

MAPLE SYRUP DIGEST



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GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Once again the Festive season has come and gone. I hope you all had a joyous time with family and friends and that Old Saint Nick brought all good health and prosperity for the new year. A special thanks to Connecticut for hosting the 1997 meetings, a job well done. The Nova Scotia Producers enjoyed themselves immensely at the meetings and look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new friends in Pennsylvania in 1998.

Winter has been especially hard on Nova Scotia woods with up to 12" of heavy wet snow bringing down many lines. With all the new technology that has taken place in the last few years, how long will it be before we will be boiling with microwave?

Having heard no negative comments or problems since taking my new position, I assume everything is okay.

Anyone wanting to get in touch with me, may do so by calling (902) 548-2973 or Fax (902) 548-2833.

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to make an admission of error. The sugarhouse on the cover of the December Digest was actually the sugarhouse of Stonebridge Farm, David & Ann Rhineland of Andover CT. My apologies to everyone.

I received a letter recently from a gentleman who was concerned about product liability. He asked if

any producer had been sued for poor or contaminated syrup. To my knowledge no one has been sued. There have been and continue to be syrup removed from sale because of not meeting grade requirements i.e. color and or density. This brings back the point that we stress over and over, make sure you know the density of your syrup. Your hydrometer is calibrated to test hot syrup at approximately 210 degrees, if you don't know the temperature of your syrup, you hydrometer is of little value to you.

Another thing, don't keep syrup in tin too long. 1 year might be acceptable if you are using good tin plate cans. The cheap tin plate cans don't last. I saw a can a while back that had been cut open and the whole inside was all black, no tin plate left at all. Syrup is slightly acidic and after a period of time it will eat the tin off the inside of a tin can.

The Digest is still healthy and solvent, but the struggle gets greater every year. Mailing costs keep going up, paper keeps going up and revenue going down. There is more and more competition for the advertising dollars and advertisers are cutting back. Please patronize our advertisers for without them there would be no Digest.

Please continue to send us any items that you think may be of interest to our readers.

We have just gone 3 days with power being off much more than being on, thanks to an ice storm. We lost a number of trees, but fortunately our maples seemed to have stood up quite well.

A good sugar season to all!

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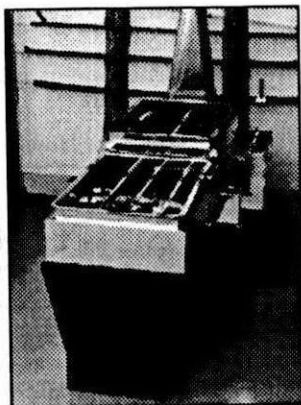
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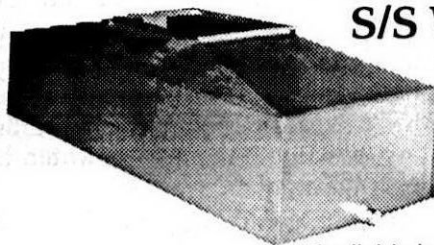


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IMSI BUSINESS

Christmas is over. The tree has become a bird sanctuary next to the feeder. El Nino has created weird weather patterns. The weather is cold. Snow is deep, and the syrup season is upon us.

We go into the production season with a need for syrup. This is wonderful news. There is little or no carry over. I hope we can force ourselves for some self discipline to insure that we do not overproduce. But on the surface, it would look promising for those anticipating expansion. This would be the year to expand.

As we enter a new year, the time is appropriate to establish 'resolutions'. The passage of a 'pro-active' resolution concerning lead content in maple syrup, which was adopted in Connecticut last October, leads one to expect more action in this direction. There are many aspects of the maple industry that could use leadership. I urge that we, the industry take the lead, set the agenda, issue the direction, and provide the rules, rather than have any forced upon us. The most critical areas for needed leadership are the 'Certification of Equipment', rules to eliminate adulteration, and establishing 'Certificates of Analysis' which would provide a historical record of each shipment from producer to consumer. The environment is fertile and friendly for such action. I hope the IMSI can stay out in front in providing direction in these most crucial situations.

So, tap those trees. Expand if you can sell the syrup. Have a great crop. And, may your 1998 be the most prosperous ever. Will talk to you soon.

Lynn Reynolds, *Executive Director*

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN MAPLE MUSEUM

By Eleanor Allen

Now that the new year is well underway and maple sugaring time is just around the corner, those of us at the American Maple Museum want to wish everyone a good season. If you happen to be in the Croghan area, we will be hosting a pancake breakfast on March 1st. During these cold winter months while the museum is closed to visitors, we are updating our records. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who can help supply us with current addresses and phone numbers for those people who have been inducted into the Maple Hall of Fame.

The annual opening day ceremonies for the American Maple Museum are scheduled for May 16th of this year. By holding them a week later than usual, we are hoping to have some sunshine for a change. Whether we have rain or shine, the festivities will include a pancake breakfast, live entertainment, the induction into the Maple Hall of Fame of two people whose names have not yet been revealed, the New York State Maple Queen contest, and of course, the parade. We will have many manufacturers of maple equipment on hand to meet the producers and there will be craftspeople as well. There will be plenty of food and entertainment, and we hope that many people can attend. For further information, please write to the American Maple Museum at PO Box 81, Croghan, NY 13327, or telephone 315-346-1107.

IT HAPPENED IN CONNECTICUT

It was a cool, breezy, mostly sunny day as maple industry leaders from all over the maple world drifted into Meriden, Connecticut on a late October afternoon. This is a pretty usual happening somewhere every autumn as maple folks have been gathering for annual meetings of the NAMSC & IMSI for many years. As most arrived it seemed much as past meetings, everyone was very warmly welcomed by the gracious host, the Maple Producers Association of Connecticut. Twenty years ago few people even knew that the state of Connecticut had a maple industry, let alone an organization of such that was now hosting this joint NAMSC-IMSI event or the historical meaning it would soon hold.

What happened in the next four days we even more significant. Few would have ever guessed when they arrived, that they would be leaving the most *far reaching maple meeting ever held anywhere, anytime, ever!*

The world maple industry left Meriden in the most unified manner ever accomplished to date. State after state, province after province, some of the best maple minds ever assembled met and discussed industry problems and future directions, from heavy metals to adulteration. Acknowledgement of the problems, methods of solutions being sought, acknowledgement that these are problems common to all producers, everywhere.

Finally a **RESOLUTION** stating the industry's concern, determination and its unity in moving forward in a constructive, positive manner that will

see maple reach a new high of quality standards at the same time allowing the industry to retool where needed in an orderly time frame.

A **RESOLUTION** that supports the concept of the entire industry creating a product of uniform purity anywhere maple is produced. That assures consumers everywhere that in maple pure means **PURE**.

Yes, Connecticut was a meeting of the greatest maple minds, it was a meeting of two international organizations, it was a meeting of two countries, it was a meeting of two languages — its result was a resolution of **ONE UNDERSTANDING**.

As this theme continues in the future, it will help all entities create the perfect product, while weeding out the imperfect. The Connecticut meeting was a job very well done. Yes, ***It Happened in Connecticut.***

Sincerely,

Wilson "Bill" Clark,
President, Vermont Maple Syrup Assoc.
Past President, IMSI
Past President, NAMSC

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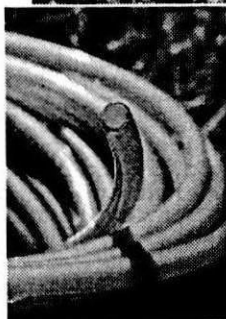
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MAPLE HALL OF FAME

By Russ Davenport

The Selection Committee for the Maple Hall of Fame inductees has selected the following people as candidates for induction on May 16, 1998 in Croghan, New York.

Les Lyndaker — Croghan, NY
Gilles Croteau — Quebec, Canada
Marjorie Palmer — Hinesberg, VT

The committee has also put into writing the requirements or guidelines used in selection of candidates. In addition to these guidelines, it will also be necessary to include a resume with the nomination of any candidate. Candidates must be nominated each year. Because of problems with the last selection committee, this committee was dissolved and a new one appointed. The problems were: people on the committee who had been nominated, more than one person from a state or province on the committee and it was felt that committee members must be in the Hall of fame.

I would like to urge past "Hall of Famers" to attend the May 16, 1998 program. It is a great reunion. Also the program is open to all maple people. Watch the digest for details.

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2076.

Warren Lyndaker, President,

American Maple Museum, PO Box 81, Croghan, NY 13327. HOME: Box 342, Croghan, NY 13327 — (315) 346-6983.

Carl Vogt, Secretary, NAMSC, 10304 94th Avenue, North Osseo, MN 55368 — (612) 425-3742.

RESUME FOR GILLES CROTEAU

I was born on a farm, in 1924, on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, about 25 miles south-west of Quebec City, at St. Anotine-de-Tilly, Letbiniere County. Being the last but one of the family. I still have three brothers and three sisters.

My father had a small sugar bush of about 1500 trees. It was, of course, the time of the tinned buckets, snowshoes and the horse and sleigh. I started going to the sugar house at least a year or two before going to school. Indeed it was a good sign of my future career with the Maple Industry.

After my elementary school in our small community, I went to a commercial school for one year and then to college, a boarding institution here in Levis, before going to Laval University. I graduated in 1952.

In the Spring of 1952, I had the opportunity of my life. I had the chance of being hired by the late senator Cyrille Vaillancourt to be the Secretary-Treasurer of the co-operative of The Maple Sugar Producers of Quebec. The main office was then located in Levis and the plant at Plessisville. In 1972, when the head office was moved to Plessisville, I became general manager of the coop. It was a new challenge.

This second part of my career gave me the opportunity and pleasure to

know several members of the maple industry and often work with them. Long before the IMSI was formed, I had been invited to the NAMSC meetings. I have been on the IMSI board right at the beginning. Later on I was elected president of the Institute.

As far as my other activities are concerned, I have been, for a few years, a member of the Junior Board of Trade of Levis and for at least 15 years a member of a social club called The Richelieu Club, which is the equivalent of the Kiwanis or Lions clubs.

On the family side, I got married in 1956 to Madeleine Samson, a nurse who worked at the local hospital. Soon she had the responsibility of the Emergency Service and later on became the head nurse of the Home-Care service for five counties. We had two children. The oldest, Mary, became disabled and died at nine and a half years old. John is now a lawyer. He has three children, giving us the honor and joy of being grandparents.

My favorite sport has been and still is, on a moderate scale, golf. In winter, it used to be cross-country skiing, but now it is over. We take long walks. Reading good books and magazines is also a wonderful pastime.

RESUME FOR LESLIE R. LYNDAKER

Work Experience: *Hired Hand* — Various area sugar bushes. Began working in a sugar bush in 1934. Worked every year through 1953 for area producers other than two years when out of the area. Learned all aspects of maple sugar production. *Maple Sugar Producer/Sugar Bush Owner* — Purchased land in 1954 and equipped it for maple syrup pro-

duction. Began producing in 1956. Produce upwards of 1,000 gallons syrup/year with approximately 4,000 taps. *Employee - Latex Fiber Industries* — Hired in 1948 as a Beater Helper. Worked 34 years in various positions with the company. Retired in 1982 as a Preventive Maintenance worker.

Activities and Memberships: Member, Lewis Co. Maple Producers Assn. - 1956 to present, Board of Directors, Lewis Co. Maple Producers Assn. - several terms between 1956 to 1978, Farm Management Program Completion (Lewis Co. Maple Study) - 1971, Treasurer, American Maple Museum - 1977 to present, Director, American Maple Museum - 1977 to present, Instrumental in founding of the American Maple Museum, work-

ing closely with Mr. Hugh Worden, Member, Local Maple Marketing Steering Committee - 1982 to 1986, Board of Directors, NNY Maple Producers Cooperative - 1986 to 1991, Vice-President, NYS Maple Producers Assn. - 1985 to 1986, Attend NYS Maple Tours annually - 1977 to present, Lewis Co. Representative to NYS Maple Producers Assn. - 1977 to present, Delegate Alternate to North American Maple Syrup Council, Trustee, First Mennonite Church of New Bremen - 1973 to 1988, Member, Senior Fellowship, First Mennonite Church of New Bremen, Member, Beaver River Senior Citizens Club, Board of Directors, Agape Shoppe (Watertown, NY) - 1989 to present.

Awards and Recognitions:



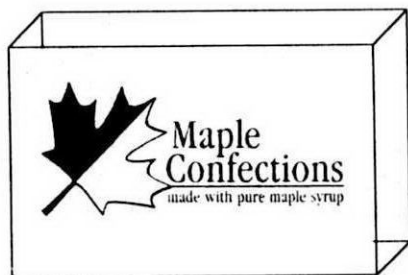
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RESUME FOR MARJORIE PALMER

Marjorie Palmer of Hinesburg, Vermont has been a sugarmaker in her own right since the late 30's. Her husband has been an occasional "hired hand." Marjorie has been, and still is, a power among the Vermont maple producers for her interest and knowledge in sugaring, and her enthusiastic involvement in promoting the maple industry. Her tireless activity in all areas of maple promotion has been legendary and well recognized by everybody. She has also given major contributions to sugaring organizations and her sugarhouse has been open to school children and countless visitors. For her sugaring is a "labor of love."

She studies the research paper of Fred Taylor, Jim Marvin and Fred Laing. From the less than 100 taps she started with, she developed a busi-

ness that any sugarmaker would be proud of, now tapping more than 1500 taps and marketing all of her production retail. Her annual pancake breakfasts and sugar-on-snow parties are legendary in the greater Burlington area.

She was one of the first women to serve on the Board of Directors of the Vermont Maple Sugarmakers Association. She assisted in the development of several major promotion events such as the annual Governors' Tree Tapping and the Vermont Maple Festival. She was a founder of the Chittenden County Maple Sugarmaker Association in 1974.

All in all central to Marge Palmer's involvement in sugaring is her great desire to learn and share with others.

Marjorie's husband passed away this last year, but she carries on the tradition of sugaring with the help of her family. She is deserving of induction into the American Maple Hall of Fame.

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GRATEFUL WINNERS

If the first condition to win a contest is to enter, the second must be to thoroughly lay the groundwork by hard work. Doris and Christian Morin of Ham Nord, Quebec complied with both conditions to be crowned 1997 Grand Champions at the 38th annual meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council Meeting held in Meriden, Connecticut, in October. The Council represents maple syrup producers in four Canadian provinces and 13 American states.

"The flavor of their light amber syrup stood out far above any other syrup in the contest," remarked Henry Marckres of Vermont, one of the three international judges. "The flavor is the deciding factor for syrups with the proper color range, the right density and free of sediments. The Morin's syrup achieved exceptional quality."

So, what's the big deal? will you ask. The big deal is that less than ten years ago the Morins were not involved with maple syrup. Christian was growing and selling Christmas trees while Doris was getting acquainted with the Quebecois culture. Yes, getting acquainted with the norther climate because Doris Vargas Morin was born in Columbia, near the equator; she had never known snow until Christian brought her to Ham Nord on a cold winter day in 1984. She chose to stay despite her lack of French and her allergies to the cold snowy winter.

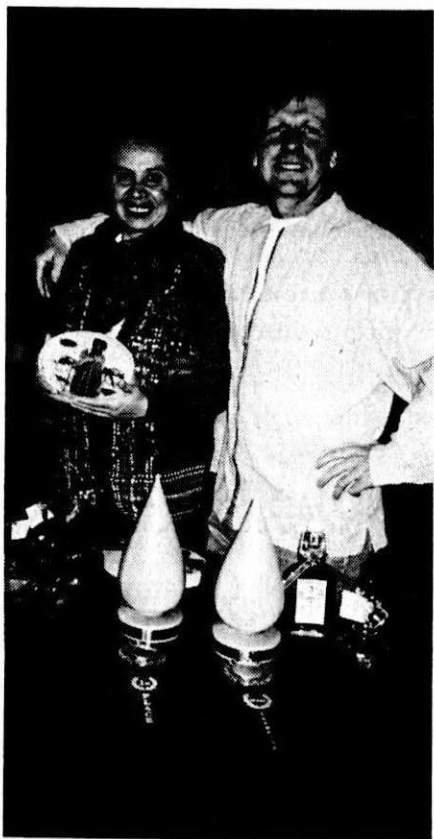
Christian was introduced to sugaring as a teenager, helping his grandfather, gathering from tree to tree with horses. That's not so long ago, Christian's barely 40. After he gradu-

ated with a Forest Technician degree he bought his first Christmas tree plantation. Having difficulty dealing in English with his New England customers, he enrolled at the International English School in St. Petersburg, Florida, where he met Spanish-speaking Doris who had difficulty dealing in English as manager of a travel agency in her hometown of Bogota. He soon picked up enough Spanish to follow Doris for a few months' stay in Columbia. From there, they turned around and headed north towards Ham Nord.

Farms pierce the predominant forest of the rolling countryside around Ham Nord. Sugar bushes and ever-green stands surround volcano-shaped Ham Sud mountain to the west of the village. In 1990, the Morins bought from a distant relative an established sugar house with 4500 taps at the base of the mountain. The following year, by acquiring an adjacent property doomed to be clearcut and tapping its maple trees, they doubled their potential to 9500 taps. Every year since they brought improvements, first with a reverse osmosis machine, then with a new evaporator, new pans and numerous devices and instruments to follow closely the quickly changing technology and, mainly, to improve the quality of their maple syrup.

While Christian busies himself year round with Christmas trees and sugaring, Doris is close behind if not leading. She learned to make Christmas wreaths from Christian's fir branches and won just about every contest she entered in this field. By attending courses and seminars, she devoted herself to the conversion of maple

syrup into secondary products. Not only did she learn the ancestral methods, she developed modern marketing techniques. Only a few years later, Ideal Sweets maple products are found in boutiques and stores across Canada and as far as Asia. In order to meet the fast growing demand, the Morins built a processing plant in 1996, complete with bottling/canning equipment and humidity controlled storerooms. Another move to improve quality and win more international contests.



*Doris Vargas Morin
Christian Morin*

WASHINGTON COUNTY LAUNCHES 1998 VERMONT MAPLERAMA

Washington County Sugarmakers have been busily preparing for the 1998 Vermont Maplerama, which will be held on July 31 and August 1. The event will be headquartered at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Montpelier.

This year's program will include a huge trade show, the International Maple Syrup Contest, and tours to sugarhouses which feature some of today's most advanced technology to the traditional, small scale sugarmaker with a few hundred taps. We think we've got something for everyone.

Marketing will be a central theme in this year's Maplerama. You'll have the opportunity to visit several producer's road-side markets and gift shops that not only feature maple products, but, incorporate many other locally grown or locally made items.

Mark your calendar and plan to join in the fun. Registration will begin on Thursday evening, July 30, complete with the trade show and a chance to catch up with old friends.

For information, contact George Cook, UVM Extension, RR 1, Box 2280, Morrisville, VT 05661. EMAIL gcook@sover.net

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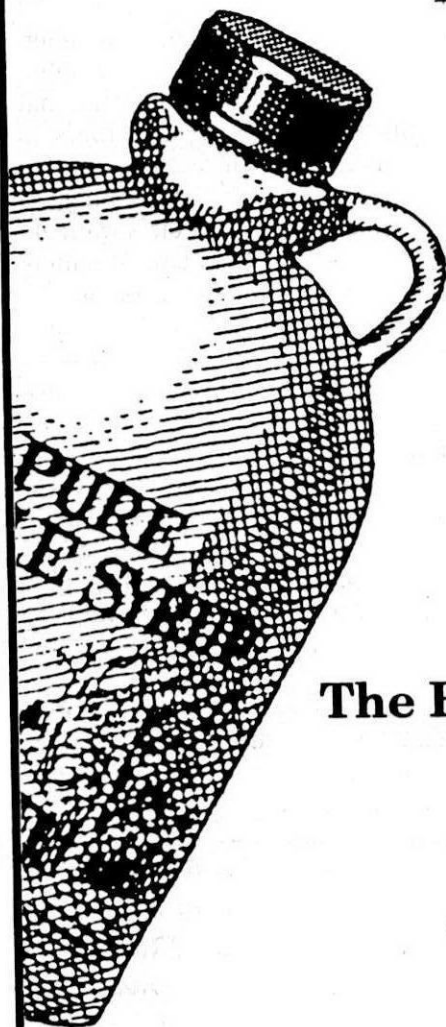
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WINTER MEETING OF THE INDIANA MAPLE SYRUP ASSOCIATION

By Steve Deatline

The Indiana Maple Syrup Association held their 1997 winter meeting on December 6, 1997, at Fowler Park in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Each August, IMSA does a "Show and Tell" historical maple production reenactment and sale of maple products as part of the Indiana State Fair Pioneer Village. Members present this December had a good report of the 1997 Fair and discussed ways to improve our performance there.

Directors for 1998 were elected. Florence Williams was elected from the Southern district, to join Dan Weber, the holdover director. Central District new director will be Kenny Shipley, with Dave Hamilton remaining for another year. Bradley Klingman will remain for one more year from the North, to be joined by an as-yet-unnamed 2nd director. Steve Deatline went off as director, to be named Public Relations Person, a newly created position to give IMSA a permanent address and telephone number, for continuity from year to year. Steve's phone number is 765-874-2170. His address is 7773 S. 100 East, Lynn, IN 47355.

Officers for 1998 will be President, Florence Williams of Rockville; Secretary, Dave Hamilton from New Castle and Treasurer, Bradley Klingman from Cromwell.

Randall Heiligmann, from Ohio State University, spoke and showed

slides on MAPLE MATH 101; a discussion of evaporation efficiency. Joe Polak of Waterloo USA in Merrill, WI, discussed filtering. Both he and Don Dodd from Dodd's Sugar Shack in Niles, MI, had with them hand pumped filter presses for demonstration and sale. They both had supplies for browsing and purchase, as did George Fogle from Sugar Bush Supplies in Mason, MI.

There was considerable discussion about meeting more frequently in the future. Possibly there will be a summer or fall meeting in 1998.

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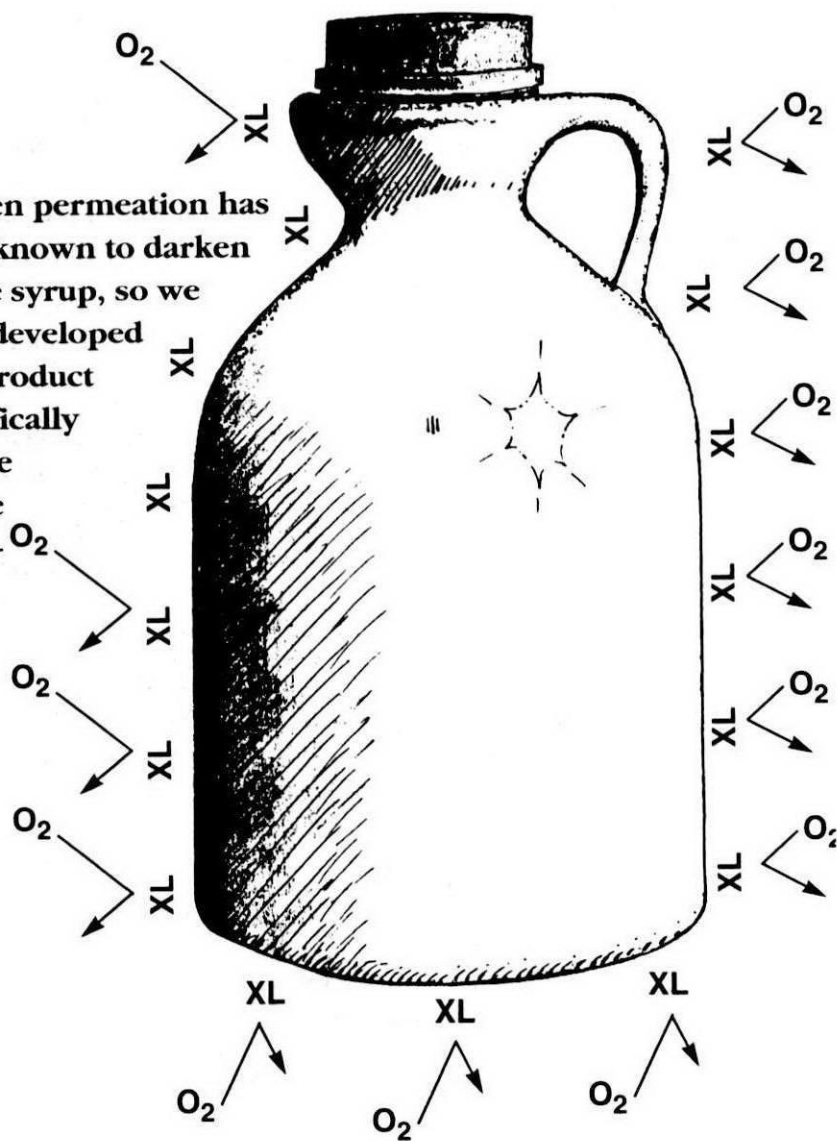
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VERMONT DELAYS LEAD LEVEL REDUCTION

By Larry Myott

Vermont's Commissioner of Agriculture Leon Graves announced at the January Maple Schools around Vermont that his department has granted a short term moratorium on further reduction in the acceptable lead level of maple syrup. The Commissioner had previously told the industry that the State of Vermont would reduce the acceptable level from 350 ppb to 250 ppb, effective with the 1998 maple crop.

Graves stated, "The Vermont maple industry has taken the lead threat very seriously, but we have a long way to go. It is estimated that 25% of the producers would not meet a standard of 250 ppb, if it were implemented now. The State agencies are cooperating with producers and producer organizations to ensure that the industry can meet present and future standards."

The Commissioner went on to say that he has a full appreciation of the efforts of producers and equipment manufacturers, "I want to give everyone the opportunity to make the necessary changes in their business, in just three years time they have made great advances."

In October the North American Maple Syrup Council and the International Maple Syrup Institute petitioned the State for a moratorium. The joint resolution of those two International organizations cited the strides that the industry has made in the three years since the lead issue came to the forefront. Research is not complete, but the industry has made

great progress in changing over from processing and storage equipment that could possibly contaminate maple syrup because of exposure to lead.

The joint resolution stated, "The maple industry is a very fluid industry with the majority of production being processed and handled by companies that market across state and international boundaries. The industry has great economic impact in both nations. In Vermont alone the economic impact, as calculated by the Vermont Department of Agriculture, is 110 million dollars. New non-uniform governmental standards that are implemented before the industry is capable of responding could result in substantial industry relocation with disastrous economic impact on current host areas."

This moratorium will allow Vermonters to make further technology changes en route to the lowest possible lead levels in maple syrup. The international standard is set at 500 ppb.

Most recently, maple equipment manufacturers have banded together on both side of the U.S./Canadian border to share technology and research responsibilities. At the recent maple school, the chair of the International Maple Equipment Manufacturers Association, Ernest Bieri of the Waterloo/Small Evaporator Co., shared his vision of the equipment industry that is cooperating. Commissioner Graves is working very closely with this group to ensure compatibility of regulation with state of the art industry practice.

The Vermont Department of Agriculture, according to Bruce

Martell, will continue its monitoring of the lead levels in maple syrup. They will test 100 samples from the 1998 crop including, 83 producer samples collected at the farm; seven dealer/processor samples collected at the packing plant and 10 non-Vermont retail samples. UVM's Proctor Maple Research Center will test up to 500 Vermont producer samples in a cooperative program with the Vermont Maple Sugarmakers Association.

MAPLE ON THE INTERNET UVM WEBSITE

As of January 1, the University of Vermont web site is up and running on the Internet. Check it out, take a stroll in cyberspace and see what's out there on maple. This site is developed by UVM Extension Maple Specialists Larry Myott and George Cook. The address for this site is: <http://www.vtnetvantage.com/uvmmextmaple.htm>

This is a big web site with many pages and links to other sites. The most requested publication titled

Backyard Maple Sugarmaking is printed in full and the entire catalog of University of Vermont maple publications is on line.

The information section of the web site include direct links to the Proctor Maple Research Center, the UVM Entomology Department and UVM Extension sites. There is also a link to the Vermont Department of Agriculture home page for all types of Vermont agriculture information. Also included is a calendar of maple events and links to such events as the Vermont Maple Festival and their great web site: <http://www.nutt-in2000.com/maplefest/>

Probably the most interesting to producers will be the links to producer sites, currently at 14. These sites show a wide range of on-line technology from the very simple web site to the very intricate and pricey. If you'd like more information on web site development contact Larry Myott, UVM Extension Maple Specialist, 802-656-5433, email: lmmyott@zoo.uvm.edu.



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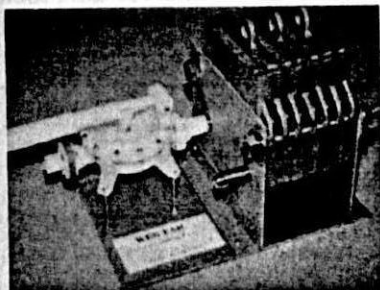
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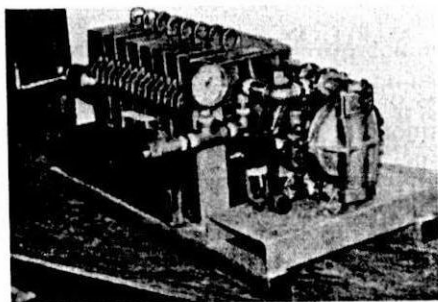
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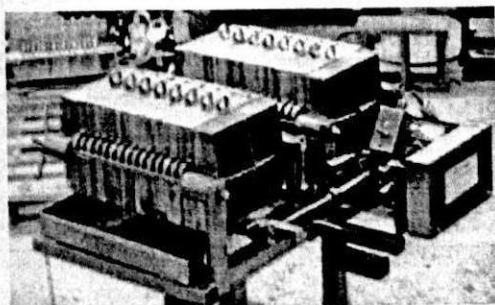
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MAPLE SYRUP DIGEST INDEX

The purpose of this index is to inform our readers of articles published since the beginning of the Digest. If you see an article you would be interested in and don't have that Digest we will send you the issue at a cost of \$1.00 per issue.

- JAN. 1962** 10 Years of Maple Research (Willits)
The Chardon Story (Ohio)
Let's Talk about Tubing . . .
- FEB. 1962** Bacterial Control (Chlorine)
Report On Maple Disease (J. B. Zimmerman)
Buying Sap
Covered Evaporators
- JULY 1962** Sugar Sand Research (Davis, Gollander)
Maple — Land Use (Willits)
- NOV. 1962** Cleaning Evaporators, Removing Scale (Willits, Underwood)
- JAN. 1963** Precision Instruments USDA (Phila)
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"Rule of 86"
- FEB. 1963** Production, Packaging, Marketing
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- DEC. 1963** Central Evaporator Plants (Pasto, Taylor)
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- JAN. 1964** Covered Evaporator (Reprint Feb. 1962)
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- FEB. 1964** Quick Test-Buddy Sap (Underwood)
Sanitation, Ultraviolet (Wasserman)
Value Relations In Maple (Winch)
Conversion — Buddy Sap To Normal Maple Syrup (Wasserman, Willits)
- OCT. 1964** Maple Sap Delivered To Central Plants (Kissinger, Willits, Sipple)
- DEC. 1964** Multiple Evaporator Installation (Willits, Winch, Sipple)
Sugar Kitchen Plans (Willits, Sipple)
Maple Cream, Maple Sugar, Maple Sugar Coating
Maple Tree Decline (Noyes, Westing)
- Jan. 1965** Maple Inspection Requirements (Foulds)
Developing Rural Resources Combined with Maple Industry (Winch)
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- FEB. 1965** Making Maple Cream (Willits)
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- OCT. 1965** Influence of Tapping Techniques On Sap Yield (Robbins)

- DEC. 1965 Cleaning Evaporators (Willits)
 Report On Triennial Conference
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 Cornell's Maple Program (Morrow)
- JAN. 1966 Maple Syrup Markets (Taylor, Pasto)
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- FEB. 1966 Propagation, Superior Sugar Maple (Koelling, Gabriel)
 When Does A Sugar Maple Grow (Morrow, Winch)
 Management Can Influence Efficiency (Winch)
 Ultraviolet Lights Aid Syrup Storage
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- OCT. 1966 Condensed Directions For Making Maple Sugar Products (Willits)
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- DEC. 1966 Canadian Production
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- JAN. 1967 Philadelphia "Lab" Accomplishments (Winch)
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- FEB. 1967 How To Do It — "Tips"
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- OCT, 1967 Taphole Marking Device (Blum)
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- DEC. 1967 Planting Sugar Maples (Winch)
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- FEB. 1968 Marketing (Brookman)
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 Brief Outline — Control of Micro-Organisms In Sap
- JULY 1968 Vermont Maple Marketing Manual (Willard)
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- OCT. 1968 Plastic Tubing: Suspended Vented vs. Unvented (Blum)
 Quebec Maple Story (ARC Jones)
 Bark Thickness — Is It Important? (Blum)
- DEC. 1968 Saddled Prominent Caterpillar (Handy)
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- FEB. 1969** Dr. C.O. Willits Dedication Issue
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- JULY 1969** Crop Loans for Maple Syrup
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- OCT. 1969** Burton Male History
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- DEC. 1969** "Put" Robbins
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- FEB. 1970** Vacuum Pumping (Koelling)
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- JULY 1970** Measure That Vacuum, (USDA, Vermont)
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- OCT. 1970** Improving Sugarbushes, Sugarbush Management (Vermont)
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- DEC. 1970** R.C. & D. Maple Development
 Recent Research On Pellets (USDA Upper Darby)
- FEB. 1971** Pellets — Letter to the Editor — Put Robbins
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- JULY 1971** How Many Trees? — Thinning (Smith, Gibbs)
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- OCT. 1971** Maple Marketing '71 (Brookman)
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- JULY 1972** Pumping Sap, Fall Season (Snow)
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- OCT. 1972** Taphole Numbers & Tubing Size (Walters, Smith)
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- JULY 1973** Can Cold Weather Negate Bud Effects? (Morrow)
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- OCT. 1973** Buddy Sap Fermentation (Kissinger)
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- DEC. 1973** Uihlein-Cornell Maple Project (Morrow)
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- FEB. 1974** Sap Prices '72-'74
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- JULY 1974** 1974 Maple Production
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- OCT. 1974** Pesticides and the Sugar Maple Industry (Nielson, Teillon)
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- DEC. 1974** How I Do It (Davenport)
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- FEB. 1975** Sap Prices '72-'75
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- JULY 1975** Maple Report '75
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- OCT. 1975** Fred Winch Dedication Issue
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- DEC. 1975** New Grading Terminology N.A.M.S.C.
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- FEB. 1976** Old Sap Boilers Annual Reunion (Alwin)
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- JULY 1976** National Maple Museum (Worden)
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- OCT. 1976** Letter to the Editor (Sendak & Garrett)
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- DEC. 1976** IMSI Minutes (Tardif)
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- FEB. 1977** IMSI "Logo" and News
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- JULY 1977** Commercial Unit for Removing Buddy Flavor from Maple Syrup (Hills)
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- OCT. 1977** Bob Huxtable Dedication Issue
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- DEC. 1977** Dedication Issue — Linwood Lesure
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- FEB. 1978** IMSI News
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- JULY 1978** Maple Report — 1978
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- OCT. 1978** Tree Farming (Sipple)
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- DEC. 1978** Vermont Maple Industry Council Research Needs Mechanical
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- FEB. 1979** More Vacuum Improves Yield (Walters, Aiken)
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- JULY 1979** Thoughts on Buckets, Tubing and Pumping (Franz)
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- OCT. 1979** ISMI News
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Maple Jelly (Jenkins)
- DEC. 1979** No Research Materials
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- FEB. 1980** Marketing Maple Syrup (Branon)
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- JULY 1980** The Beginning of the Maple Era (Tyler)
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- OCT. 1980** Dedication Issue — Ray Foulds
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1998 SAP PRICES

A lot of people have requested that we publish sap prices. What I have found is that sap prices vary greatly depending upon the retail price of syrup. The retail price of syrup in the Northeast is higher than in the Midwest, hence the price paid for sap is higher in the Northeast. Listed below are sap prices being paid by SOME producers.

Remember these prices are for sap delivered to the sugarhouse.

These prices are intended to be used only as a guide for buying sap and no way intends that they dictate the price for the entire industry.

sugar	\$/gal.	sugar	\$/gal.
1.50	.105	3.60	.411
1.60	.124	3.70	.425

sugar	\$/gal.	sugar	\$/gal.
1.70	.143	3.80	.440
1.80	.159	3.90	.453
1.90	.174	4.00	.467
2.00	.190	4.10	.480
2.10	.203	4.20	.495
2.20	.217	4.30	.509
2.30	.232	4.40	.522
2.40	.245	4.50	.536
2.50	.259	4.60	.550
2.60	.272	4.70	.564
2.70	.287	4.80	.478
2.80	.301	4.90	.591
2.90	.314	5.00	.606
3.00	.328	5.10	.619
3.10	.342	5.20	.633
3.20	.356	5.30	.647
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REMINDER Research Proposal Guidelines

Research projects may be submitted for consideration based on the following guidelines:

(1) Proposals must be received no later than July 1, 1998 for consideration in 1998. Proposals received after that date will be considered in 1999.

(2) Proposals shall be complete and detailed in content. However, proposals shall contain a short concise cover statement briefly explaining cost, scope, objective, procedure, and anticipated value to the maple industry.

(3) Proposals shall contain detailed estimated cost breakdown, within the detailed report.

(4) Proposals shall be submitted with a minimum of forty (40) complete copies.

(5) Proposals must contain a complete reference section listing and explaining any similar or duplicating research previously accomplished. Proposals for duplication of previously completed research must contain detailed explanations of why such duplication is warranted.

(6) Results or progress of funded projects must be presented annually at the convention of the NAMSC and must be published in the Maple Syrup Digest as soon as possible after completion.

(7) Send proposals to: Lynn H. Reynolds, Research Committee, North American Maple Syrup Council W10010 Givens Road, Hortonville, WI 54944.

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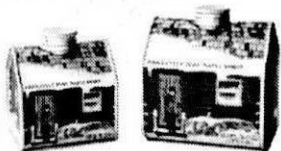
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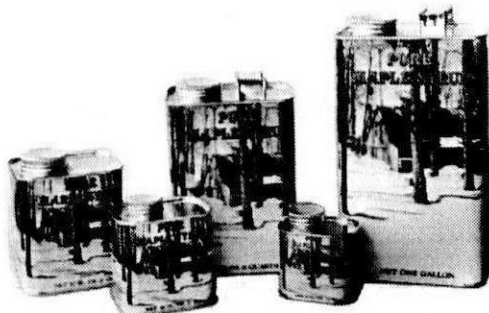
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By Brandon K. Gibbons

God give us the cold nights and warm days
Let the sun shine, and heat those sugar maples.

Let the sweet sap run into the buckets and fill them to the top
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A hundred gallons of sap is worth a hundred bars of gold,
but the sweet smell from the pan never get old.

The work has been hard but it has been fun
and afterwards it feels as if you have won.

The syrup is sweet and after a hard day of work
you won't forget it when you go to sleep.

At the end of your rainbow there is a pot of gold,
but at the end of ours it's all the memories we'll have to hold.

Thank-you, God, to create such a thing
so you could let us share this wonderful thing.



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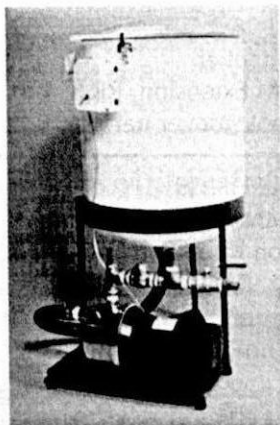
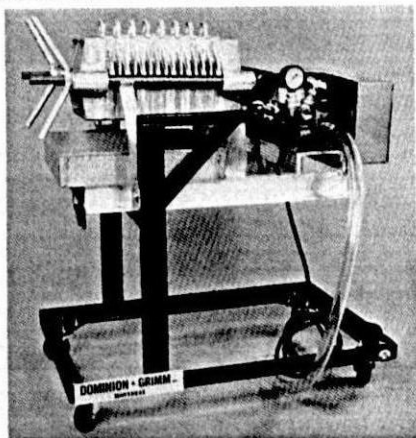
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10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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For more information contact: 860-228-9503

WARKWORTH MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

March 14-15, 1998

Warkworth, Ontario

For more information contact: Alice Potter 705-924-2057

NEW YORK STATE MAPLE TOUR

CHENANGO COUNTY

July 23, 24, 25, 1998

Please Note—This is Thurs. evening, Friday and Saturday

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July 31 and August 1, 1998

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For more information contact: George Cook, UVM Extension, RR 1, Box 2280
Morrisville, VT 05661. EMAIL gcook@sover.net

1998 NAMSC and IMSI MEETINGS

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For more information contact: Ruby & Burton Kimball 814-739-2720
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SWEET MEMORIES OF MAPLE SUGARING

For the past three years, the Geauga Park District (Gauga County, Ohio) as part of their maple season educational programming, has been hosting ***Sweet Memories of Maple Sugaring***. This event features elders from families in which maple sugaring has been an important tradition for generations. Tapping the memory banks of these old-timers has produced a run of recollections of hard work and hardy country living dating back to the 1920's & 30's.

As touchbearers of Gauga County's most famous enterprise, these men and women touch and delight audiences with heartfelt

expressions of family bonds, fond remembrances and humorous anecdotes of sap gathering, late night boils, savored maple recipes and even some harrowing accounts of fires, windstorms and mishaps with horses and sap sleds. This program amply demonstrates the strength of the maple sugaring legacy as a special relationship between people and nature, a viable industry and a celebration of rural living.

In recognition of its valuable role in documenting the history of the maple tradition in Gauga County, ***Sweet Memories of Maple Sugaring*** is co-sponsored by the Ohio Maple Producers Association and will be held on **Sunday, March 1, 1998** in **Chardon, Ohio** in conjunction with Tappin' Sunday, a precursor to the annual Gauga County Maple Festival.

The Gauga County Maple Festival — along with the Gauga County Maple Producer's Hall of Fame, Gauga Park District's displays and demonstrations of historical maple sugaring, the Burton Chamber of Commerce's Log Cabin Sugarhouse, Richards Maple Products and other publicly accessible sugarhouses and maple product sales outlets, and pancake breakfasts held by several local civic organizations — all work together in keeping the maple sugaring tradition alive and well throughout Gauga County, Ohio.

For details about the ***Sweet Memories of Maple Sugaring*** program, contact Dan Best of Gauga Park District, 9160 Robinson Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. Telephone: (440) 286-9504. E-mail address: GEAPARKDIST@AOL.COM.

IN MEMORY JAMES R. HEMMINGER, SR.

James R. Hemminger, Sr. of Sugar Maple Road, Somerset, PA and a Director of the Somerset County Maple Producers Association died November 3, 1997. Born August 14, 1942, the son of Ralph and Violet Hemminger, Jim was a third generation maple producer. The camp will continue operation, this year, at the hands of his wife Virginia and sons Jim Jr., Joseph, and John Hemminger and daughter Crystal Baer.

Hemminger's family were long time members of the Somerset County Maple Producers Association, and in 1974 Jim was named a director. He was elected secretary-treasurer from 1974-1978. In 1984 he was elected treasurer, a duty he performed until his death.

Jim was a very active participant in the county Maple activities, working with tree-tapping ceremonies, Maple Festival, can sales, educational events, county and state exhibits, Mountain Craft Days Maple demonstrations and could dip a "super Maple Sundae" to please every visitor. He was instrumental, in 1975, in working to get a policy passed by the P.F.A. to get the Farm Show Commission to let the State Maple Association sell syrup at the Farm Show. He attended many state Maple tours and was a strong hand in hosting the tours held in Somerset County.

While Maple was a big focus in his life, Jim's wife, four children and their spouses, and six grandchildren were a very close family unit. He was a dairy farmer, active member of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church and Sunday School, FFA and Somerset Wrestling booster, member of Pennsylvania Holstein Association, and a 4-H Forestry club leader.

Jim and his influence will live on in the hearts of all his family and friends. He will also live on in the physical lives of at least four persons, as Jim wished to be a part of the organ donor program, and his wishes were able to be granted.

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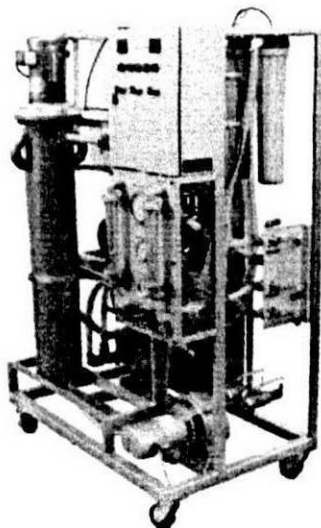
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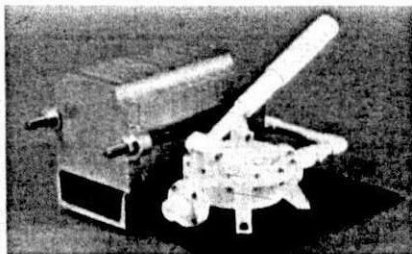
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