

# Maple Syrup

June 10, 1994

*A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England maple producers and buyers who have helped us by completing the annual Maple Syrup survey during April and May.*

## SHORT AND SWEET MAPLE SEASON

Maple syrup production in New England for 1994 totaled 709,000 gallons, up 33 percent from last year. Vermont remained the major producing state in New England and the nation, with 61 percent of the region's production and 33 percent of the total U.S. output.

1994 production was up from 1993 across all New England States. The largest increase was indicated in Vermont with a 40 percent increase in production to 435,000 gallons. Maine and Massachusetts producers followed with 33 and 21 percent increases in production, respectively. New Hampshire and Connecticut producers made modest increases of 11 and 10 percent, respectively.

New England's 1994 sugaring season lasted approximately 28 days, 5 days greater than 1993 and 9 days shorter than 1992. The average opening dates were March 2 in Connecticut, March 9 in Massachusetts, March 14 in New Hampshire, March 17 in Maine, and March 18 in Vermont.

The season proved to be an excellent quality year though yields and increases in production varied across the region. Several respondents claimed that the sugar content of this year's syrup was the best that they ever produced. Most areas experienced no real sap runs but a continuous trickle throughout the season. Temperatures were reported to be 68 percent favorable, 14 percent too warm and 18 percent too cold for sap flow across the region. Cold temperatures and 2 to 5 feet of snowpack in central and northern New England areas hampered and, in some cases, prevented the tapping of trees. Snowmobiles, horses, and snowshoes were used to access sugarbush terrain in extreme areas.

The average closing dates were March 31 in Connecticut, April 7 in Massachusetts, April 9 in New Hampshire, April 13 in Vermont and April 15 in Maine. The sweetness of sap in New England was better than in 1993 as indicated by the average sap/syrup ratio of 38 gallons. However, many areas experienced ratios in the 25 to 30 gallon range. The color of syrup in the region was reported to be medium to light amber. (cont'd on back p

**MAPLE SYRUP: Production, Price and Value, New England and New York, 1992 - 1994**

STATE	Production			Average Price per Gallon			Value of Production		
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994 <sup>v</sup>	1992	1993	1994 <sup>v</sup>
	----- 1,000 Gallons -----			----- Dollars -----			----- 1,000 Dollars -----		
Connecticut	12	10	11	42.00	43.20	43.00	504	432	473
Maine	153	115	150	15.90	14.30	13.00	2,433	1,616	1,950
Massachusetts	50	33	40	34.80	33.70	32.50	1,740	1,112	1,300
New Hampshire	94	66	73	32.90	35.50	35.00	3,093	2,343	2,555
Vermont	570	310	435	22.30	24.00	24.30	12,711	7,440	10,571
<b>NEW ENGLAND<sup>v</sup></b>	<b>879</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>23.30</b>	<b>24.30</b>	<b>23.80</b>	<b>20,481</b>	<b>12,943</b>	<b>16,849</b>
Michigan	85	75	85	29.80	25.50	27.20	2,533	1,915	2,312
New York	400	180	251	23.40	18.70	22.30	9,360	3,366	5,597
Ohio	55	73	90	28.90	29.70	25.90	1,590	2,228	2,331
Pennsylvania	95	40	59	24.60	24.10	23.10	2,337	964	1,363
Wisconsin	115	105	130	21.70	19.80	18.60	2,496	2,079	2,418
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>*1,641</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>1,324</b>	<b>23.80</b>	<b>23.30</b>	<b>23.30</b>	<b>*39,125</b>	<b>23,493</b>	<b>30,870</b>

<sup>v</sup> Forecasted price and value based on grower expectations during April and May 1994.

<sup>2</sup> New England includes CT, ME, MA, NH, VT

<sup>3</sup> 1992 includes Minnesota with 12,000 gallons produced and valued at \$528,000.

The forecasted value of New England's 1994 maple syrup crop based on grower expectations is \$16.8 million. This is a 30 percent increase from the 1993 total value of \$12.9 million for the five New England states. The forecasted average price per

gallon for New England syrup across retail, wholesale, and bulk markets is \$23.80 which is down 50 cents from last year's price of \$24.30.

**UNITED STATES:** U.S. Maple syrup production in 1994 totaled 1.32 million gallons, up 31 percent from last year. The forecasted crop value is \$50.9 million, up 31 percent from 1993. The U.S. estimate now consists of the 10 major producing states shown on page 1. (Minnesota estimates were discontinued after 1992.)

**1993 PRICES AND SALES:** Average gallon equivalent prices for 1993 maple syrup across retail, wholesale, and bulk sales varied across the region. Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont all sales equivalent prices increased to \$43.20, \$35.50, and \$24.00 from 1992 figures of \$42.00, \$32.90, and \$22.50 respectively. Maine and Massachusetts prices dropped to \$14.50 and \$33.70 from 1992 prices of \$15.90 and \$34.80, respectively.

Maple syrup production in 1994 was up across the entire nation. Producers in the mid-west had a slow start to the season due to the cold winter and deep snow but most producers felt they had a good season overall. New York's production increased 39 percent over last season to 251,000 gallons, ranking them second to Vermont in production.

Urban market sales in Connecticut and increased retail sales in New Hampshire and Vermont were factors in the price increases. Depressed Canadian syrup prices in the bulk market depressed prices in Maine while an increase in wholesale sales decreased gallon equivalent prices in Massachusetts. The 1993 gallon equivalent price of \$24.30 across all New England states increased 4 percent over 1992 price of \$23.30.

**MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, 1992 - 1993**

TYPE OF SALE	Connecticut		Maine		Massachusetts		New Hampshire		Vermont	
	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993
	Percent									
Retail	90	85	8	6	70	65	55	60	31	35
Wholesale	10	10	2	2	10	15	30	25	16	20
Bulk	-	5	90	92	20	20	15	15	53	45

**MAPLE SYRUP: Prices by Type of Sales and Size of Container, 1992 - 1993**

STATE & YEAR	Retail					Wholesale					Bulk			All Sales equiv per gallon	
	Gal	2 Gal	Quart	Pint	2 Pint	Gal	2 Gal	Quart	Pint	2 Pint	Grade 1				Grade B & C
											light amber	med amber	dark amber		
----- Dollars Per Container -----											----- Dollars Per Pound -----			Dollars	

**Connecticut**

1992	33.20	19.60	10.20	6.30	4.00	✓	15.70	9.20	5.10	3.05	-	-	-	-	42.00
1993	35.80	19.50	10.90	6.55	4.25	✓	16.20	8.40	5.00	3.20	-	-	✓	✓	43.20

**Maine**

1992	31.60	17.90	9.75	5.50	3.55	19.40	14.00	7.85	4.20	2.60	1.50	1.20	1.10	.95	15.90
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1993	31.30	17.00	9.40	5.50	3.15	22.60	13.30	7.10	4.20	2.50	-	1.30	1.10	.95	14.30
<b>Massachusetts</b>															
1992	32.40	18.70	10.80	6.40	3.75	21.90	17.60	8.50	5.10	2.90	1.20	1.15	1.05	1.00	34.80
1993	31.40	17.60	10.10	6.25	4.15	24.90	14.80	8.10	4.85	2.80	1.55	1.35	1.20	1.00	33.70
<b>New Hampshire</b>															
1992	31.40	18.00	10.80	6.30	3.70	21.70	12.30	6.85	4.10	2.90	1.25	1.15	1.10	1.00	32.90
1993	31.00	17.20	10.40	6.10	3.60	23.00	14.10	8.20	4.60	2.75	1.65	1.50	1.25	1.00	33.50
<b>Vermont</b>															
1992	26.70	16.00	9.50	6.00	3.70	21.80	13.40	7.15	4.65	2.75	1.20	1.15	1.10	1.05	22.30
1993	26.60	16.00	9.50	5.90	3.85	20.40	13.80	7.85	4.55	2.90	1.55	1.40	1.25	1.05	24.00

*^ Data withheld to prevent disclosure of individual operations*

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