

Canadian Megatrends: Let's talk honey

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The April issue of *Canadian Megatrends* takes a look at honey production in Canada.

Statistics Canada has been tracking honey production in Canada since 1924, when 22,205 beekeepers produced 16.8 million pounds. Since then, honey production has followed an upward trend, reaching 95.3 million pounds, with a sales value of \$232 million, in 2015.

The increase, however, was not consistent over the years, as production fell to record lows in the 1950s. In subsequent decades, production nearly tripled, totalling 95.5 million pounds in the mid-1980s.

Since then, honey production has remained an unstable business, recording marked annual changes. For example, it hit a record high of 106.6 million pounds in 2006, then fell by more than a third to 64.9 million pounds in 2007, only to rebound again.

While honey production is their most obvious handiwork, bees are also crucial to the pollination of crops. Canola was by far the most important bee-pollinated crop in 2014, with sales topping \$7.3 billion, followed by soybeans at just over \$2.5 billion.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [3419](#).

The article, "[Let's talk honey](#)," is now available as part of *Canadian Megatrends* ([11-630-X](#)), from *The Daily* module of our website.

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