

Do you think your bees make the best tasting honey in Howard County?

Then be sure to bring it to the October 11, 2022 meeting to enter it in the HCBA “Black Jar” honey contest! The only criterion used in this contest is taste and your honey will be judged by the HCBA members who come to the October meeting at the Fairgrounds .

Please sign up at the registration desk to enter a jar of your honey. If you are interested in being a honey tasting judge, you must sign up at the registration desk.

Black Jar Contest rules:

1. Judges and contest entrants must be current 2022 HCBA members.
2. The honey entered must have been produced in Maryland by the entrant – as an individual or as part of family, business, Chapter, or other group effort.
3. Entries must be at least 12 ounces of honey in a squeezable container with a flip-top lid (12 ounce honey bears are suitable).
 - o *The honey will be squeezed out onto a spoon for tasting, so this is a very important, firm requirement.*
4. Honey entrants must sign in and leave the honey at the registration desk.
5. Honey containers must have the entrant’s name on it anywhere *except* on the lid.
 - o Containers will be covered with foil to obscure characteristics and distinguishing marks such as labels.
6. Judging will take place during the October 11th meeting. Judges will vote for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place by using blue, red, and white poker chips dropped into a corresponding voting jar with each honey entry.
7. Judging will end for all when any entrant's container is emptied.
8. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3d place will be awarded based on the total points an entry receives. (3 points for every first place vote, 2 for every second place vote, and 1 for every third place vote.
9. Honey not consumed during the contest can be reclaimed at the end of the meeting.
10. If there are more than 15 jars entered for judging, there will be two voting rounds.
11. Questions? Please contact Valerie Wampler, the contest organizer at valwampler@yahoo.com.