

New England Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

NEW ENGLAND STATES
DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE

M A P L E S Y R U P

May 21, 1985

NEW ENGLAND MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION BELOW PREVIOUS YEAR

Maple syrup production during the 1985 season in the four New England states totaled 651,000 gallons, 3 percent less than the previous season. The decrease was the result of a lower yield per tap which more than offset a higher number of taps. Vermont remains the leading producer with 525,000 gallons in 1984, down 3 percent from last year.

The season throughout the four maple syrup producing New England states was reported as being mostly unfavorable, with the weather being too cool or too warm. The season lasted about 39 days. The average opening dates were February 26 in Massachusetts, March 1 in New Hampshire, March 3 in Vermont and March 7 in Maine; while the average closing dates were March 30 in Massachusetts, April 5 in New Hampshire, and April 12 in Maine and Vermont.

The sweetness of the sap was below normal with a reported New England average of 46 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup. However, the sweetness of the sap did vary among the New England states from an average sweetness of sap in Maine of 40 gallons to an average sweetness of sap in Massachusetts of 50 gallons. The color of the syrup in the region was mostly medium with the remainder of the syrup equally divided between dark and light.

New York maple production totaled 315,000 gallons, 5 percent below the 1984 production. The season in New York had temperatures near normal. The sap sweetness was below normal with a reported average of 44 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup. The season started on March 4 and lasted about 33 days.

The value of production for New England is expected to total over \$12 million in 1985, 2 percent more than the 1984 crop. The increase in price more than offset the decreased production and thus caused the increase in value. The average price of 1985 maple syrup in the New England states is around \$19.15 per gallon, compared to \$18.28 per gallon of maple syrup produced in 1984.

MAPLE SYRUP: PRODUCTION AND VALUE, NEW ENGLAND AND NEW YORK, 1984 AND 1985

STATE	PRODUCTION		SEASON AVERAGE PRICE PER GALLON		VALUE OF PRODUCTION	
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985
	1,000 gallons		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Maine	10	10	23.20	23.90	232	239
Massachusetts	26	24	20.60	21.20	536	509
New Hampshire	102	92	23.30	24.10	2,377	2,217
Vermont	530	525	17.10	18.10	9,063	9,503
NEW ENGLAND	668	651	18.28	19.15	12,208	12,468
New York	332	315	16.90	18.00	5,611	5,670

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