

## MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION UP 43 PERCENT NATIONWIDE

UNITED STATES: United States maple syrup production in 2011 totaled 2.79 million gallons, up 43 percent from the revised 2010 total. The number of taps is estimated at 9.58 million, 3 percent above the 2010 revised total of 9.26 million. Yield per tap is estimated at 0.292 gallons, up 38 percent from the previous season's revised yield.

All States showed an increase in production from the previous





SOURCE: Crop Production, June 9, 2011, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAPLE SYRUP: Sales Percentages, New England, 2009 – 2010

Type of Sale	Connecticut		Maine		Massachusetts		New Hampshire		Vermont	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Retail	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	

## MAPLE SYRUP: Retail and Wholesale Prices by Size of Containers, 2008 – 2010

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)	12 oz. (355 ml)
	Dollars								Dollars							
Connecticut																
2008	54.10	27.60	16.80	11.00	7.00	3.50	8.65	10.90	46.80	27.70	14.60	8.90	5.75	2.40	(D)	(D)
2009	57.00	31.70	18.30	11.50	7.55	4.85	10.00	(D)	46.30	23.60	13.20	8.65	5.55	(D)	(D)	(D)
2010	62.00	31.70	19.60	11.80	7.70	4.50	9.20	(D)	59.00	29.50	14.40	10.70	4.90	4.10	(D)	(D)
Maine																
2008	45.20	25.20	14.20	8.30	5.50	2.95	8.85	12.30	38.40	21.80	11.90	6.90	4.30	3.50	7.00	(D)
2009	52.50	28.10	15.10	9.45	7.20	3.50	7.25	9.85	40.50	25.00	13.00	7.00	4.50	(D)	(D)	(D)
2010	50.10	28.40	15.40	9.55	5.90	4.45	9.40	(D)	42.30	26.70	13.80	7.00	4.15	(D)	6.90	(D)
Massachusetts																
2008	48.00	23.20	14.00	8.75	6.05	4.05	8.45	9.65	42.20	24.20	13.00	7.40	4.95	(D)	(D)	(D)
2009	42.50	27.80	16.60	11.40	7.75	4.70	9.30	10.10	41.90	25.20	14.00	7.45	4.90	2.35	(D)	(D)
2010	53.00	26.80	17.20	10.00	6.50	3.40	(D)	9.50	44.00	24.70	14.30	8.00	5.10	2.30	(D)	7.60
New Hampshire																
2008	44.30	25.30	14.60	8.65	5.10	3.45	7.20	8.25	38.60	22.90	13.40	7.70	4.15	2.05	(D)	(D)
2009	49.30			9.85	6.35	3.50	9.25	8.80	40.60	21.60	11.40	6.65	3.95	2.85	(D)	(D)
2010	49.00	28.10	17.10	9.80	6.50	3.80	9.10	(D)	45.70	25.30	13.00	7.10	3.80	2.30	3.60	(D)
Vermont																
2008	40.60	24.10	15.00	9.65	6.35	4.20	7.35	11.30	38.10	21.70	12.60	7.45	5.10	2.95	6.00	6.10

## MAPLE SYRUP: Bulk Prices by Grade and All Sales Gallon Equivalent Prices, 2008 – 2010

State and Year	Bulk					All Sales Per Gallon Equivalent Price <sup>1</sup>
	Grade A			Grades B and C	All Grades	
	Light Amber	Medium Amber	Dark Amber			
Dollars per Pound <sup>2</sup>						Dollars
Connecticut						
2008	(D)	(D)	3.05	2.95	2.90	62.30
2009	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	*64.00
2010	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	70.00
Maine						
2008	3.35	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	36.80
2009	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.65	2.85	32.90
2010	3.00	3.00	2.90	2.70	3.00	33.50
Massachusetts						
2008	3.40	3.05	3.00	2.75	3.15	46.50
2009	2.85	2.80	2.70	2.50	2.65	53.60
2010						

## Sugar Maker Comments by County

CONNECTICUT – Fairfield: Deep snow and heavy rains made season difficult. Weather was perfect. Heavy flows during the first week of March. Last 10 days of March were the best of season. Hartford: Three feet of snow made for a late start. Weather was great despite several feet of snow. When melted, the sap ran good. Syrup came out great tasting, even in April. Litchfield: Deep snow depth of over 3 feet but good sap flow – sporadic at times but generally even. Great season. Used snowshoes for only 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 25 years. Significant improvement from both 2009 and 2010. Season started slow and cold, then picked up in March. Temperatures seldom got too warm, though the season seemed to start late. Sap was collected for only one week in February. Towards the end, four warm days in a row drastically stopped the season. Middlesex: It was a perfect season. New Haven: There was too much snow on the ground to get to trees early in the season. It was tough to get started but best year yet. This was a fabulous year. New London: A great season after last year. The snow cover and the temperature fluctuations helped a lot. Tolland: Too much snow. Weather much better than last year but some cold days hampered flow. Weather sounded good on forecast but each day generally didn't warm up until the afternoon. Windham: Too much snow to get out to set taps. Extreme snow conditions were a challenge throughout the season. Conditions were very good. Season was a little later than last year. The barometric pressure was a big factor along with ideal temperatures. Gravity tubing did very well. Sugar content consistently high.

MAINE – Androscoggin: Best year ever in 20 years. Aroostook: Too cold early until about mid-March. Best time about March 22-30. Syrup was really dark at the beginning of the season and then it lightened up to more normal coloring. Had ten days of really good sap runs. Sugar content was good overall. Not a lot of big sap runs. A longer dragged out season than normal. Cumberland: One of the best years ever. Started late due to snow pack. Once the sap began to flow in early March, it continued steadily throughout the month. A week with no flow: too warm. Franklin: Best year ever. Cooperative temperatures this year; just cold enough in March. Sap was gathered with very low temperatures this year. Many runs with temperatures between 36F to 39F. Poor season at high elevation as it was too cold for production. Spring was slow in coming this year with snow on ground in early May. Syrup grade was better than 2010 with low percentage of commercial syrup produced. Hancock: The snow was very deep this year. The sap ran good on trees near the road, but not in the woods at the beginning of the season. Kennebec: Best season on record. More sap from fewer taps. Lots of snow and very cold to keep sap flowing resulted in a much better year than 2010. Cold nights and warm days made for a perfect season. Temperatures were favorable. Steady, very consistent runs. Much better year than 2010. Excellent flavor all season; syrup was very sweet.

then picked up by the end of March and first of April. Combination of favorable weather, good snow cover, vacuum, and check valve spot gave us a record season. Grafton: Snow was too deep to sugar this year; couldn't move through it. First time to finish sugaring with snow in the bush. The season started later this year due to cold weather. However, once the sap cut loose it kept coming. Sugar content was better than usual. Flow was up and down all season, about an average year volume-wise. Hillsborough: Late season but a real good one. February 14 – March 5 was too cold for sap flow. Too cold at night – not warm enough until noon for sap to run. Middle to end of March very good. The perfect weather conditions were persistent throughout the season. Merrimack: It was a year for the record books with near perfect weather. Deep snow made tapping hard. Season started late and ended late. Best running conditions in 30 years. March runs were the best experienced since the mid-1980s. Very consistent favorable conditions with good cold nights. All grades had great flavor this year. Rockingham: Three days of freeze, 2-3 day warm spell, never had a consistent long run. There was never a consistent long run. More grade B syrup was made than a normal year. Strafford: Perfect weather for most of March and early April. A very nice, long season. March 18 looked like the season was done as a 50F day followed by 60F day caused bacteria to slime the bottom of buckets. Cold air returned for 10 days, making an average season into a really good one. Sullivan: Late, but perfect weather when it started for those who still depend on gravity. Longest season since 1978. Deep powder snow led to snowshoes and slower tapping. Cold, wet, miserable weather gathering, but good runs all the time. Ice storm damage prevented good vacuum for the first week of the season. Temperature was too cold from March 20 to March 30, otherwise what was a good season would have been an excellent one. Consistently very good flavor, even with the darkest syrup. Low sugar content.

VERMONT – Addison: An exceptional year with an almost continuous flow of sap. After a rather cold, slow start, we had much better weather which helped to melt the snow and let the sap run. A late start with a 10-day freeze, followed by good sap flow in April resulted in our best year ever. Good runs made very flavorful light syrup. Bennington: Good year with very good syrup color. The majority of our season's crop was made in about 2-3 weeks. Early on, conditions were too cold, then the sap ran well, and it shut off before bud break. Caledonia: Late start and with long stretches without freezes. Season was more normal than 2010 but a little too cold at our location. North facing bush affected by cold temperatures and winds while south-facing bush did better than 2010. After mid-March, a cold snap changed syrup from dark to fancy. Sap averaged 3.2% sugar and was frozen in buckets for 10 days between March 20 to March 30. Sap ran hard after the freeze and ended up with excellent color. Chittenden: Normal weather. Warm periods were hotter than desired but

snowpack moderated impact. Violent windstorms during 12/1/10 caused severe damage to pipelines and tappable trees while also resulting in numerous leaning trees collapsing from snow load. Lost a valuable week to cold weather during last week in March. Lots of overcast days with rain and/or snow with no good days of freezing nights and warm days. Short and sweet season with excellent syrup both in flavor and color. Essex: Long season. Weather was a little too cold. Exceptional quality of syrup. Franklin: Too much snow for tractor making us use four-wheeler to gather sap and to make roads. Windstorm took down over half of the lines and many others were covered over in deep snow. It appears to have been a much better than average season for everyone. It started later than normal but went on for over a month which is much longer than normal. Loss of one week because it was cold day and night. Borderline temperatures at my elevation started season slow but deep snow and warmth helped season at the end. Syrup was of good flavor but color was darker than normal. Lamoille: Late start but with very late finish resulted in one of the best seasons ever in both production and quality. It was hard getting set up due to lots of damage from deep snow. Trees with southern exposure ran well despite having a lot of snow. The cold spell mid-season was a setback. Orange: Perfect weather except it only got up to 35-37F, then turned too warm. Weather was poor in March and late April. A cold snap between March 22 and March 31 reduced production. Sap was excellent in sugar this year. Orleans: Typical sugaring weather with hot and cold spells. It never got really warm so it sustained the season. Cold early so 80% of crop was light syrup. Had few warm days in March, lots of snow, and a very sharp cold spell in mid-season. A normal season as timing goes with syrup being mostly fancy. Rutland: Pretty good year. Cold and snowy season. There was too much snow in many places to tap. It never got too warm but didn't get cold enough. Good flow from south-facing woods. Washington: Excellent season. Cooler days on average but length of season made up for this. The weather began favorable but it did go into a freeze-down for about 7 days mid-season. The quality and flavor is delicious, mostly dark A or medium amber was made. Windham: Slow to get started but it turned into a good year. There were no large runs but a steady flow. If it had been any colder, excellent production would have gone to poor production. Dark syrup produced but with good sweet flavor. Windsor: Snow was too deep. It would have been a better season but on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in March we had a devastating ice storm. The season started on time but was interrupted by cold weather in mid-March. There were prolonged cold spells, then extended warm spell closed season prior to late run. Elevation was the determining factor in temperature issue as it warmed up too late in day for good run before temperature fell back again at night. There was a really favorable stretch of weather from 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March through 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April. Very low sugar content. Excellent quality, color mix and flavor. We made good balance of all grades of syrup.

This is a summary of New England agricultural statistics taken from national Crop Production release nationwide reports issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, June 9, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. The New England Field Office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at [nass-nh@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nh@nass.usda.gov)

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