

Maple Mainline

Bennington County maple producers will host the 2009 Vermont Maplerama at Colgate Park in Bennington, VT. Beautiful Bennington County is located in Southwestern Vermont, the gateway to Vermont maple sugaring country. The county is steeped in history and Colgate Park is located within view of the Bennington Battle Monument and the Old First Church. Spectacular views of the Valley of Vermont are visible from the site. This annual Vermont Maple Tour is expected to attract over 200 people from as many as 14 states and provinces. Participating in this two-plus day event is inexpensive for maple producers; the knowledge and friendships gained are invaluable.

This year's events include the traditional Maplerama format, complete with tours of many local sugarhouses, plus a special twist—the first annual Shires Maple Festival. The home base for events will be Colgate Park, a former dairy farm and bottling plant which has been turned into an attractive setting for festi-

maple beginners. Events for Maplerama participants will include the tours, maple trade show with the latest

vals and special events (pictured above). Maplerama participants will have their own venue for meals and tours, within a larger event which consists of a two day festival open to the public, with local and specialty foods and crafts, food court, live music and entertainment, as well as maple equipment and presentations for

INTERNATIONAL MAPLE SYRUP CONTEST

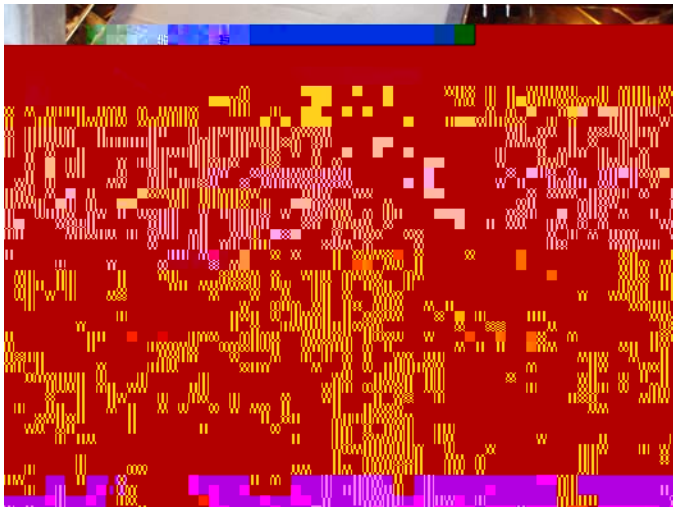
Entries can be submitted in any or all of the three table grades of pure maple syrup: Vermont Fancy Grade (CA Extra Light/Light Amber), Vermont Grade A Medium Amber (CA Light/Medium Amber), or Vermont Grade A Dark Amber (CA Medium/Dark Amber). Entries must be U.S. pint size or equivalent containers, graded and properly labeled.

Entries will be judged based on the requirements of the point of origin. All entries will be displayed after judging on Saturday and through the banquet and used for breakfast on Sunday. Awards for Best of Class and Grand Prize will be presented at the banquet. All entries judged excellent will receive a blue ribbon. All entries must be submitted to the Maplerama registration table no later than 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 25th.

MERCURY THERMOMETER EXCHANGE

For Vermonters only, the exchange of mercury thermometers for digital thermometers will again take place at this year's Maplerama. Representatives of the state will be on hand on Friday, July 24, to exchange thermometers for those who signed up. If you have any questions, please contact: Henry Marckres at 802-828-3458.

Saturday Tour Stops



Hayes Family Sugarhouse, established in 1969, is operated by Hamilton Hays & family of Winhall. Boiling is done on a wood-fired 3 x 8 Lightning evaporator. The Hayes's collect sap using 370 buckets. Their business is committed to supplying

local customers with a high quality product and they intend to continue the use of buckets only for gathering sap.

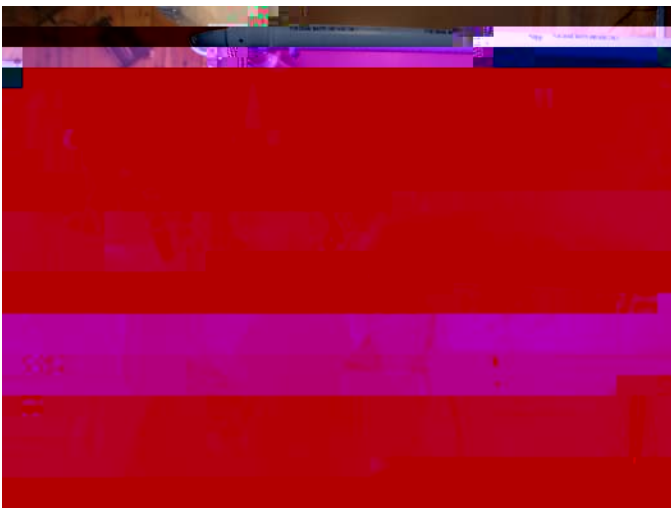


Dutton Berry Farm, established in 1993, is run by Wendy and Paul Dutton. We will visit their sugaring operation in Manchester, where they have

are to continue to grow slowly, keeping collection in the larger stands and eliminating the small less efficient sugarbushes. "This is a hobby gone crazy for our family, but we enjoy producing a high quality product and serving our customers."



Ennis Family Farm, established in 1985, is run by Paul Ennis & family of Sunderland. The large sugarhouse contains their 3 x 10 D&G oil-fired evaporator with Steamaway, and reverse osmosis machine. They have approximately 4300 taps on vacuum. "We started with a 2 x 6 evaporator and made over 300 gallons in 7 days. We have invested all our profits into the operation in order to continue growing."



Skinner Hollow Farm, established in 1989, is operated by Eric Severance & family in Manchester. This is a small (450 taps) operation, with boiling done on a 3½ x 12' wood-fired Leader evaporator. "Right now, I like it just the way it is."

My primary goal is to give my children a lasting experience."



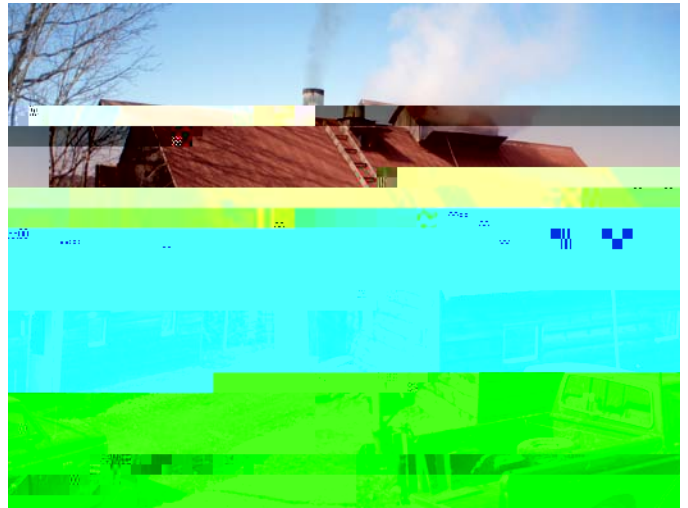
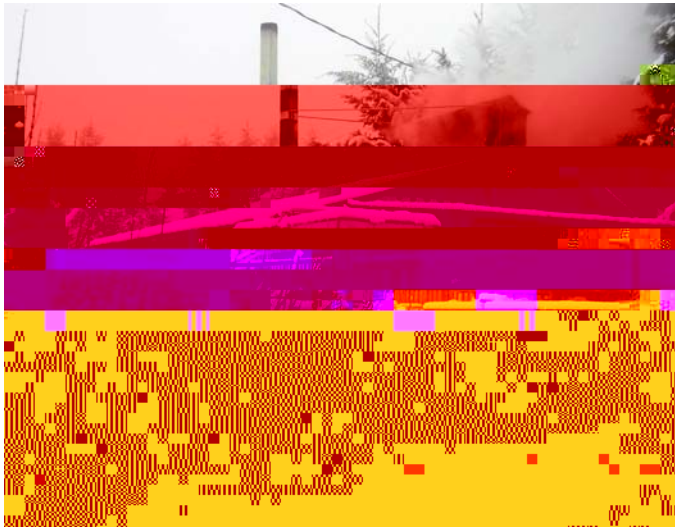
J. K. Adams of Dorset manufactures high quality wood products from Northeastern lumber. We will tour their facility and learn about the 60 year history of this Vermont specialty business.

Sunday Tour Stops



Mance Family Tree Farm, established in 1981, is operated by David Jr., David III and Trevor Mance, in Shaftsbury. David Jr. is vice president of the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' Association. Sap from 2000 taps is boiled on a 3½ x 10 Leader King drop flue evaporator, with a 600 gph reverse osmosis machine. About two thirds of the taps are

on vacuum, with goal of getting all taps on vacuum by next season. “As we continue to grow, we strive to keep our sugaring operation as much a hobby as a business—a sometimes difficult task—with a balance between traditional methods and new technology.”



Running Brook Sugar Shack, established in 2001, is operated by Dick and Cathy Ogden in Hoosick Fall, NY. They have a total of 640 taps, some on vacuum, some on gravity tubing, and some buckets. Boiling is done on a 2 x 8 Leader raised flue wood-fired evaporator with Steamaway. There is also a 250 gph reverse osmosis machine. They plan to add 400 more taps on vacuum in 2010. “Our LaPierre RO is installed in the basement of our house and the concentrate is pumped up to the sugarhouse. All sap is transported to the sugarhouse by truck from 3 different sugarbushes and various bucket locations.”

**University of Vermont Extension
29 Sunset Dr., STE 2
Morrisville, VT 05661**

2009 VERMONT MAPLERAMA

REGISTRATION AND NEWSLETTER

VMSMA Welcomes You to the 44th Vermont Maplerama

What an exciting time for those of us in the maple syrup business! Even with the economic problems we are dealing with, not only here in Vermont but all around the world, many of the industry leaders agree the future for the entire maple industry looks excellent, and maple syrup prices, though they may have dropped slightly this past spring, are still looking to stay very good. Now that the hustle & bustle of a busy maple season is done this event is a perfect occasion to look over some of the new and interesting maple sugaring equipment that will be on display here at the trade show—and while touring sugarhouses, maybe you'll see and learn something that you can bring home and introduce into your maple operation. So please come and join us and the Bennington County Maple Producers at this year's Vermont Maplerama.

See you there!

Rick Marsh
President, VMSMA

Vermont Maplerama 2009 Registration
July 24, 25 & 26
Colgate Park, Route 9 West, Bennington, Vermont
Hosted by the Bennington County Maple Sugar Makers Assoc.

Pre-Registration form must be postmarked no later than **July 7, 2009**.

Mail to: Vermont Maplerama 2009
c/o BACC
100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Bennington, VT 05201

Checks payable to: (US Dollars only)
Bennington County Maple Sugar Makers Assoc.
(BCSMA)

List all those registering on this form.

Lodging:

To see a variety of hotels, inns and B & B's as well as camping in the area, visit www.bennington.com

Full Registration (all 3 days) includes: Friday evening appetizers & Trade Show, Saturday tour & box lunch, Sunday tour.

Full Program \$85/person, \$100 after July 7 #____ \$____

Single Day Tour:

---**Saturday** (includes tour & box lunch) #____ \$____
 \$60/person \$75 after July 7

---**Sunday** tour
 \$45/person, \$55 after July 7 #____ \$____

Meals - (listed below) -