



The Elephant in the room IS.....!!

The Food Safety News article of 8-15-11 "Asian Honey, Banned in Europe, is flooding U.S. Grocery Shelves".

Let me be very clear. GFI has already sent out an official response via our Quality Department, but the article still bugs me! Freedom of speech is a right, but how much can a person take when facts are missing?



Out-takes from the article:

- "A third or more of the honey consumed in the U.S. is likely to have been smuggled in from China."
- "Some of the largest and most long-established U.S. honey packers are knowingly buying mislabeled, transhipped or possibly altered honey".
- "Adee (Richard-U.S beekeeper) and others interviewed by Food Safety News say there are 12 major honey packers in the U.S. and four or five that are involved with the bulk of illegal trade"

My freedom of speech allows me to say, "likely or possibly Food Safety News may be *involved* in a non-balanced article."

The facts:



1. USA consumption is 400M/lbs. and domestic production is 145M/lbs.....you do the math!
2. GFI supports the development of a Honey Standard of Identity.
3. GFI started inspecting suppliers in 2009, and does 100% lot testingany other honey packer BRC approved?
4. China shipped over 165M/lbs. of honey into the EU and Japan in 2010.....so China does sell honey!
5. Greed wasn't created yesterday!
6. I don't think it's fair that the entire Industry get painted with the same brush! ***Life isn't fair!***

You have the opportunity to speak your mind in the Honey Industry with your decisions on who will be your supplier.

(subtle hint!)

Just when I had a dream that politicians would balance our budget I woke up and there was a GMO Alert

On 9-6-11 the EU Court of Justice announced that Honey and food supplements containing pollen derived from a GMO are foodstuffs produced from GMO's which cannot be marketed without prior authorization.

What we know at this point!:

- ✓ EU honey labels must bear GMO status once the GMO pollen level rises above .9%. GMO Pollen is inactive.
- ✓ This EU ruling will impact honey prices, but the jury is still out on how!
- ✓ There is confusion in the EU on this matter, so a full report will follow!

Say a prayer for our troops . . . the freedoms they give us will pale this honey issue.

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