

National Honey Board & Virginia Honey Label Law

The National Honey Board presents basic label rules on their website at <http://www.honey.com/nhb/industry/labeling-information/>

- 1) **The word Honey** must be displayed prominently on the front of the jar.
- 2) **Net weight** displayed in both pounds/ounces and metric weight should be displayed in the bottom third of the label with a clear font. Ex: Net Wt. 16 oz. (454 g)
- 3) **Ingredients**, if only honey, do not need to be listed. Additional ingredients do.
- 4) **Contact information** - Located on the front of the label or back information label. The label must let consumers know *who put the product on the market and how to contact that person*. Contact information should include full name, and full address and phone number *if space permits*. The information must be in a type size that is at least 1/16th inch tall.
- 5) If you are not extracting and bottling in a Virginia certified/inspected environment and you sell **less than 250 GALLONS** of honey, Virginia law requires additional labeling language. (*An Act to amend and reenact § 3.2-5130 of the Code of Virginia, relating to inspections by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of private home processing of honey.* [S 1108] Approved). See: <http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?111+ful+SB1108ER>

In Summary:

An additional label must be affixed to the bottle that states "WARNING: Do Not Feed Honey to Infants Under One Year Old" and "Processed and Prepared without State inspection"

The Virginia Certification for Inspection and Request for Exemption can be found here: <http://vdacs.state.va.us/forms-pdf/cp/dairyfoods/honeycert.pdf>