

MAPLE SYRUP 2008

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A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
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NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural
Statistics



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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 UP 30 PERCENT NATIONWIDE

UNITED STATES: U.S. maple syrup production in 2008 totaled 1.64 million gallons, up 30 percent from 2007. The number of taps is estimated at 7.46 million, up 2 percent from the 2007 total of 7.29 million. Yield per tap is estimated at 0.219 gallons, up 27 percent from the previous season.

Vermont led all states in production with 500,000 gallons, an increase of 11 percent from 2007. Production in New York, at 322,000 gallons, increased 44 percent from last season. Production in Maine, at 215,000 gallons, is 4 percent below 2007. Production in Ohio, at 118,000 gallons, is up 57 percent from last year and the highest production on record since 1959. In Michigan, production is estimated at 100,000 gallons, 67 percent above 2007, and the highest on record since 1964. Production in Pennsylvania, at 95,000 gallons, is 86 percent above 2007, and tied with 1992 as the highest on record since 1975. Production in Massachusetts, at 55,000 gallons, is up 83 percent from a year ago. This is the highest production on record since 1944. In Connecticut, production is estimated at 15,000 gallons, the highest on record since estimates began in 1992. Maine was the only state to show a reduction in maple syrup from the previous year. Fewer taps and a fractional reduction in yield per tap resulted in a four percent decline in production.

Temperatures were reported as mostly favorable for sap flow in 2008, except the northern regions of Maine and Vermont. Producers in Maine reported temperatures that were mostly too warm for sap flow while producers in Vermont reported temperatures that were mostly too cool. On average, the season lasted 30 days compared with 27 days last year. The longest season was reported in Connecticut at 40 days. The earliest reported sap collection was January 5 in New York. The latest reported sap collection was May 10 in Wisconsin. Sugar content of the sap for 2008 was up from the previous year. On average, approximately 39 gallons of sap were required to produce one gallon of syrup. This compares with 45 gallons in 2007 and 44 gallons in 2006. The majority of the syrup produced in each state this year was light to medium in color.

The 2007 U.S. average price per gallon averaged \$33.20, up \$1.90 from the 2006 price of \$31.30. The U.S. value of production, at \$41.7 million for 2007, was down 8 percent from 2006. Value of production decreased in all states except Ohio.

NEW ENGLAND (excluding Rhode Island): New England's maple syrup production in 2008 totaled 870,000 gallons, up 13 percent from last year. Vermont remained the largest producing state in New England and the Nation, with 31 percent of the Nation's maple syrup. Taps in New England totaled 4.2 million, up less than one percent from last year and accounted for 56 percent of the Nation's maple taps.

The 2008 maple season was rated mostly favorable in temperature, promoting production increases in four of the five New England states. Temperatures were reported 62 percent favorable, 24 percent too cool and 14 percent too warm. Record winter snowfall slowed the tapping process, but when the sap began to flow in January in the southern New England states, it didn't stop until the season was over in April. Many operations reported pulling their taps because of a shortage of firewood. New Hampshire, southern Vermont, and southern Maine producers experienced perfect weather and steady sap flows. Producers in northern Vermont and northern Maine had a less than favorable season, with frigid temperatures and deep snow interfering with sap flow and collection. When temperatures finally cooperated, producers had only two weeks to make syrup before conditions became too warm and the season ended. Earliest dates for sap collection for each State were as follows: Connecticut – January 6, Vermont – January 22, Massachusetts – January 24, Maine – February 4, and New Hampshire – February 5. Closing dates for sap collection were as follows: Massachusetts – April 19, New Hampshire – April 26, Connecticut – April 28, and Maine and Vermont – May 4. The sugar content of the sap was above average, requiring approximately 39 gallons of sap to produce a gallon of syrup. The majority of syrup produced was medium amber followed by light amber and then dark amber.

2007 PRICES AND SALES: Across New England, the average equivalent price per gallon for 2007 maple syrup varied widely depending on the percentage sold retail, wholesale, or bulk. The 2007 all sales equivalent price per gallon in Connecticut averaged \$53.90, down \$4.30 per gallon. Maine averaged \$30.10, up \$5.80; New Hampshire averaged \$46.80, up \$2.90; and Vermont averaged \$29.10, down \$1.10. In Massachusetts, the price averaged \$46.10, down \$1.80. Vermont and Maine's prices continue to be lower than the other states because of the high percentage of bulk sales sold in these states. Bulk prices continue to show increases in 2007. New England's 2007 gallon equivalent price of \$31.68 reflects an increase of \$1.37 from the 2006 price of \$30.31.

MAPLE SYRUP: Taps, Yield, and Production, 2006 – 2008

State	Taps			Yield per Tap			Production		
	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
	1,000 Taps			Gallons			1,000 Gallons		
Connecticut	61	59	62	0.164	0.136	0.242	10	8	15
Maine	1,315	1,310	1,270	0.228	0.172	0.169	300	225	215
Massachusetts	245	230	220	0.163	0.130	0.250	40	30	55
New Hampshire	355	365	360	0.180	0.164	0.236	64	60	85
Vermont	2,170	2,170	2,250	0.212	0.207	0.222	460	450	500
NEW ENGLAND¹	4,146	4,134	4,162	0.211	0.187	0.209	874	773	870
Michigan	375	400	405	0.208	0.150	0.247	78	60	100
New York	1,530	1,470	1,480	0.165	0.152	0.218	253	224	322
Ohio	360	370	395	0.217	0.203	0.299	78	75	118
Pennsylvania	449	445	475	0.147	0.115	0.200	66	51	95
Wisconsin	400	470	540	0.250	0.160	0.241	100	75	130
UNITED STATES	7,260	7,289	7,457	0.200	0.173	0.219	1,449	1,258	1,635
New Brunswick ²	1,703	—	—	—	—	—	305	272	—
Nova Scotia ²	346	—	—	—	—	—	31	32	—
Ontario ²	1,312	—	—	—	—	—	261	269	—
Quebec ²	34,676	—	—	—	—	—	6,534	5,599	—
CANADA^{2,3}	38,036	—	—	—	—	—	7,131	6,173	—

¹ New England include CT, ME, MA, NH, and VT.

² 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)

³ Data may not add due to rounding.

SOURCE: United States – *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Canada, Taps – *2006 Canadian Census of Agriculture*, Production – *2007 Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products*, Statistics Canada.

MAPLE SYRUP: Production, Price, and Value, 2005 – 2007

State	Production			Average Gallon Equivalent Price of All Sales ¹			Value of Production		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
	1,000 Gallons			United States Dollars			United States 1,000 Dollars		
Connecticut	10	10	8	50.00	58.20	53.90	500	582	431
Maine	265	300	225	21.50	24.30	30.10	5,698	7,290	6,773
Massachusetts	40	40	30	51.20	47.90	46.10	2,048	1,916	1,383
New Hampshire	57	64	60	41.30	43.90	46.80	2,354	2,810	2,808
Vermont	410	460	450	27.80	30.20	29.10	11,398	13,892	13,095
NEW ENGLAND²	782	874	773	28.13	30.31	31.68	21,998	26,490	24,490
Michigan	58	78	60	36.00	37.00	41.60	2,088	2,886	2,496
New York	222	253	224	31.70	31.70	33.50	7,037	8,020	7,504
Ohio	69	78	75	36.00	34.00	39.00	2,484	2,652	2,925
Pennsylvania	61	66	51	31.50	32.50	31.60	1,922	2,145	1,612
Wisconsin	50	100	75	32.40	31.20	35.70	1,620	3,120	2,678
UNITED STATES	1,242	1,449	1,258	29.90	31.30	33.20	37,149	45,313	41,705
New Brunswick ³	248	305	272	29.41	32.10	36.96	7,293	9,792	10,052
Nova Scotia ³	25	31	32	34.40	30.35	31.31	860	941	1,002
Ontario ³	262	261	269	34.24	38.45	42.21	8,970	10,035	11,354
Quebec ³	6,822	6,534	5,599	20.47	22.59	24.22	139,669	147,633	135,635
CANADA³	7,359	7,131	6,173	21.31	23.62	25.60	156,792	168,401	158,044

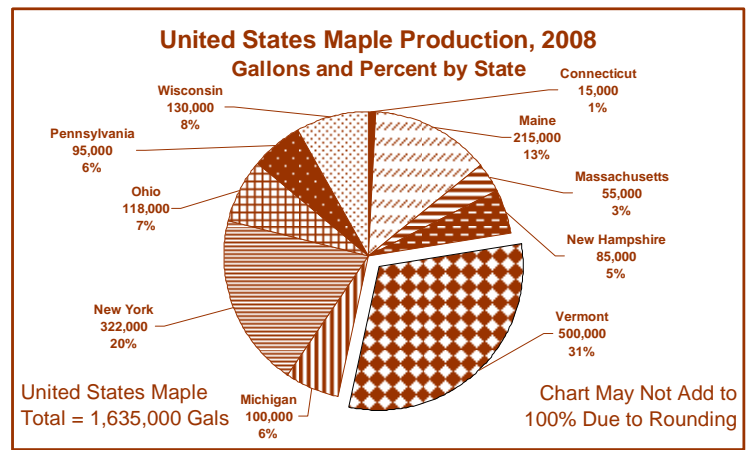
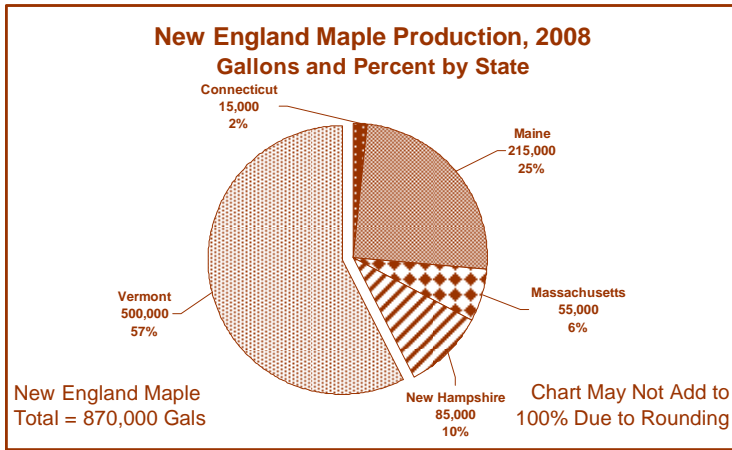
¹ Average gallon equivalent price in United States dollars is a weighted average across retail, wholesale, and bulk sales. This price is lower for States, such as Maine and Vermont, with more bulk sales. The average gallon equivalent price is not the average retail price paid for a gallon of syrup. See page 4 for retail gallon average prices.

² New England include CT, ME, MA, NH, and VT.

³ Canadian dollars to United States dollars exchange rates were valued at or near the closest date to July 1 for each year. Exchange rates 0.8163 for 2005, 0.9002 for 2006, and 0.9393 for 2007. 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 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

SOURCE: Canada, Production and Value of Production – *2007 Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products*, Statistics Canada.



SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

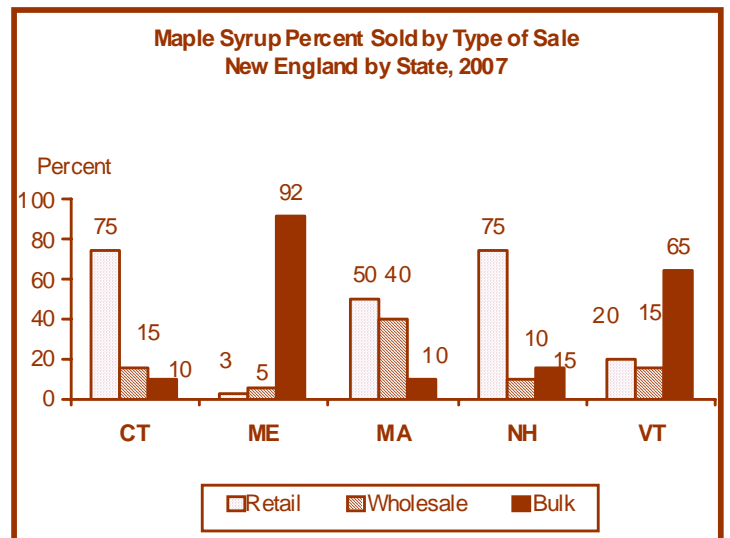
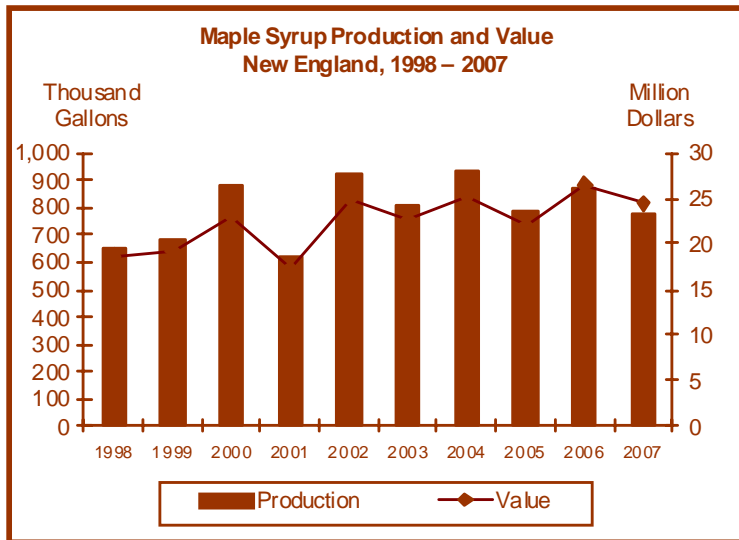
MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, New England, 2006 – 2007

Type of Sale	Connecticut		Maine		Massachusetts		New Hampshire		Vermont	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
Retail	75	75	6	3	55	50	70	75	30	20
Wholesale	15	15	2	5	30	40	15	10	10	15
Bulk	10	10	92	92	15	10	15	15	60	65

MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, Other States, 2006 – 2007

Type of Sale	Michigan		New York		Ohio		Pennsylvania		Wisconsin	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
Retail	43	55	40	46	65	68	57	52	30	39
Wholesale	37	25	20	16	19	17	20	28	35	31
Bulk	20	20	40	38	16	15	23	20	35	30

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



MAPLE SYRUP: Retail and Wholesale Prices and Size of Containers, 2005 – 2007

State and Year	Retail								Wholesale						
	Gallon	Half Gallon	Quart	Pint	Half Pint	3.4 oz. (100 ml)	8.5 oz. (250 ml)	12 oz. (355 ml)	Gallon	Half Gallon	Quart	Pint	Half Pint	3.4 oz. (100 ml)	8.5 oz. (250 ml)
	Dollars								Dollars						
Connecticut															
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	D
2006	44.00	25.30	14.60	9.10	5.60	3.40	7.90	D	35.00	18.10	12.80	8.30	4.60	3.90	D
2007	40.80	24.80	14.70	8.30	5.10	3.10	8.20	8.70	40.60	21.40	12.40	7.20	4.80	3.00	D
Maine															
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
2007	38.30	21.20	11.80	7.00	4.50	3.20	7.60	8.00	32.80	18.70	10.40	6.10	4.00	2.10	D
Massachusetts															
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	D
2006	38.10	21.90	13.30	9.30	6.20	3.60	9.40	D	28.40	16.00	10.40	6.00	3.80	3.00	D
2007	39.50	23.00	14.30	8.90	6.40	3.00	8.10	9.00	34.60	19.50	10.70	6.30	4.20	2.00	D
NewHampshire															
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
2007	40.30	22.10	13.30	8.00	5.00	3.20	8.70	9.70	29.50	18.40	10.10	5.40	3.00	2.40	6.70
Vermont															
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
2007	35.40	20.20	12.50	8.20	5.30	3.00	7.60	8.00	29.40	18.20	10.20	6.40	3.70	3.00	5.00
Michigan															
2005	34.20	18.90	10.30	6.50	4.20	*	*	*	29.00	16.40	8.60	4.60	3.50	*	*
2006	34.10	18.30	10.90	6.50	4.50	*	*	*	26.60	17.30	9.10	5.30	3.10	*	*
2007	34.30	20.90	11.80	6.80	4.60	*	*	*	29.50	17.10	10.20	6.00	4.00	*	*
NewYork															
2005	32.50	18.80	11.10	6.90	4.40	*	*	*	26.50	16.10	8.80	5.20	3.20	*	*
2006	32.90	19.10	11.40	7.00	4.40	*	*	*	27.70	16.30	8.70	5.40	3.60	*	*
2007	34.10	19.80	12.00	7.80	4.80	*	*	*	30.60	17.60	10.60	5.95	3.70	*	*
Ohio															
2005	31.20	18.40	10.70	6.60	4.50	*	*	*	26.20	16.50	8.50	5.80	3.80	*	*
2006	31.50	19.00	11.10	6.70	4.50	*	*	*	25.10	15.40	8.90	5.50	3.60	*	*
2007	33.60	19.40	12.00	7.35	4.65	*	*	*	33.50	18.30	9.80	6.00	3.40	*	*
Pennsylvania															
2005	29.30	18.00	10.60	6.10	4.30	*	*	*	27.50	15.60	8.60	4.70	3.90	*	*
2006	30.80	19.00	11.20	6.75	3.65	*	*	*	29.00	16.70	8.95	5.20	3.50	*	*
2007	32.20	19.00	10.80	6.40	4.20	*	*	*	21.30	16.80	9.00	5.60	3.30	*	*
Wisconsin															
2005	30.60	16.80	9.10	5.70	4.20	*	*	*	33.00	17.10	9.10	5.30	3.00	*	*
2006	31.60	17.60	9.10	5.80	4.25	*	*	*	32.50	16.40	8.85	5.05	3.30	*	*
2007	31.20	17.30	9.60	6.25	4.50	*	*	*	31.10	18.50	9.80	5.80	3.50	*	*

¹ Only available in New England States.

D Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



MAPLE SYRUP: Bulk Prices by Grade and All Sales Gallon Equivalent Prices, 2005 – 2007

State and Year	Bulk					All Sales Per Gallon Equivalent Price ¹
	Grade A			Grades B and C	All Grades	
	Light Amber	Med. Amber	Dark Amber			
Dollars Per Pound ²						Dollars
Connecticut						
2005	D	D	D	D	D	50.00
2006	D	D	D	D	1.85	58.20
2007	2.30	D	2.00	1.85	1.95	53.90
Maine						
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
2007	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	30.10
Massachusetts						
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
2007	2.20	2.10	1.90	1.80	1.95	46.10
New Hampshire						
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
2007	2.50	2.20	2.05	1.85	2.05	46.80
Vermont						
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
2007	2.20	2.10	2.00	1.85	2.05	29.10
Michigan						
2005	*	*	*	*	1.80	36.00
2006	*	*	*	*	1.80	37.00
2007	*	*	*	*	2.30	41.60
New York						
2005	*	*	*	*	1.70	31.70
2006	*	*	*	*	1.80	31.70
2007	*	*	*	*	2.05	33.50
Ohio						
2005	*	*	*	*	2.00	36.00
2006	*	*	*	*	1.85	34.00
2007	*	*	*	*	2.05	39.00
Pennsylvania						
2005	*	*	*	*	1.60	31.50
2006	*	*	*	*	1.60	32.50
2007	*	*	*	*	1.95	31.60
Wisconsin						
2005	*	*	*	*	1.70	32.40
2006	*	*	*	*	1.80	31.20
2007	*	*	*	*	2.05	35.70

¹ Average gallon equivalent price was a weighted average across retail, wholesale, and bulk sales.

² For dollars per gallon: multiply dollars per pound by 11.02 pounds per gallon.

D Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

* Only available in New England States.

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., June 10, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



CONNECTICUT - Fairfield: Best season in recent memory. The sap flowed from start to finish. We ran out of wood, jugs, and ambition, so we pulled out taps. **Hartford:** In 35 years, 2008 was the best season ever! Conditions were favorable throughout the season with only short periods of too cold weather for sap flow. **Litchfield:** Best season we ever had; excellent sap flows. Weather was very good. We had snow throughout the season. Not a lot of days with wide temperature swings. Snow stayed on the ground throughout most of the season. It was a great year; we had too much sap. Perfect year! One of the best seasons we have had in the last 10 years and we tapped late. Temperatures were perfect. Best year in 30 seasons. **New Haven:** Best sap runs. Ideal weather conditions and plenty of "B" grade at the end, which more and more people ask for. The rain helped the sap run. We had a hard time keeping up. **New London:** Sap ran like crazy this year, buckets were full every night. Weather conditions were very favorable this year. The sap quality was excellent. We had an excellent year overall. Sap flowed almost daily. We ran out of wood. **Tolland:** We would have made more but we ran out of wood. The sap flowed without the buckets on the trees. No weather issues. It was a very good year. The best we have had in 4-5 years. **Windham:** Third best year in 36 years. Syrup filtered much better than usual. Huge amounts of light colored sediment filtered out. Syrup looked milky before it was filtered. It was a short, intense, productive season. Best season in 30 years. We had excellent runs and good sugar content.

MAINE – Aroostook: Did not get any runs in March. It was too cold. Then it got too warm with no cold nights. It was a poor year. Not sure why. Perhaps the snow cover or the ground did not freeze. **Cumberland:** It was not a good season for us. Weather was ok for sap flow most of the season, however, there were never any really good sap flows. Snow depth was an issue at the start and lack of frost in the ground helped end the season. **Franklin:** Most of March was 10-15 degrees too cold for sap to flow. It started out too cold and then was too warm. The weather did not cooperate. I would have liked to have darker syrup; it ran real light. **Kennebec:** We had plenty of snow but did not get cold enough at night. We had very sporadic weather. Once the weather became just right the season zipped along and was over. It was the worst season ever. Temperatures went from 30 to 60 in a week and a half. It was a disaster. It started out too cold then went to favorable and then became too warm. **Lincoln:** We did better on the coast than the guys inland. **Oxford:** I thought it would have been a better year, but there was too much snow. It was a poor year. Perhaps ground too warm with snow cover. The weather was erratic, too much snow. Production was limited by difficulty moving sap in deep snow. Tubing needed to be shoveled and collection from buckets was more complicated than usual. Weather

was very favorable. Gathered sap April 14, 15, 16, 17 and it ran very well and was of good quality despite temps into the 60s. Can barely reach some buckets now that the snow is gone. **Penobscot:** Too much snow and ice. It was too cold to start and then too warm in April. It was a bad year but sweeter than usual. **Sagadahoc:** Very nice three weeks of constant runs. **Somerset:** It was horrible, worst season I ever had. Too much snow; too cold; short, late season. Good quality; good runs; pleased with year. Started too cold; ended too warm. **Waldo:** Pretty good year. **Washington:** Excellent year on the coast. Some buried lines (snow) early on and difficult traveling in the woods. Steady sap flows mid-March through the first week in April. **York:** Overall here in southern Maine it was one of our best seasons. We could not keep up with the sap flow. The sap was crystal clear and sweeter than previous seasons. Sap flowed in small quantities for every day from March 4 - April 6, but many of those days it was too cold for good flows. Flavor and color were excellent early, but both deteriorated greatly later in the season.

MASSACHUSETTS – Berkshire: Very good conditions. The weather was perfect. Best season since 1997. **Franklin:** Lots of sugar sand. Good quality syrup; weather was fine. We tapped later than usual. It was very cold and a lot of snow. Nine strong runs of sap throughout the season. Best year in 31 years. There was very unusual sap flow; perhaps due to the fact that the ground was not frozen and we had a lot of precipitation. Temperature fluctuation was very favorable for sap flow. The weather was finally perfect. The sap ran continually. The sap was sweeter than usual and this was our best year since 1991. Perfect weather conditions day after day with lots of light syrup. We never made dark syrup of any kind. **Hampden:** The season was the best in 10 years. **Hampshire:** Perfect weather conditions. No snow; no frost; very good temperature inversions. Quality of syrup was excellent. **Middlesex:** This was our best year on record for quantity. **Worcester:** This was the best season we have ever had, high flow and sweet. The weather was perfect. This was the best year for syrup that I have ever seen. We were very happy with the season. The sugar content for sap was lower than normal. We had an old fashioned winter and ideal temperatures.

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Belknap: Too much snow slowed production; ground not frozen. Good sap flow due to many low pressure systems through this season. Too much snow for too long. Sap never really flowed hard. Snow in the woods packed around the trees prevented the sap from running hard. **Carroll:** Too cool in the beginning and then later it was too hot. Too cold in March; no big sap runs. We had a lot of snow cover and ice build up; worst year ever. Weather and flow was average, but there was a lot of heavy sugar sand left in the pans and it was a difficult clean up. A lot of discharge in the bottom of sap

buckets this year; had to clean buckets every time. It was favorable and then it got too warm. **Cheshire:** Lots of snow; hard to get around in the woods. Weather was favorable. High sugar content in beginning so took less sap per gallon of syrup. Later in season the sugar content was lower taking more sap per gallon of syrup. Long overdue excellent season! Best we have done per tap in many years. **Coos:** Weather was warming up at night, so a mediocre crop. Weather was not good for sap this year, moving in the woods was hard with all the snow cover. The quality was excellent and flavor was good. It was good while it lasted, it just didn't last. It was too cold to start and it got hot too quick. Quality was good. **Grafton:** At first it was too cold and then it was too warm. Niter was weird; it was almost like glue. We had to keep changing filters. This was the best quality crop I have ever produced and with less sap than usual. The sap flow was steady, never outstanding, but it kept coming and kept me busy. Sap was a little sweeter than normal. Excellent weather; it started out good, then turned cold, then started up again and ran good before it stopped. Cold temperatures kept bacteria levels down resulting in good light amber syrup. This was the best year for sap! **Merrimack:** Pretty good year. Snow was kind of deep. Sugar content was high; good light syrup. Deep snow kept temperatures too cold for much of the season, but good sugar content. **Rockingham:** Best weather conditions I've seen since 1975. **Strafford:** It was ideal. **Sullivan:** This was the best year we have had in a long time.

VERMONT – Addison: We had a tremendous amount of wind. Best year in awhile. Elevation hurt; 1300-1800 feet did okay. Higher up did worse and lower down did much better. Best season in many years. **Caledonia:** Never got a good sap run due to the amount of snow. In spite of record snow, the season was only a little more than two weeks at my elevation (1700-2000 feet). It was just too warm...terrible production. **Chittenden:** Weather stayed favorable for most of the season. Quality of syrup was light and excellent flavor. It was a very good year! Sometimes it was too cold but mostly favorable for good color. Most sap runs influenced by stormy weather and low atmospheric pressure. We had very few classic cold nights and sunny warm days. It started cool until April 1 and then it warmed up too quickly and did not freeze again. It was a cold season. Sap didn't start flowing until the afternoons and without vacuum we wouldn't have made as much as we did. The quality was excellent; very sweet. The season ran about one week late. The season was short but very good flow conditions. Sugar content seemed high this year; sap flow seemed low; yield was good. **Essex:** It was not quite warm enough then it got too hot. **Franklin:** Not warm enough for my elevation; excellent sap and syrup. Good;

season overall: too cold; didn't do as good as expected wind was strong. Sap sugar content was up for us this year. Only major problem was very hard freeze-up at night with temperatures taking too long to warm up during the day. Cold temperatures along with heavy winds kept us from producing a lot of syrup in March. The weather was not favorable this year. We had many intervals of below freezing temperatures and cold winds. Most of the days were too cold and then it warmed up too much. Too cold early but sap was sweeter than normal. **Lamoille:** Too much snow and too much north wind; quality and sap sweet. The weather started out too cold but ended up nice. One of the worst seasons we have ever had. Too cold early; best runs late when syrup was dark. Sap much sweeter and quality better. We didn't get any really good runs due to weather conditions. It was a decent year; too cold and then it warmed up too quickly. **Orange:** On days when sap flowed, the flow was weak and did not produce much sap. Snow was too deep and stayed too long. No big runs. Season ended in a hurry. We had very bad weather; the worst I have ever had; too much cold and too much ice. The weather was favorable but not great sap flows. More snow than usual. When we had cold nights it didn't get warm enough during the day to cause a flow. Then toward the end of the season it did not get cool enough at night to cause the trees to freeze. Quite often it was too cold at night or too warm in the daytime. The sap was sweeter than the last two years. Never had a real good sap run but a little each day. **Orleans:** Conditions were inconsistent. It was a short intense season. Unusually deep snow kept sap from flowing early on; then it warmed up too quickly. March was a little too cold for sap flow. **Rutland:** Our high elevation trees above 2000 feet were slow early in the season but what a year for super light syrup. **Washington:** Too cold at the beginning and too warm at the end. Great sugar content made up for shorter season. The weather conditions were perfect this year. It was too cold in March and too warm in April; good quality of syrup. Temperatures were ok, but winds from the north were blowing. **Windham:** First it was cold then it warmed up and sap flowed. Never had such a high percent of fancy; great year. Sap ran good every few days. Flavor was good for all grades. Everything was favorable for the sap flow. Weather conditions were about normal but never had a real good run of sap. Good season in southern VT. It was one of the best seasons in recent memory. **Windsor:** Good quality sap and syrup. We got a late start; could have made more but lots of snow slowed things down. Very deep snow made it hard to get into woods to tap. Never really got a good run; average year. March temperatures were real cold with heavy snow. Good quality throughout the season. Poor year for us; never had a good run of sap. We didn't get a hard enough freeze in the morning and did not warm up enough during the day to flow well.

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