Natural Honey (HS 040900)

- MUS imports US$ 1, SYC US$ 0.1 mln. of natural honey p.a.
- ZMB export US$ 2 mln p.a., MDG and MWI also export in small quantities.
- MUS and SYC import from diverse countries including Australia and China, with 5% of MUS imports coming from MDG.
- ZMB exports mostly to Europe, with no other APEI+ exports. 50% of MDG’s exports go to MUS.

**Market trends:** Mauritian imports have grown at ~20% p.a. in recent years, with imports divided ~50/50 between pre-packaged and bulk for domestic packaging. In addition to domestic consumption, specialty honey is marketed to tourists in high-end packaging. Seychelles’ imports have been largely stagnant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mauritius</th>
<th>Seychelles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>low</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6,197</td>
<td>6,911</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>6,732</td>
<td>7,178</td>
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</table>

**Higher prices:**
- Low water content (<14%)
- Low pollen content
- Certified origin / organic

**Lower prices:**
- High water content (>20%)
- High pollen content

**Market access:** Natural honey enters both Mauritius and Seychelles duty free.
Natural Honey (HS 040900)

**Seasonality:** Mauritius and Seychelles import honey year round. In Mauritius, there is a spike in imports in November / December marking the beginning of the main tourist season.

**Transport:** All natural honey is imported to Mauritius by sea while Seychelles imports ~6% of total value by air. Use of mixed containers is common.

**Importers:** In Mauritius, the three largest buyers account for 68% of imports while for Seychelles the corresponding figure is 38%. The following companies have expressed interest in imports from APEI+ countries:

**Mauritius:**

Food Canners LTD  
Mr. Jacques T.M. Li Wan Po, Managing Director  
jacques_liwanpo@foodcanners.com  
+230 286 2888

**Seychelles:**

Seychelles Trading Company  
Ms. Francoise Robert, General Manager Imports  
francoise@stcl.sc  
+248 4285153

ISPC Ltd  
Mr. Alfred Fourcroy, CEO and Partner  
ispc@ispc.sc  
+248 4 389 211
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APEI+</th>
<th>Mauritius</th>
<th>Import</th>
<th>Seychelles</th>
<th>Import</th>
<th>Madagascar</th>
<th>Export</th>
<th>Malawi</th>
<th>Export</th>
<th>Mozambique</th>
<th>Export</th>
<th>Zambia</th>
<th>Export</th>
<th>Total non-APEI+</th>
<th>40900 - Honey; natural ('000 US$)</th>
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<tr>
<td>APEI+ Total</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>APEI+ Total</td>
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<td>APEI+ Total</td>
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<td>APEI+ share</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
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**40900 - Honey; natural ('000 US$)**
**Applicable Licencing and Sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS)**

**Agency**

Ministry of Health (MoH), Mauritius

**Standards**

The regulations are as per the Section 13, Food Act, Food Regulation 1999, Honey shall –

1. be the natural sweet substance produced by honey bees from the nectar of blossoms or from secretions of or on living parts of plants and stored in honey combs;
2. contain not less than 65 % of reducing sugars calculated as invert sugar;
3. not contain more than 21 % water and one per cent ash;
4. have a sucrose content of not more than 10 per cent; and
5. have an acidity of not more than 40 milli-equivalents acid per 1,000 gm.

As per THIRD SCHEDULE [Regulation 23(a) and (d)]
Honey is placed under food & food container category and requires a pre-market approval permit issued by the Permanent Secretary.

As per SEVENTH SCHEDULE [Regulation 62(2)(a)]
Maximum permitted proportion of metal contaminant (Parts Per Million):  
- Arsenic - 1.0  
- Antimony - 1.0  
- Lead - 2.0  
- Copper - 30.0  
- Tin - 40.0  
- Zinc - 40.0  
- Mercury - 0.03  
- Cadmium - 1.0  
- Fluorine - 10.0  
- Selenium - 2.0

As per FIFTEENTH SCHEDULE [Regulation 91(a)],  
Honey should not contain any colouring substance

**Veterinary Services, Mauritius**

Import Permits are authorised, Provided that the consignment is accompanied by a veterinary export certificate from the competent authority of the exporting country, stating:

1. The Honey has been processed to remove all impurities
2. The consignment is accompanied with results of laboratory analysis as regards moistures, ash, acidity, apparent reducing sugars, apparent sucrose and water insoluble matte.
3. The honey originates from apiaries recognized as being free from contagious bee diseases regarding the OIE List of bee diseases for at least the past 2 years.
4. The date and number of this import permit must be shown on the Veterinary Certificate

**Note to the Importer:**

a) This permit may be cancelled without any compensation at any time in case of disease outbreak or suspicion of disease in the exporting country
b) Date, time of arrival and flight number should be communicated to this office at least three days prior to arrival  
c) This honey should not be fed to honey bees. Only for human consumption