted by the NC State Beekeepers Association, the conditions set out above and further agree to process and bottle my honey in accordance with the best sanitary practices. I understand that my honey may be tested by the NCSBA Honey Board to insure compliance with these standards.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

*(Give form either to a member of the NC Honey Board or an NCSBA Officer)*