

EN
E-000760/2026
Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.4.2026)

1. The Commission is actively advancing measures to harmonize honey authentication across the single market. The Honey Platform is explicitly tasked with gathering data to improve authenticity controls and providing formal recommendations on the creation of an EU reference laboratory for honey. First discussions highlighted the importance of avoiding overlaps with existing laboratories, ensuring financial viability, and maintaining coherence with the broader EU authenticity and integrity. The topic will be further discussed before any decision can be taken.
2. The system of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) import controls is robust and capable of ensuring that only goods complying with EU requirements enter the Union. On 9 December 2025, the Commission announced a series of measures¹ aimed at further strengthening import controls through an increased number of audits and closer monitoring of non-compliant commodities and countries (with increased frequency of checks), support and additional training to Member States, and the establishment of a Task Force on Import Controls.
3. The Commission thoroughly evaluates the potential effects of trade agreements on EU agriculture through cumulative economic impact studies². The specific vulnerabilities of the honey market were factored into the Mercosur negotiations leading to not granting unlimited access for honey but establishing a calibrated Tariff Rate Quota accompanied by a legally binding safeguard mechanism.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2979.

² <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/7c386feb-bbfc-11ee-b164-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>.