

NEWS RELEASE
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NEW ENGLAND FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION UP 43 PERCENT NATIONWIDE

Concord, NH – United States: The 2011 United States maple syrup production 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 to be 0.292 gallons, up 38 percent from the previous season's revised yield.

All States showed an increase in production from the previous year. Vermont led all States in production while production in New York rebounded from last year's cold affected season. Pennsylvania production was a record high. Ohio producers reported excellent sap collecting conditions which produced the highest yield per tap that the State has seen since this statistic was first measured in 2001. Temperatures were reported to be favorable for optimal sap flow in all States. On average, the season lasted 32 days compared with 23 days last year. In most States, the season started later than last year. The earliest sap flow reported was January 10 in New York. Sugar content of the sap for 2011 was up from the previous year. On average, approximately 43 gallons of sap were required to produce one gallon of syrup. This compares with 46 gallons in 2010 and 43 gallons in 2009.

Vermont led all States in production with 1,140,000 gallons, an increase of 28 percent from 2010 and the highest on record in over sixty years. Maine produced 360,000 gallons, up 14 percent from last year. Production in New York, at 564,000 gallons, increased 81 percent from 2010. Production in Wisconsin, at 155,000 gallons, increased 32 percent above 2010. Pennsylvania, at 128,000 gallons, is 137 percent above 2010. Ohio production is estimated to be 125,000 gallons, up 92 percent from 2010. In Michigan, production is estimated to be 123,000 gallons. This is the highest on record since 1947 and 50 percent above 2010. In New Hampshire, production is estimated to be 120,000 gallons, up 38 percent from last season. Production in Massachusetts, at 62,000 gallons, increased 114 percent from last season. In Connecticut, production is estimated to be 17,000 gallons, up 89 percent from 2010.

New England (excluding Rhode Island): New England's maple syrup

production in 2011 totaled 1,699,000 gallons, up 28 percent from last year. Vermont remained the largest producing State in New England and the Nation, with 41 percent of the Nation's maple syrup. Taps in New England totaled 5.5 million, up three percent from last year and accounted for 57 percent of the Nation's maple taps.

The 2011 maple season was rated mostly favorable in temperature, causing production increases in all of New England States. Temperatures were reported to be 79 percent favorable, 18 percent too cold, and 3 percent too warm. Excessive snow depth proved to be an obstacle to many sugar producers at the start of the season but helped extend the season across New England. Some sugar makers in Maine reported collecting sap as late as the first week of May. In addition, temperatures were warm enough during the day and below freezing during nighttime, resulting in consistent and steady sap flows. Connecticut and Massachusetts producers, those hit hardest by the unseasonably warm spring of 2010, reported drastic improvements in yields compared to the previous year. Producers relying on gravity taps welcomed the cooler temperatures, and reported significant increases in production. Many of these sugar makers claimed 2011 as a record year in production.

2010 PRICES AND SALES: The New England value of production, at \$47.9 million for 2010, was down 11 percent due to the reduced production. The average price per gallon of \$36.02 reflects a decrease of \$.50 from the 2009 price of \$36.52. The 2010 United States price per gallon was \$37.50, down \$0.40 from the revised 2009 price of \$37.90. The United States value of production, at \$73.6 million for 2010, was down 19 percent from the revised previous season. The value of production was down in all States.

The 2010 average price per gallon in Connecticut averaged \$70.00, up \$6.00. Maine averaged \$33.50, up \$0.60; New Hampshire averaged \$55.40, up \$0.90; and Vermont averaged \$34.00, down \$1.10. In Massachusetts, the price averaged \$56.50, up \$2.90. 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 declined in 2010.

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