

Analysis of the legal base that regulates safety and quality of honey

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Comparative analysis of indicators for honey safety and quality which are provided in DSTU 4497:2005, Directives 2001/110/EC and 96/23/EC, Regulations (EC) 178/2002, 396/2005 and 853/2004, Codex Alimentarius (CAC 12-1981) were carried out.

Ukraine has entered to the top five world leaders, which produce honey (over 50 000 tons). World output of honey is 1.5 million tons per year, and Ukraine produces 5% of the total figure.

The essential difference in the legislation structure which regulates quality of honey in countries of the EU and Ukraine includes: content of renewable sugars, sucrose, electrical conductivity and levels of hydroxymethylfurfural.

Safety of honey in Ukraine is regulated by ISO 4497: 2005 and "The minimum list of research materials, products of animal and vegetable origin, animal feed raw materials, feed, vitamins, etc.", as far as in European countries and the WTO by Directive 96/23/EC and EC Regulation 37/2010. The spectrum of antimicrobial agents which is controlled in the EU and Ukraine is dissimilar.

So, it is necessary to harmonize applicable regulations of honey safety and quality with European requirements and SAS in Ukraine. However, an important step is the development of requirements for traceability chain of safe and high-quality honey.

