

Unit 17 Beekeeping

✦ Glossary

Buttery: tasting like butter

Dressing: a sauce for salads

Watery: resembling water

✦ Honey varieties

Each variety of honey has its own texture, taste, colour and flavour depending upon the region, floral source and how the bees are treated. Honey can be classified on the basis of country, region, processing, treatment, certification, filtration, healing properties, colour, taste, flavour etc.

It can be also classified on the basis of colour such as amber, light, dark, yellow, gold and so on. If classified on the basis of a floral source, it may bear names like mono-floral, polyfloral, acacia, alfalfa, rosemary etc. Yet, another classification is based on the form such as liquid, solid, set and crystallized.



Here are some honey varieties based on the flower source.

- **Alfalfa:** honey from this flower is white or light amber-coloured and is considered good for common, everyday use.
- **Avocado:** honey from the flowers of this plant tends to be darker in colour and has a rich, **buttery** taste. Avocado honey is most commonly used in **dressings** and sauces.
- **Basswood:** the honey that is derived from the blossoms of this tree is noted for its **watery** white colour and its strong taste.
- **Blueberry:** blueberry honey, contrary to popular belief, is not honey with blueberries added. It is actually derived from blueberry flowers. Its colour ranges from light amber to amber-coloured. It has a full, well-rounded flavour and is great for making sauces and baking.
- **Clover:** clover honey is the variety that most people think of as common, table honey. Its colour is white-water to extra light amber, and it has a delicate taste.
- **Eucalyptus:** eucalyptus honey is as varied as the species of plant from which it comes. It has a wide variety of colours and flavours. It is best used in making sauces and dressings and in baking.

(Adapted from: M. Whittington, *Types of honey and the best ways to use each variety*, www.honeycolony.com, 2014)



Understanding the text

1. Read the text and find adjectives and expressions related to the following elements. One has been done as an example.

Colours of honey: **white**

Taste / flavour:

2. Write down the honey variety that best conforms to the descriptions below. In some cases more than one honey variety may be suitable.

1. A common honey, with a delicate taste:

2. A honey to make a sauce:

3. A honey with a pungent taste:

4. A honey that is dark in colour with a creamy flavour:

3. Read the text again and find expressions which mean much the same as the following.

1. È considerato buono per:

2. Tende a essere:

3. Deriva da:

4. È conosciuto per:

5. Ha un sapore:

6. Il colore varia:

Writing

4. Think of a honey variety that is common in your area and write a paragraph of about 40 words describing it. Use some of the terms and expressions from the previous exercises.

Handwriting practice area with a spiral binding at the top and horizontal lines for writing.