## **MAPLE SYRUP 2007**

June 12, 2007

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

## MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION DOWN 13 PERCENT NATIONWIDE

**UNITED STATES:** The 2007 U.S. maple syrup production totaled 1.26 million gallons, down 13 percent from 2006. The number of taps is estimated at 7.28 million, up less than one percent from the 2006 total of 7.26 million, while the yield per tap is estimated to be 0.173 gallons, down 14 percent from the previous season.

Vermont led all States in production with 450,000 gallons, a decrease of two percent from 2006. Production in Maine, at 225,000 gallons, decreased 25 percent from last season. Production in New York, at 224,000 gallons, is 11 percent below 2006. Production was down 25 percent in Massachusetts and Wisconsin, 23 percent in Michigan and Pennsylvania, 20 percent in Connecticut, six percent in New Hampshire, and four percent in Ohio. Decreased yields were the largest contributing factor to the lower production.

Temperatures were not favorable for sap flow in 2007 except in Ohio where the majority of producers reported favorable weather. Producers in New England experienced conditions that were mostly too cold for sap flow. The remaining States, Michigan, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, experienced weather that was mostly too warm for sap flow. However, there were some extreme cold spells in many of these States that also hindered sap flow. On average, the season lasted 27 days compared with 28 days last year. New York reported the earliest season opening date of January 5. Maine reported the latest sap flow in 2007 with an approximate season ending date of May 7.

Sugar content of the sap for 2007 was down from the previous year. On average, approximately 45 gallons of sap were required to produce one gallon of syrup. This compares with 44 gallons in 2006 and 40 gallons in 2005. The majority of the syrup produced in each State this year was medium to dark in color, except in Maine where most was reported to be light in color.

The 2006 U.S. average price per gallon was \$31.30, up \$1.40 from the 2005 price of \$29.90. The U.S. value of production, at \$45.3 million for 2006, was up 22 percent from 2005. Value of production increased in all States except Massachusetts.

**NEW ENGLAND (excluding Rhode Island):** In New England maple syrup production for 2007 totaled 773,000, down 12 percent from last year and the lowest production in New

England history since 2001. Vermont remained the largest producing state in New England and the nation, with 36 percent of the nation's maple syrup. Taps in New England totaled 4.1 million, down less than one percent from last year and accounted for 57 percent of the nation's maple taps.

The 2007 maple season was rated mostly too cool in temperature, causing production decreases in all five New England states. Temperatures were reported to be 60 percent too cool, 21 percent too warm and 19 percent favorable. The season started late, with southern New England states reporting the latest start in twenty years. Weather was a contributing factor. December and January temperatures were above normal and many producers are speculating this could be the cause of the drop in production. February and March brought snow and frigid temperatures. Many operators reported when conditions were ideal, the sap was just not running. Operations with sugar bushes at higher elevations seemed to do the best this year, and once again operations with vacuum systems had an advantage. By early April however, many operators in the southern states had decided to wrap the season up early. As temperatures began to rise by the end of April, the rest of the states followed suit. Earliest dates for each state were as follows: Connecticut - February 5, New Hampshire and Vermont - February 15, and Maine and Massachusetts - February 20. Latest closing dates were Connecticut and New Hampshire - April 24, Vermont - April 30, Massachusetts - May 2, and Maine - May 7. The sugar content of the sap was below average, requiring approximately 45 gallons of sap to produce a gallon of syrup. The majority of syrup produced was dark amber followed by medium amber and then light amber.

2006 PRICES AND SALES: Across New England, the average equivalent price per gallon for 2006 maple syrup varied widely depending on the percentage sold retail, wholesale, or bulk. The 2006 all sales equivalent prices increased \$8.20 in Connecticut to \$58.20, \$2.80 in Maine to \$24.30, \$2.60 in New Hampshire to \$43.90, and \$2.40 in Vermont to \$30.20. The price dropped \$3.30 in Massachusetts to \$47.90. Maine's price continues to be lower than the other states as 92 percent of sales are in bulk quantities. Vermont bulk sales account for 60 percent of all maple syrup sold in that state. It should be noted that bulk prices continued to show increases in 2006. New England's 2006 gallon equivalent price of \$30.31 reflects an increase of \$2.18 from the 2005 price of \$28.13.

MAPLE SYRUP: Taps, Yield, and Production, 2005 - 2007

State		Taps			Yield per Tap		Production			
State	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	
		1,000 Taps			Gallons			1,000 Gallons		
Connecticut	63	61	59	0.159	0.164	0.136	10	10	8	
Maine	1,300	1,315	1,310	0.204	0.228	0.172	265	300	225	
Massachusetts	240	245	230	0.167	0.163	0.130	40	40	30	
New Hampshire	365	355	365	0.156	0.180	0.164	57	64	60	
Vermont	2,140	2,170	2,170	0.192	0.212	0.207	410	460	450	
NEW ENGLAND 1/	4,108	4,146	4,134	0.190	0.211	0.187	782	874	773	
Michigan	390	375	400	0.149	0.208	0.150	58	78	60	
New York	1,420	1,530	1,470	0.156	0.165	0.152	222	253	224	
Ohio	355	360	370	0.194	0.217	0.203	69	78	75	
Pennsylvania	428	449	445	0.143	0.147	0.115	61	66	51	
Wisconsin	400	400	460	0.125	0.250	0.163	50	100	75	
UNITED STATES	7,101	7,260	7,279	0.175	0.200	0.173	1,242	1,449	1,258	
New Brunswick 2/	_	1,703	_	_	_	_	248	305		
Nova Scotia 2/	_	346	_	_	_	_	25	31	_	
Ontario 2/	_	1,312	_	_	_	_	262	262	_	
Quebec 2/	_	34,676	_	_	_	_	6,822	6,150	_	
CANADA 2/3/	_	38,036	_	_	_	_	7,359	6,749	_	

 $<sup>^{1/}</sup>_{\sim}$  New England include CT, ME, MA, NH, and VT.

MAPLE SYRUP: Production, Price, and Value, 2004 - 2006

State		Production			Average Gallon Equivalent Price of All Sales 11			Value of Production			
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006		
		1,000 Gallons		Un	ited States Doll	ars	United	States 1,000 E	Oollars		
Connecticut	11	10	10	51.70	50.00	58.20	569	500	582		
Maine	290	265	300	19.40	21.50	24.30	5,626	5,698	7,290		
Massachusetts	50	40	40	46.30	51.20	47.90	2,315	2,048	1,916		
New Hampshire	83	57	64	35.40	41.30	43.90	2,938	2,354	2,810		
Vermont	500	410	460	27.30	27.80	30.20	13,650	11,398	13,892		
NEW ENGLAND 2/	934	782	874	26.87	28.13	30.31	25,098	21,998	26,490		
Michigan	80	58	78	38.00	36.00	37.00	3,040	2,088	2,886		
New York	255	222	253	28.20	31.70	31.70	7,191	7,037	8,020		
Ohio	78	69	78	32.00	36.00	34.00	2,496	2,484	2,652		
Pennsylvania	60	61	66	29.00	31.50	32.50	1,740	1,922	2,145		
Wisconsin	100	50	100	32.30	32.40	31.20	3,230	1,620	3,120		
UNITED STATES	1,507	1,242	1,449	28.40	29.90	31.30	42,795	37,149	45,313		
New Brunswick 3/	210	248	305	28.74	29.41	32.10	6,035	7,293	9,792		
Nova Scotia 3/	26	25	31	30.81	34.40	34.00	801	860	1,054		
Ontario 3/	262	262	262	31.29	34.24	38.47	8,199	8,970	10,078		
Quebec 3/	6,551	6,822	6,150	14.94	20.47	22.64	97,864	139,669	139,261		
CANADA 3/	7,050	7,359	6,749	16.01	21.31	23.73	112,900	156,792	160,185		

Average gallon equivalent price in United States dollars is a weighted average across retail, wholesale, and bulk sales. This price is lower for States, such as Maine and Vermont, with more bulk sales. The average gallon equivalent price is not the average retail price paid for a gallon of syrup. See page 4 for retail gallon average prices.
 New England include CT, ME, MA, NH, and VT.

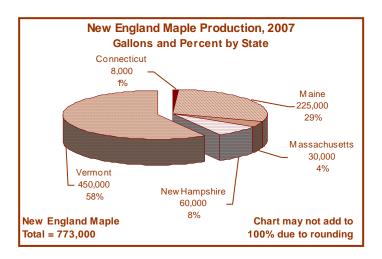
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Canadian data incomplete; current figures were unavailable at the time of publication. Canadian imperial gallons were converted to United States gallons (one imperial gallon times 1.2021778 equals one United States gallon)

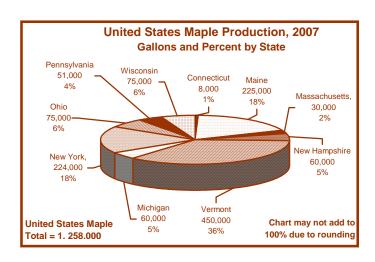
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3/</sup> Data may not add due to rounding.

SOURCÉ: United States - Crop Production, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Canada - Statistics Canada.

Taps - 2006 Canadian Census of Agriculture, Production - "2006 Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Canadian dollars to United States dollars exchange rates were valued at or near the closest date to July 1 for each year. Exchange rates were 0.7503 for 2004, 0.8163 for 2005 and 0.9002 for 2006. Canadian imperial gallons were converted to United States gallons (1 imperial gallon times 1.2021778 equals 1 United States gallon). SOURCE: United States – *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Canada – Statistics Canada.





MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, New England, 2005 - 2006

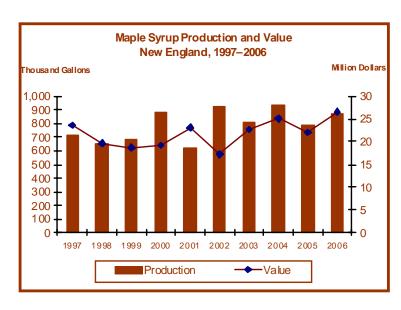
					<u> </u>					
Type of Sale	Connecticut		Maine		Massachusetts		New Hampshire		Vermont	
Type of Sale	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
Retail	80	75	2	6	65	55	65	70	30	30
Wholesale	10	15	1	2	20	30	20	15	10	10
Bulk	10	10	97	92	15	15	15	15	60	60

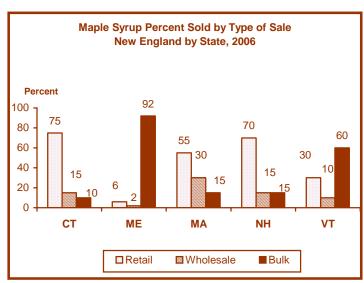
SOURCE: Crop Production, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, Other States, 2005 - 2006

Type of Sale	Michigan		New York		Ohio		Pennsylvania		Wisconsin	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Percent		Per	cent	Percent		Percent		Percent	
Retail	48	43	45	40	63	65	56	57	42	30
Wholesale	28	37	22	20	17	19	16	20	23	35
Bulk	24	20	33	40	20	16	28	23	35	35

SOURCE: Crop Production, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.





MAPLE SYRUP: Retail and Wholesale Prices and Size of Containers, 2004 - 2006

State									Wholesale							
and Year	Gallon	Half Gallon	Quart	Pint	Half Pint	3.4 oz. (100 ml)	8.5 oz. (100 ml)	12 oz. (355 ml)	Gallon	Half Gallon	Quart	Pint	Half Pint	3.4 oz. (100 ml)	8.5 oz. (250 ml)	
					Dollars							Dollars	3			
Connec	cticut								-							
2004	39.10	22.20	13.50	8.40	5.20	3.00	8.60	N/A	33.30	16.40	9.00	5.30	3.50	2.30	1/	
2005	39.30	23.00	13.30	8.20	4.70	3.50	9.30	N/A	34.10	17.00	10.30	5.30	4.00	2.10	1/	
2006	44.00	25.30	14.60	9.10	5.60	3.40	7.90	1/	35.00	18.10	12.80	8.30	4.60	3.90	1/	
Maine																
2004	36.60	19.90	10.60	6.50	4.40	2.70	7.80	8.20	29.00	15.90	8.60	4.70	3.30	2.60	5.70	
2005	35.00	19.70	11.10	6.80	4.00	2.30	7.80	10.10	30.00	15.90	8.50	4.80	4.00	2.40	6.00	
2006	39.80	20.20	11.00	6.40	4.50	2.80	6.20	8.70	31.30	15.90	8.60	4.90	3.10	2.70	5.80	
Massac	chusetts															
2004	34.80	19.70	11.70	7.00	4.00	3.30	8.50	10.20	29.20	16.60	9.00	5.50	3.40	2.10	7.40	
2005	37.50	22.10	13.10	8.80	5.50	2.60	10.00	10.30	30.10	16.80	9.60	5.50	3.60	1.70	1/	
2006	38.10	21.90	13.30	9.30	6.20	3.60	9.40	1/	28.40	16.00	10.40	6.00	3.80	3.00	1/	
New Ha	ampshire															
2004	34.30	19.50	11.20	7.00	4.10	3.20	8.30	1/	27.70	16.60	9.60	5.30	3.10	2.10	5.90	
2005	36.60	21.10	12.10	7.30	4.70	2.90	7.60	9.30	30.00	17.10	9.90	5.70	3.30	2.10	5.20	
2006	37.70	21.20	12.20	7.50	4.90	3.10	7.70	8.40	29.70	17.70	9.60	5.70	3.50	2.40	6.40	
Vermor	nt															
2004	31.70	18.50	11.40	7.10	4.60	2.80	6.80	7.70	28.40	16.40	9.40	5.60	3.50	2.20	5.80	
2005	32.30	19.60	11.60	7.40	4.90	2.90	6.40	7.70	27.60	16.70	9.50	5.40	3.40	1.70	4.10	
2006	34.40	20.80	13.00	8.20	5.20	3.50	8.00	8.80	27.80	17.20	9.90	5.80	3.60	1.80	5.30	
Michiga	an															
2004	32.70	19.10	10.60	6.20	3.90	2/	2/	2/	25.70	16.70	8.70	5.00	3.20	2/	2/	
2005	34.20	18.90	10.30	6.50	4.20	2/	2/	2/	29.00	16.40	8.60	4.60	3.50	2/	2/	
2006	34.10	18.30	10.90	6.50	4.50	2/	2/	2/	26.60	17.30	9.10	5.30	3.10	2/	2/	
New Yo	ork															
2004	32.20	17.80	10.50	6.50	3.90	2/	2/	2/	25.60	16.70	7.80	4.90	3.00	2/	2/	
2005	32.50	18.80	11.10	6.90	4.40	2/	2/	2/	26.50	16.10	8.80	5.20	3.20	2/	2/	
2006	32.90	19.10	11.40	7.00	4.40	2/	2/	2/	27.70	16.30	8.70	5.40	3.60	2/	2/	
Ohio																
2004	28.70	17.60	10.40	6.50	4.50	2/	2/	2/	26.80	14.20	8.00	4.80	3.30	2/	2/	
2005	31.20	18.40	10.70	6.60	4.50	2/	2/	2/	26.20	16.50	8.50	5.80	3.80	2/	2/	
2006	31.50	19.00	11.10	6.70	4.50	2/	2/	2/	25.10	15.40	8.90	5.50	3.60	2/	2/	
Pennsy	/Ivania															
2004	29.50	17.10	10.00	6.00	3.90	2/	2/	2/	26.00	14.20	8.20	5.00	3.50	2/	2/	
2005	29.30	18.00	10.60	6.10	4.30	2/	2/	2/	27.50	15.60	8.60	4.70	3.90	2/	2/	
2006	30.80	19.00	11.20	6.75	3.65	2/	2/	2/	29.00	16.70	8.95	5.20	3.50	2/	2/	
Wiscon	nsin															
2004	28.60	16.10	8.70	5.30	3.50	2/	2/	2/	26.00	15.20	8.30	5.40	3.00	2/	2/	
2005	30.60	16.80	9.10	5.70	4.20	2/	2/	2/	33.00	17.10	9.10	5.30	3.00	2/	2/	
2006	31.60	17.60	9.10	5.80	4.25	2/	2/	2/	32.50	16.40	8.85	5.05	3.30	2/	2/	

Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Only available in New England States.

SOURCE: Crop Production, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



MAPLE SYRUP: Bulk Prices by Grade and All Sales Gallon Equivalent Prices, 2004 - 2006

			Bulk			
		All Sales Per Galle Equivalent Price				
State and Year	Light Amber	Med. Amber	Dark Amber	Grades B and C	All Grades	
		Dollars				
Connecticut						
2004	N/A	N/A	1.43	1.09	1.10	51.70
2005	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	50.00
2006	3/	3/	3/	3/	1.85	58.20
Maine						
2004	1.79	1.73	1.50	1.25	1.60	19.40
2005	1.95	1.90	1.81	1.49	1.90	21.50
2006	2.03	2.02	1.97	1.63	1.95	24.30
Massachusetts						
2004	2.00	1.86	1.52	1.12	1.50	46.30
2005	2.07	1.87	1.68	1.49	1.65	51.20
2006	2.11	2.08	1.86	1.49	1.80	47.90
New Hampshire						
2004	1.88	1.68	1.51	.97	1.40	35.40
2005	1.85	1.76	1.64	1.33	1.60	41.30
2006	2.15	1.89	1.85	1.58	1.85	43.90
Vermont						
2004	1.90	1.74	1.54	1.23	1.60	27.30
2005	1.94	1.80	1.64	1.34	1.70	27.80
2006	2.02	1.89	1.77	1.56	1.85	30.20
Michigan						
2004	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.75	38.00
2005	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.80	36.00
2006	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.80	37.00
New York	.,					
2004	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.40	28.20
2005	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.70	31.70
2006	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.80	31.70
Ohio	<del>-1</del> /	<del>-</del> /	-1/	7/	1.00	31.70
2004	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.55	32.00
	4/	4/	4/	4/		
2005					2.00	36.00
2006	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.85	34.00
Pennsylvania	.,	.,	.,	**		
2004	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.35	29.00
2005	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.60	31.50
2006	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.60	32.50
Wisconsin						
2004	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.50	32.30
2005	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.70	32.40
2006	4/	4/	4/	4/	1.80	31.20

Average gallon equivalent price was a weighted average across retail, wholesale, and bulk sales.
 For dollars per gallon: multiply dollars per pound by 11.02 pounds per gallon.
 Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
 Only available in New England States.
 SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 11, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



**CONNECTICUT – Hartford:** The season started late because it was too cold, but ended up running later than usual. Too cold early, then too hot at night; the weather calmed down in mid-March and the sap flowed nicely for one week. Too warm in January and too cold in February; good sap flow beginning the 11th of March; we made more Grade A Light Amber than ever before. Litchfield: We only collected 1/3 of the usual amount of sap; syrup was slightly off flavor and will not sell any. Very short and late season with only one major run versus six to eight normally. Even though the weather was favorable, the trees thought it was still cold out because the ground was too frozen for sap to run. January and February were very cold; March was very conducive for great sap runs; put in a vacuum system which made a major difference on days when temperatures were in the high 30s. Tolland: It was either too cold or too warm; when the sap did run, the runs were short and the weather during the runs was generally warm; the sap in the lines between runs during the warm conditions yielded dark syrup. Windham: It was a weird winter; boiled much fewer days than normal.

**MAINE** - Androscoggin: It was a weird season; expected to be done earlier. Cumberland: Latest start to boiling we ever had; way too cold early and then too many warm nights after the season started; looking back, the really warm weather in January hurt us in that the trees reached bud stage earlier than they should. Very short season - should have tapped earlier; the weather was too cold, then too warm, did not get any good runs. Franklin: Sap flow was very good, but the sugar content was way down. Trees were confused; season was too changeable; sugar content not as high. Hancock: Our early January weather was like April and the sap rose in trees; then it was miserable. Kennebec: Either too cold or too warm; season started late, ended too soon; quality was good, more volume, less water content, nice flavor. Oxford: Weather was too erratic. Tapped in mid-February this year, but the taps dried up earlier than usual; typically start tapping on March 1 and will go back to that for 2008; the sugar content was low and I lost one full tank of sap due to a siphon problem, so this was a "challenging" year. Penobscot: Sap was less sweet this year; more sap was collected, but more was required to produce the syrup; season was very late. **Piscataquis:** The snow fall for April was 50+ inches in my area; the trees never rebounded after the snow. Somerset: Very strange year; made dark syrup early, light syrup late! The April snow storm produced 70 percent of the sap flow for the season. **Waldo:** April snow and cold made for good late runs.

**York:** Poorest season I have ever had; usually get around 55 gallons in a year, but for the last three years, I have made less than 20 gallons.

MASSACHUSETTS - Berkshire: I was very happy with my output this year due to some new vacuum machinery; I could have mapled further into the first couple of weeks of April because the runs were exceptionally good then, but had to guit before the end of the season due to running out of wood; I did not get as much dark syrup this year and the syrup was less sweet. Short season - late start; tapped February 12 and no sap until March 8; sap runs were short with long cold spells between runs; sap ran later and boiled later than anytime during the past 25 years. Franklin: Too cold much of the season and sap ran poorly during correct conditions. It was too warm when it thawed, but when it did freeze, it froze too hard for the sap to flow; even though it was a dark year, it was very good tasting syrup. Strange year - run, then stop, then run; best tasting syrup ever! It was a very unusual season in that no fancy or medium grade syrup was produced; the taste was also noticeably stronger, not as good as usual, but just ok. Sugaring is getting to be quite a science! Quality was good - very nice tasting in all grades just not a lot of it. Hampshire: Caterpillers destroyed my entire 15 acres; lost a lot of trees; we couldn't even go outside, the ground was covered; they were so bad and were even all through the house. Worst year I ever had. We didn't get any good runs because we didn't get a good winter; we were mowing in January; it just wasn't a good year. **Worcester:** Nice syrup flavor; too warm in January – affected flow. Bad year for syrup because of the long period of cold and we pulled taps super late into April.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** – **Belknap**: Generally just not the right conditions for good sap runs; late cold weather and snow saved the season somewhat, made it about average; lots of dark syrup at the end though. It was such a bad year; being terribly wet did not help the situation; after the second snowstorm, the main lines were sagging; it was a very discouraging year. Strange weather this year; too warm, then too cold - very sporadic; the taps dried up in April and were re-drilled, sap ran very well after that. Good weather conditions, but no really good running days; low production. Coos: Good flavor, but dark syrup; strange season - we made our lighter syrup at the end of the season. Season started out slow, then there was a week of very cold temperatures where nothing ran; also, with the weather, the taps did not run well without a vacuum. Sugar content was low, but the quality of the syrup was excellent.

Grafton: Dark color all season; too cold at first, too warm at the end; also a lot of wind. The wind storm in April shortened my season; the sap continued to run after April16 but I couldn't get to the buckets due to fallen trees; no doubt I could have made another 10 gallons or so of syrup. Hillsborough: Early sap flows produced the most light amber I have made; cold weather prolonged season about two weeks; sap flows overall were not good; only one good flow week out of the whole season. Better quality than last year, but less quantity. Merrimack: The last five years have just been nasty. Good season, better than last year; ran quick when it ran. Windy conditions made runs difficult and dry; temperatures were ok. Strafford: March 1 to March 15 made 23 gallons of light amber; March 21 to March 25 made 27 gallons of medium amber; without the last four days, the season would have been a bust. Sullivan: Sap was poor quality this year. Biggest factor - first week of taps was March 5-9 with 70 degree days and March 12-17 with 60 degree days; never seemed to be able to work out the defects of that; yeast development and micro-organisms in tubing never cleaned out and sealed tap holes; very low sugar.

**VERMONT** – **Addison:** Cold early and then too hot; it just turned out unusually dark syrup. I made more medium than usual, but perhaps this was due to making more overall; I had only a couple gallons of B, approximately eight gallons of medium, and the rest was dark amber, though the dark was mostly on the light side. Season started with dark syrup; after one week of cold temperatures in mid-March, production was all fancy and medium amber with a very small amount of dark amber at the end. **Bennington:** When it was cold, it stayed cold too long, then it got warm and stayed warm too long; had starch test done on trees and feel that tent caterpillars really harmed the trees. **Caledonia:** We have records going back to the 50s and have always been able to get mostly

fancy, but not for the last three years, each year gets less and less. Chittenden: Too cold caused a three week delay then it stayed too warm; we made no dark syrup; most of it was medium due to the low flow; otherwise we would have made mostly fancy or light syrup. Franklin: There was too much snow, but favorable otherwise. Great taste; dark color. The weather conditions this year were the best in ten years. Temperatures were good, but the wind was bad; seemed every time there was a storm, the trees dried out and I was not able to get anything. **Lamoille:** This year the season was late; the syrup held its flavor throughout the season because the temperature remained cool. Orange: Too warm in the early season; a bit cold in the middle; syrup was darker than normal. Sugaring not done for the second year in a row due to continued problems with Eastern Tent Caterpillar infestation. Syrup was sweet and good tasting, just darker; lots of C grade. Orleans: The sap flow was good around March 20 for a few days and then went cold for almost a week before sap would flow again; very short season. Darker syrup than usual, especially in the beginning of the season, ending with a fair run of fancy April 12th-15th. Lower sugar content than average; cold beginning and a cold stretch in early April with no sap flow for one week. Rutland: No light syrup this year; coldest, snowiest April we've seen. Flavor was fine, but color was very dark most of the season. Washington: Poor quality until the very end and then made some light syrup; flavor fine; low sugar content; reasonable weather although not like the old days; could have made double with decent sugar percentage. Windham: Season started very late; only made 26 gallons by the 14th of March; I did not boil until March 22<sup>nd</sup>; I never saw such a high bacteria buildup in the pipeline during the last week of March, all sugar makers in the area had the same problem. Windsor: It was hard to predict how the sap would flow; some days and nights it seemed perfect for sap, but no real big runs.

This report is taken from the June issue of the National Crop Production report published by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service at 8:30 a.m. on June 11, 2007. This annual report includes prices received for the previous year's crop. All National reports and State-level newsletters, such as this, are available on the Internet.

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