

Maple Syrup Digest



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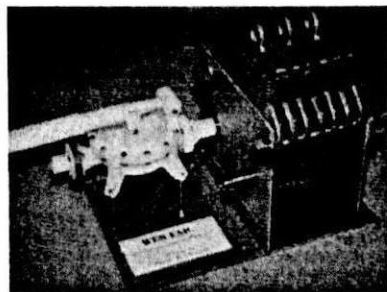
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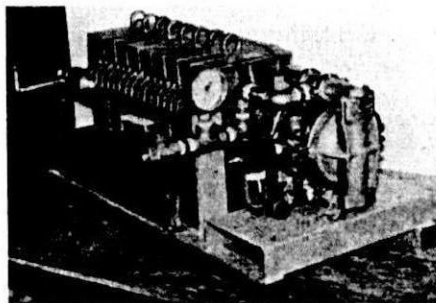
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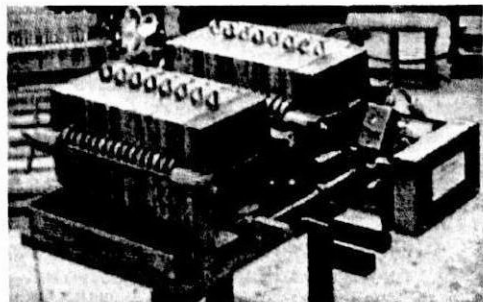
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GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



I would like to thank the Pennsylvania Maple Producers Association for hosting the 1998 North American Maple Syrup Council and The International Maple Syrup Institute Annual Meetings.

Congratulations to Michael Herman for being elected as President of the IMSI.

As always the information gathered was well worth the trip to Titusville.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to keep any problems in this great industry under control.

Best wishes for the Holidays and may everyone have a wonderful 1999.

Sincerely,

Avard Bentley
President, NAMSC

FROM THE EDITOR

Fall is a harried time of year for most people. We don't put wood into the Sugarhouse until fall, (right now it's about half full). We sell a little cordwood which we deliver in the fall. And then there is the North American Maple Syrup Convention. This year we drove to Titusville, PA. We took 2 days to get there, driving a lot of back roads. The scenery in Northern PA was very pretty and the foliage was near peak color. It was a most enjoyable trip.

The conference itself was well planned and the food was delicious. The people in PA should be proud of

the conference that they hosted. I wish to personally thank them for an excellent job well done.

There were a couple of major changes brought about by the passing of Lynn Reynolds. The first is that research grant applications should now be sent to Richard Norman at 387 County Road, Woodstock, CT 06281. The second is that research contributions should be sent to Mike Girard at 39 Old Mill Court, Simsbury, CT 06070-1952. Chris Hauge has resigned as treasurer of the research committee.

From time to time I get letters from people who need replies. Sometimes we play telephone tag, leaving messages for each other. Other times the phone number is wrong or they forget to give me the area code and I can't reply. Sometimes I have no address or phone number or I have misplaced it and can't reply. Such is the case of one inquiry about mold on syrup. If the syrup is of correct density the mold will not harm it. Simply boil and skim it. What causes mold? In my humble opinion I would say that there was air in the container. Syrup must be packed hot and filled nearly to the top of the container.

Happy holidays to all and lets hope the snow is not too deep for sugaring season.

Roy

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IMSI DECLARES WAR ON MAPLE SYRUP ADULTERATION

By Larry Myott

The following statement has been released by the International Maple Syrup Institute Interim Executive Secretary, Larry Myott, in reference to its new program to combat adulteration:

October 13, 1998

NOTICE OF ACTION

The International Maple Syrup Institute Board of Directors is proud to announce the implementation of a random maple syrup testing program aimed at permanently eliminating the adulteration of pure maple syrup in world markets. This program, being financed by the IMSI will insure buyers as well as consumers that maple products being purchased are pure.

The IMSI has begun the random selection and testing of all 100% pure maple syrup products that are sold throughout the world markets. Product is being purchased, off the shelf, in markets around the world and submitted to an independent scientific laboratory for analysis. All products will be tested for adulteration by non-maple sugars. Samples that are found to be adulterated will be turned over to the appropriate government authorities for further investigation and prosecution.

Scientific tests for adulteration, with a wide range of non-maple sugars, have been developed in a partnership between the IMSI and a private labo-

ratory in France. Testing will also confirm the origin of the sugars involved and the origin of the maple sugars. Several years in development, this test has already been used successfully in the United States court actions.

International Maple Syrup Institute members are asked to communicate this action to their customers in world markets. Anyone with questions on this program should contact the IMSI for further information.

Larry Myott is the new Interim Executive Secretary of the International Maple Syrup Institute and can be reached at his office at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Mailing address: P.O. Box 53010, Burlington, VT 05405-3010, Tel. 802-656-5433, FAX 802-656-5422 and email: larry.myott@uvm.edu

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**Joint Resolution of the International Maple Syrup Institute
and the North American Maple Syrup Council
in reference to the
Asian Longhorned Beetle Infestation**

October 23, 1998

Docket No. 98-087-1
Regulatory Analysis and Development
PPD, APHIS
Suite 3C03, Unit 118
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

To Whom It May Concern:

The North American Maple Syrup Council (NAMSC) and the International Maple Syrup Institute (IMSI) are writing to express our concern regarding the potential invasion of the Asian long-horned beetle. On behalf of all our members we are writing to urge the Administration to promptly adopt effective safeguards against the invasion of this beetle.

These two organizations represent approximately 25,000 maple syrup producers, suppliers, packers, and other industry representatives in 12 states and 4 Canadian provinces. According to USDA-NASS, the value for the past 5 years of the U.S. maple crop averages over 35 million dollars. This would represent a 300 million value-added industry wide income. The Canadian industry has a crop value of 162 million dollars, with a value-added economic impact of 1.6 billion dollars.

Maple sugaring provided significant income and diversification to our many farmers in the Northeast and Midwest. Sugar maple is the preferred host of the Asian long-horned beetle, and this insect has demonstrated an ability to kill maple and other valuable host trees. The potential for negative impact to the industry from the invasion of this insect is substantial.

We unanimously support the action of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Ag Canada to adopt an interim regulation that requires exporters in China and other Asian countries to treat all solid wood packing material before shipping it to the U.S. This action is essential to ensure that the primary source of new infestations is eliminated. We are requesting that the U.S. and Canadian governments adopt these measures and work towards addressing this situation on a more permanent basis.

We strongly urge the USDA to do what is required to ensure that these interim regulations are rigidly enforced. We recognize that these regulations are a temporary solution to the immediate threat of the Asian long-horned beetle. Comprehensive quarantine guidelines and adequate inspection capabilities must be established to provide long term protection of our maples and other vegetation from the risks of accidental introductions from other countries. These revised guidelines must be implemented before this emergency regulation expires.

Solutions must be found that promote international trade without sacrificing our precious forest and agricultural resources. Thank you very much for considering these comments.

Sincerely yours,

Jacques Couture
President of IMSI

Avard Bentley
President of NAMSC



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1998 NORTH AMERICAN MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL 39TH ANNUAL MEETING AND CONVENTION OCTOBER 21-24, 1998 Titusville, Pennsylvania

The 39th Annual Meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council (NAMSC) was hosted by the Maple Syrup Producers Association of Pennsylvania and held at the Cross Creek Resort located near Titusville in Pennsylvania's Oil Country.

The four day conference began on Wednesday evening with meetings of the Director's of the North American Maple Syrup Council (NAMSC) and the International Maple Syrup Institute (IMSI). A "Welcome Dessert Social" featuring Pennsylvania foods was served by young women "royalty" representing a variety of commodity groups. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet with fellow producers and share some stories from the past year.

Following a complete breakfast buffet the companion tour of historic downtown Titusville began. A warm welcome to Pennsylvania was given by George Greggs, County extension agent, who then introduced Brady Jones, representing the Governor's office. NAMSC President Avard Bentley asked Secretary Carl Vogt to conduct the Roll Call. Delegates present for the meeting represented: Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Nova Scotia, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Vermont, and Wisconsin, Absent: New Brunswick.

Following the Roll Call, President Bentley asked that the audience take a moment of silence in remembrance of Lynn Reynolds and other producers who died the past year.

The Minutes of the 1997 meeting held in Meriden, Connecticut were presented by Secretary Carl Vogt and approved as presented to the Delegates. President Avard Bentley then made the following appointments: Auditing Committee — Hank Peterson, Bill Robinson, Roger Sage, Nominations Committee: Ronald Shaw, Robert Smith, and Richard Norman.

President Bentley appointed Richard Norman to serve as Chairman of the Research Review Committee. The council also acknowledged the fine job that Chris Hauge did as Treasurer of the Research Fund for the past six years. Mike Girard was asked to serve as Treasurer of the Research Fund.

Delegates then gave individual reports on their specific region's production, marketing ideas, events, and conditions. The reports were most informative and interesting. The 1998 maple season ranged from good to poor with most areas between average and below average production even though most areas report more taps. The ice storm damaged or destroyed many sugar bushes in the northeastern states and provinces. Broken trees, severely damaged collection systems and impassable roads and trails were common in many regions. Some producers were able to salvage part of the season, but some did not have time to repair damage or clean-up before sap flow began. For some the ice storm will have a last-

ing impact on their operations. Others are looking forward to a better season in 1999. Complete reports will be available in next years Minutes.

The Treasurers Report presented by Carl Vogt, and Maple Research Fund Report prepared by Chris Hauge were presented to the delegates. The reports were approved pending an audit and approval by the Delegates.

Roy Hutchinson, Editor of the Maple Syrup Digest presented his annual report to the Council. The Digest is published 4 times a year and members are encouraged to submit articles and stories for publication. Roy indicated that there has been a slight decrease in subscriptions but the Digest is doing OK. Postage rates have increased again and so have printing costs.

Following lunch at the Cross Creek Resort a large group of attendees went on a tour of the Drake Oil Well and Museum located near Titusville. Everyone on the tour then boarded the Titusville Railroad for a train ride adjacent to Oil Creek where the oil rush in Pennsylvania began. The beautiful sun filled afternoon tour was interesting, scenic and enjoyable.

While most producers were on the tour, Extension Service Maple Specialists from Canada and the U.S. meet on Thursday afternoon to review a number of topics. George Cook reviewed the status of the Asian Long-horned beetle which is causing problems in New York, Chicago and elsewhere. Thousands of street trees have been or are in the process of being destroyed to halt the spread of this dangerous insect. Maples and many other trees are in danger of being destroyed if this insect becomes epidemic. The beetle can reproduce entirely inside the heart wood of a tree and there are no known chemicals that can kill the insect once it is within the tree. A joint resolution from the IMSI and the NAMSC is being sent to the US Department of Agriculture requesting the Secretary to take action against the importation of wooden crates, boxes, and pallets from China. (The main Source of beetle importation) the Maple specialists also discussed the programs being carried out in their regions and asked that information be shared and distributed to benefit everyone in the maple industry.

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Following a fine dinner on Thursday evening, participants were treated to live country music entertainment and line dancing.

The NAMSC Annual meeting was called to order by President Bentley at 8:15 on Friday morning. Russ Davenport reported on the Maple Museum which is located in Croghan, New York. The museum is run by volunteers who help conduct tours for groups on a reservation basis. The NAMSC annually contributes \$500.00 to the operation of the museum and also provides funds for awards. The council thanked Russ Davenport for his contributions to the museum and the NAMSC. Russ mentioned that the induction ceremony was well attended in 1998 and he invited everyone to the May 1999 ceremony. The Honory Fund of the Council was established by the generous contributions of Bob & Florence Lamb. Awards of Recognition given by the Council are a direct result of the Honory Fund.

President Bentley suggested that the NAMSC contribute \$1,000 to the research fund in memory of Lynn Reynolds. The motion was approved.

Larry Myott presented a slide series on Agricultural Statistics which was prepared by Aubrey Davis who was called home by a family emergency. The slide series told the story of the 1998 season where some regions produced a normal crop of syrup but other areas were way below normal in total production.

A report by the By-Laws committee was made to the council. Following the report the council adopted the recommended changes and thanked the committee for their effort. The By-Laws are now consistent and clarify various articles. Anyone wishing to have a set of the By-Laws is urged to contact the Secretary. Those serving on the By-laws committee were: Richard Norman, Mike Girard, Avard Bentley, Robert Smith and Roger Sage.

The council approved funding the following Research Projects for 1999.

PROJECT	FUNDED AMOUNT
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs - <i>"Maple Orchards"</i>	\$ 2,000
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs - <i>"Maple Syrup Industry Computerized Information System"</i>	\$ 2,000
University of Vermont - <i>"Effects of Spout Diameter and Taphole Depth on Sap Production and Wounding in Sugar Maple"</i>	\$ 5,000
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs - <i>"High Pressure Steam in the Production of Maple Products"</i>	\$ 3,000
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs - <i>"Sanitation and Cleaning of Maple Tubing"</i>	\$ 5,000

Pennsylvania State University "Determination of Critical Manganese Toxicity Levels and Foliar Symptoms in Sugar Maple" \$ 3,500

Total Funds Recommended by the Research Review Committee \$20,500

Total Funds Available from Contributions during the Year 10/1/97 through 9/30/98 (approximately) \$30,000

The council also approved the letter to the Secretary of Agriculture regarding the Adian long horned beetle.

The council received the reports of the Auditing and Nominations Committee and approved their recommendations. For President — Avarad Bentley, Vice-President — Hank Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer — Carl Vogt.

Their being no further business, President Bentley adjourned the Annual Meeting at 9:50 a.m. The IMSI then held its annual meeting.

Following a delicious luncheon buffet the afternoon technical sessions provided many new observations and ideas. Sessions included:

Sugar Maple Nutrient Requirements — Robert P. Long
1998 Ice Storm, Impact on New York — Lewis J. Staats
Energy Cost Comparisons — Charles E. Winship
Bringing Youth to the Sugar Bush — Irene Anderson
New Innovations, Equipment & Technology — Panel Discussion

The council would like to thank all of the exhibitors who help make the annual meeting worth attending. This years exhibitors were on hand to show the latest in technology and innovation in the maple industry. Following three days of outstanding exhibits, demonstrations and posters the areas were closed at 4:00 p.m.

The Annual Meeting Banquet was held in the Emerald Room at the Cross Creek Resort. The banquet began with the national anthems of Canada and the U.S. sung by a group of youngsters from local area schools. Following an excellent meal, Alicia Dengler — Maple Sweetheart from Crawford County Pennsylvania presented an excellent narrated slide program on her duties representing the Pennsylvania maple producers. Russ Davenport then introduced the Maple Hall of Fame Guests and Carl Vogt presented Awards of Recognition to Barbara Kinnan, Lawrence Roloson and Troy Firth for their contributions to the maple industry. The 1998 Maple Syrup and Photo Awards were as follows:

Light Amber	Greg Walberg, Union City, PA
Medium Amber	Dennis Northrop, Corry, PA
Dark Amber	George Fowler, Iroquois, Ontario
Best of Show	George Fowler, Iroquois, Ontario

There were 23 photos entered in the 1998 NAMSC photo contest. The Northwest Association would like to thank our three syrup maker judges Joe Beard and Blaine Scholsser, both retired Penn State extension agents and hobby photographers and also Martin Schweller, retired vocational teacher and professional photographer for their time and expertise in their selection task. Photo category #1 was Sugaring Scenes, the winner is John and Patricia Roth from Cadott Wisconsin with their picture Maple Sap Flowing in the Woods. Photo category #2 was Visitors to Your Sugar Place, the winner is Lisa Nathanson from Edinboro PA. Photo Category #3 was Sugarhouses, the winner is Lisa Nathanson from Edinboro, PA.

The evening was enjoyed by everyone who attended. At 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning the busses left for an enjoyable trip to Firth Maple Products and Berkeys Nursery located near Spartensburg, PA. Upon arrival at Cross Creek Resort in the afternoon the participants said goodbye to their friends and traveled home.

On behalf of the North American Maple Syrup Council we wish to thank the Maple Producers of Pennsylvania for hosting a wonderful meeting in Pennsylvania. We now know what the saying "you have a friend in Pennsylvania" really means.

We are all looking forward to a good 1999 season and the next annual meeting scheduled for October 1999 in Portland, Maine. For those interested in long-range planning here are the locations for future annual meetings.

Maine 1999 Vermont 2000 Minnesota 2001 New Hampshire 2002
Nova Scotia 2003 New York 2004 Quebec 2005

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Vogt

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NEW YORK STATE "MAPLE TEAM" HOLDS SECOND WORKSHOP

*Marianne Krasny, Lewis Staats,
and Peter Smallidge
Cornell University,
Department of Natural Resources*

Nine Cornell Cooperative Extension agents and one state forestry extension specialist from Pennsylvania gathered in Lake Placid, New York, for a two-day workshop in September. This was the second workshop conducted as part of the 1998 Cornell Sugar Maple Research and Extension Program.

The program began Tuesday night with a presentation by Beth Spaugh of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Clinton County, on the Clinton County's Sugar Maple Web Page. The web page is a wonderful compilation of articles and resources for audiences ranging from youth to serious maple producers. From the Clinton County web page, you can link to many other maple web pages throughout the Northeast. You can access the Clinton County maple web page at: <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/clinton/ag/maple.html>

The following morning, we were treated to several presentations on maple economics and marketing. Chuck Winship, a graduate student in the Cornell Department of Natural Resources, demonstrated his Microsoft Excel® spreadsheet for calculating the costs of producing syrup based on different fuels and evaporation systems. Andy Dufresne from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua

County described how to develop a business plan for a maple operation. Mr. Winship then described some of the innovative maple practices he found during visits with maple producers across New York. Finally, Marianne Krasny from the Cornell Department of Natural Resources gave an update on the Cornell Sugar Maple Web Page, which should be on-line this fall. The web page will include information about the Cornell Sugar Maple Tree Improvement, as well as other maple research and extension initiatives.

In the afternoon, Lewis Staats and Peter Smallidge of the Cornell Department of Natural Resources led us in a hands-on introduction to maple silviculture and forest health. Bob Beyfuss from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County then showed us some experimental forest plots for growing ginseng. The evening highlights included discussions of two innovative marketing initiatives — one in the Hudson Valley presented by Ben Carlos from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County, and the second at South Meadow Farm presented by Tony Corwin of Lake Placid. We were then treated to a demonstration of maple cream production, and Tony Corwin generously provided each of us a sample to take home.

The following morning, Clinton County maple producers Dick and Bob Atwood showed us some of the ice storm damage on their sugarbush. Jennifer Stingelin and Jennifer Koegl of the Cornell Uihlein Sugar Maple Field Station demonstrated some of the research they are conducting in cooperation with the Atwoods to monitor maple tree response to the damage. Bob Atwood asked about the effect of

fertilizing ice damaged trees but none of the scientists or extension agents could provide a good answer. We hope to set up a small trial to look at this question in the future.

We ended the training with a discussion of future maple outreach and extension efforts. The Cooperative Extension agents emphasized how much they enjoy being part of the outplanting research efforts in cooperation with maple producers. These outplanting trials are designed to measure growth and survival of improved sugar maple seedlings in different maple producing regions across New York State. We hope to pursue other research projects with county agents and maple producers in the future. In particular, agents will be working with producers and youth groups to identify additional maple trees with high sap sugar content that could be included in the Cornell Sugar Maple Tree Improvement program.

Funding for these efforts comes from the NYS Agricultural Experiment Station and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

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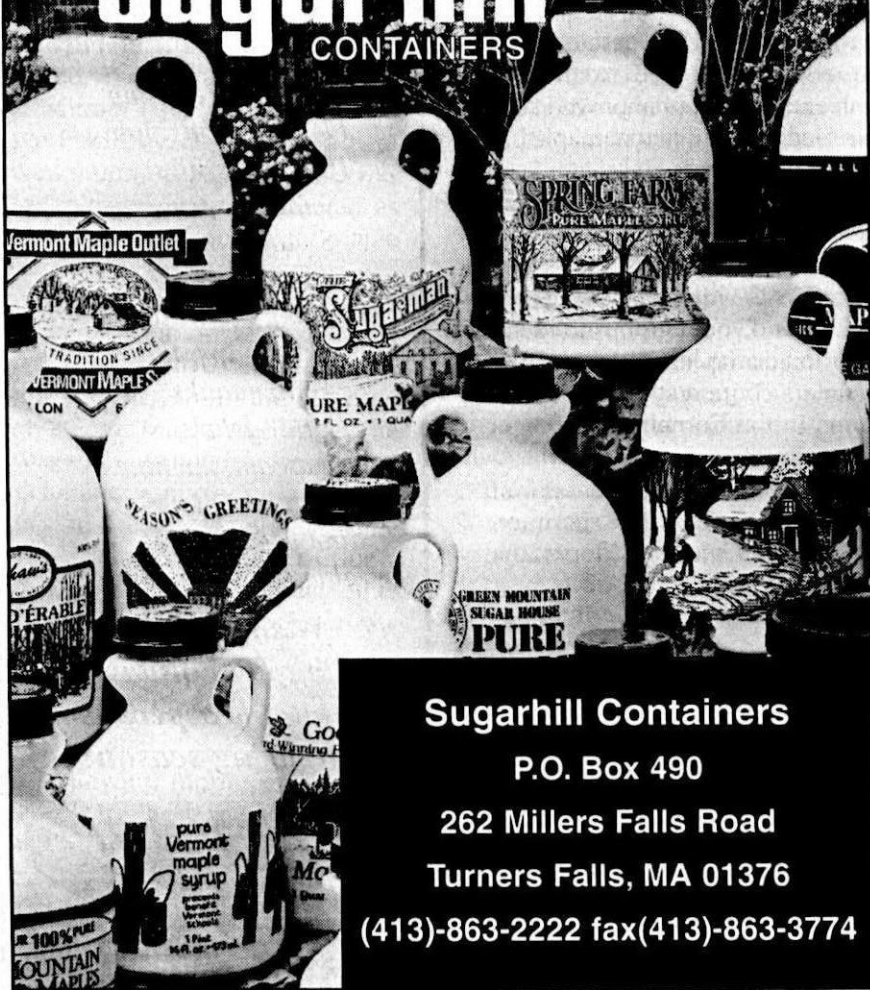


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PENNSYLVANIA ANNUAL MEETINGS VERY SUCCESSFUL

The joint annual meetings of the North American Maple Syrup Council and the International Maple Syrup Institute in Titusville, PA, in late October were proclaimed a success by the leadership of both organizations. Jacques Couture of Westfield, VT, outgoing president of the IMSI, said that "the actions of the IMSI on testing for adulteration of pure maple products are probably the most significant action in some years."

The North American Maple Syrup Council members joined the IMSI in their resolve to stop the Asian Longhorned Beetle from infesting North American forests. Political action by both organizations will press the U.S. government to take decisive action. Avard Bentley of Nova Scotia, president of the NAMSC, reported that the cooperative spirit of the two organizations is "very impressive when it comes to solving problems of the maple industry."

The sessions, held at the Cross Creek Resort in Titusville, PA, included a very large trade show for maple producers; technical sessions with research projects presented; discussions on current maple issues including sugarbush recovery from ice storm damage; professional improvement tours and companion tours of the local area sites. About three hundred attended the sessions.

Presentations included a paper presented by Robert Long of the U.S. Forest Service in Ohio on *Sugar Maple Nutrient Requirements*. Trying to

answer the proverbial question of to fertilize or not to fertilize, this presentation was very well received and the end result was that we don't know the answer. More research is needed under varying conditions, but if a sugarmaker desires to fertilize, it should be done conservatively.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle was a major topic of discussion, with a presentation by Larry Myott of UVM Extension and Lewis Staats of Cornell Extension, substituting for Dr. Margaret Skinner of the UVM Entomology Lab at Burlington who was in route to China for her continuing work on the beetle. After viewing the damage incurred by the beetle and hearing of the proposed USDA rule to ban packing material imported from China, the Council prepared a resolution to support the proposed ban.

Vermont Senator Patrick Heahy has led an effort in Washington to get a ban on the importation of raw wood packing crates or material from China. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman announced an interim rule to go into effect in December that would ban such materials from importation. The joint resolution by the NAMSC and the IMSI supports this ban as necessary to eliminate this threat to the North American wood products and maple syrup industries.

IMSI ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At the annual IMSI meeting the board of directors elected new officers for the coming year. Michael Herman, President of Turkey Hill Sugarbush in Waterloo, Quebec was elected president. Mary Fogle Douglass of Mason, Michigan and president of Sugarbush

Supplies was elected Vice President. Larry Myott, University of Vermont Extension Maple Specialist was elected Interim Executive Secretary. President Herman can be reached at Turkey Hill Sugarbush, 450-539-4822. Mary Fogle Douglass can be reached in Michigan at 517-349-5185. Larry Myott can be reached at his office in Vermont, 802-656-5433.

INTERNATIONAL MAPLE SYRUP PACKER CONTEST

A new event was conducted at the banquet on Friday evening. IMSI Chair Jacques Couture and newly elected Interim Executive Secretary Larry Myott presented gold medals and special maple plaques to winners of the new International Maple Syrup Packers Contest.

This contest, developed by the IMSI,



Titusville, PA—Jacques Couture of Westfield, VT, outgoing President of the International Maple Syrup Institute presents Luc Lussier (left) of the Plessisville Maple Producers Cooperative of Quebec with a plaque and medal of excellence for winning the International Brands maple syrup contest at the IMSI annual meeting. In its first year, this contest is for commercial maple packers. The Plessisville Cooperative won with their **Camp** brand name entry. Winners received a special gold medal and this maple award plaque.

will promote major brand packers and maple syrup as a whole. Entrants in the contest are IMSI members and enter in one of two categories. Category 1 was for Supermarket and mass merchandise Inter-National Brands, with a \$500 entry fee. Category 2 was for national brands in the specialty and gift trade with a \$300 entry fee. Entries were purchased off the shelf at a regular retail outlet and judged by a panel of judges before the conference.

The **Camp** brand of maple syrup from the Plessisville Maple Producers Cooperative in Quebec won category 1, General Manager Luc Lussier accepted the gold medal and plaque. Turkey Hill Sugarbush of Waterloo, Quebec won category 2, Michael Herman company president accepted the awards.

Larry Myott
Interim Executive Secretary, IMSI



Titusville, PA—Jacques Couture, outgoing President of the International Maple Syrup Institute and his wife Pauline of Westfield, VT were honored by the IMSI members at the annual banquet in Titusville, Pennsylvania. In-coming President Michael Herman of Quebec presented the Coutures with gifts of appreciation for Jacques's two years as international president.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN MAPLE MUSEUM

By Eleanor Allen

While the Maple Museum is closed for the winter months the Directors continue to meet on a monthly basis. Several, including Les, Vera and Kermit have been observed doing maintenance work, such as raking leaves, by those of us who pass the Museum regularly on our way elsewhere. The Directors are continuing to work on obtaining a permanent charter from the NY State Regents. Several new items have been donated to the Museum. A committee has been formed to consider the very difficult question of what can be displayed now and what must be stored for display at a later date. The committee has to consider not only the intrinsic value of an item, but its importance to the maple industry and how it relates to the exhibits already on display. It can be very difficult to decide which is the best example of a specific tool when several have been donated. Some donations are beautifully crafted but not specifically related to maple production. While all donations of artifacts are appreciated, not all can be put on display. The committee also has to consider how much information is available about the artifact and its use.

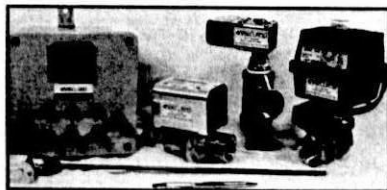
Sometimes, we learn things about donated tools in unusual ways. Some volunteers were recently deciding how to position a very intricate metal mold for making tiny sugarcakes. While they were trying the mold in this position

and that, they wondered how the hardened sugar could be removed from the tiny partitions. When it collapsed into dozen of metal pieces on the floor they realized that two wooden rods at the top weren't handles but rather ingenious wedges which, when fitted tightly into place held the metal partitions together.

Additionally, the Directors are continuing to update their files of inductees into the Maple Hall of Fame and would appreciate any current news and information about changes in addresses.

In October, 1993 Lynn Reynolds wrote in the Maple Digest, "The Maple Museum and Hall of Fame in Croghan, is truly an inspiration to maple. As one walks through this collection of 'maple past', we realize just how lucky we are to have this place of maple tribute. We can all feel part of this place. It is like walking on a hallowed ground of memories." The Museum can only try to live up to this standard.

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BIOLOGICAL CONTROL: A MAJOR COMPONENT IN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT¹

III. Augmentative Biological Control

By

*E. Alan Cameron, B.C.E.
Department of Entomology
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16801*

In the first article of this series (Cameron 1997a), I briefly reviewed the goals and objectives of modern pest management as practiced within the philosophical context of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and described the key role that biological control can play in IPM. The second article (Cameron 1997b) talked in more detail about 'classical' biological control, that is, the introduction of beneficial living organisms into a new geographic area for the express purpose of increasing the mortality rate of a pest species. In most cases, these efforts represent an attempt to reestablish, in a new part of the world, a relationship which existed between the pest and the beneficial species in the native home of the introduced pest. One of the reasons that populations of introduced pests are able to increase to levels that cause economic damage is that natural enemies, present and perhaps even common in the part of the world from which the pest originated, are lacking in the new environment.

A number of dramatic, and economically significant, examples of successful classical biological control have been documented in the scientific literature. Increasingly, rigorous controls are being imposed by state and federal agencies in an attempt to insure that introductions will not, themselves, cause problems. (As I write this, a document to address regulatory concerns, as they relate to beneficial insects, is under review by an Interagency committee within the United States Department of Agriculture.) Once the genie is out of the bottle, it is impossible to put it back in. In the same way, the release and subsequent establishment of an insect species in a new environment is an act that rarely can be undone; eradication is extremely difficult. (If eradication were easy, we wouldn't waste time on 'managing' pest insect populations; we would simply eradicate them and be done with the problem!) We cannot afford to make a mistake and introduce a 'beneficial' species which has even the potential of later becoming a pest in some manner.

'Augmentative' biological control, the second of the subdivisions of biological control about which I am writing, involves the release of relatively large numbers of individuals of a beneficial species. The essential difference is that the species being released is already present in the area, although numbers may be very low. In any case, then numbers present are inadequate to exercise the level of control needed, and it is believed that the rapid addition of more individuals of the beneficial species in a timely fashion will have a positive value.

Augmentative releases are normally viewed as providing only temporary relief, seldom lasting more than a single season. The species added usually is a parasitoid or a predator; in a sense, 'reinforcements' are being brought in to address an immediate problem. I want to emphasize that this is *not* the introduction of a new species for purposes of establishment.

Augmentation may be necessary because established populations of the beneficial species have been decimated as a result of too few hosts being present for a few years thereby preventing the normal maintenance or growth of populations of the beneficial species. Differentially adverse weather conditions or other environmental stresses, or perhaps accidental reduction of the beneficial species as a consequence of use of toxic insecticides, are other situations that may disrupt naturally occurring biological control by established beneficial species.

There are costs and concerns with the augmentative approach to biological control. Because large numbers of organisms must be released in a short period of time, it is necessary to have an insectary available to rear the beneficial species in the numbers necessary. To rear the beneficial species, of course, a host of the beneficial species must also be reared. Often this is the same species that is the target of the control operation; sometimes the host may be a factitious host, that is, one which can be more easily and/or more economically reared in the laboratory and which serves as a host for rearing purposes only. Laboratory production of the beneficial insects must be carefully scheduled to provide adequate



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numbers available for release at the time they are needed during normal pest development under field conditions. This presents obvious challenges in management of the overall program of control.

Augmentative releases may be made to achieve differing objectives. They may be used during a susceptible developmental stage of the host to give a higher rate of parasitism or predation than would occur without the additional numbers of beneficial insects. Releases may also increase the likelihood of a natural enemy, which is already present in the area, to become more firmly established, although this is an unanticipated bonus and not the primary purpose of an augmentative program. In such a case, an augmentative release would be similar to an inoculative release.

At the time when pest populations are going through the transition from endemic levels of the gradation to the incipient stage of the gradation, populations of natural enemies may be very low. (In terms of a gradation, or cycle, the 'endemic' state is a time at which numbers of the pest are very low, and even difficult to find, and damage generally is of no consequence. The 'incipient' stage is that time when numbers are increasing, individuals are found relatively easily, and some damage may be evident. This may be a result of removal or disruption of natural control factors, or environmental conditions particularly well-suited to reproduction.) Releases made at this time in a gradation augment any naturally-occurring populations of the natural enemy, and may be capable of

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reversing the increase of pest population. Releases at times host populations are not high are designed to overcome the typical lag time by which natural enemy population build-up trails the build-up of populations of their hosts. Judiciously applied additional pressure on the pest population, applied in the form of an augmentative release, may allow other regulating factors (such as other species of parasitoids or predators) that may be present more effectively to assist in slowing down an increase in pest numbers.

The augmentative release strategy is gaining popularity, particularly in some specialty crop situations such as greenhouse environments where crops turn over more rapidly and there is less opportunity for a sustainable and dependable regulating relationship to develop between natural enemies and their hosts. Augmentation of natural enemies may also be used under conditions where the resource being protected has high value and there is concern about the use of toxic chemicals. Several species of parasitoids are being reared in commercial insectaries and released as a part of integrated management programs, under the direction of private consultants, in urban and suburban forested areas in a number of states in the northeast and the midwest to combat the ravages of the gypsy moth. Aerial application of a chemical, or more commonly, a biological insecticide (usually a commercial formulation of *Bacillus thuringiensis*, or 'Bt') is often followed, in these management programs, by release of parasitoids to attack those gypsy moth larvae that manage to escape the spray application.

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More and more privately-owned commercial insectaries are being established in the United States, Canada, and western Europe, for the purpose of raising natural enemies for commercial sale. It has been a profitable business enterprise for a number of entrepreneurs, especially in these times when the use of chemicals is being more and more restricted and some of the old standby materials are being removed from the market.

The augmentative approach to biological control is probably better suited to situations where there is some significant value at risk, often on a recurring basis. By its nature, this approach is not designed to provide sustainable control. It requires knowledge of the dynamics of the pest, an ability to obtain (usually through mass rearing) adequate numbers of the beneficial species at precisely determined times, and management skills to bring together a complex operation in a timely manner. One always expects curves to be thrown by Mother Nature as weather conditions vary and affect the development of the pest population in the field, and by problems in rearing the host (either normal or factitious) and the natural enemy in mass rearing facilities. A successful program clearly will not be cheap; economics often mitigate against the use of augmentative releases in situations where values at risk are relatively low. But this approach has its value in some situations, and is a useful tool in our broader arsenal of approaches to biological control of those pests which are amenable to such manipulation.

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¹Third article in a series. Based on a portion of a Conference presented at Akdeniz University, Antalya, Turkey, 1995.



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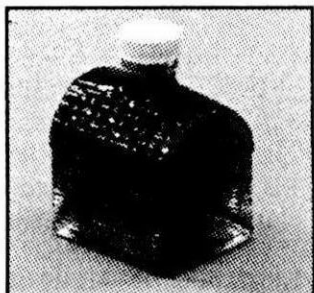
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WE'VE GOT MAPLE FRIENDS IN PENNSYLVANIA

By Bill Clark

After a long days journey to Titusville, PA we arrived at Cross Creek Resort and for the next three days, were treated to royal Pennsylvania hospitality. Cross Creek was an excellent facility with excellent food.

As the NAMSC and IMSI annual meetings got underway, another year of good dialogue developed. The passing of Lynn Reynolds was memorialized with each group dedicating \$1,000 to the NAMSC maple research fund in Lynn's name.

President Avard Bentley kept the NAMSC meeting well in hand. President Jake Couture chaired the IMSI meeting. Major components of the meeting was IMSI's waging an International on-going campaign against adulteration to the tune of \$20,000.

Considerable discussion centered around the *NEW ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE THREAT* to the U.S. and Canada, this resulted in a joint NAMSC-IMSI resolution being sent to USDA (see page 7 of this issue).

The entire group did take time out to visit the oil museum and site of the worlds first oil well drilled by Vermonter Edwin Drake in Titusville.

Pennsylvania—98 was an excellent gathering of NAMSC & IMSI with a very productive meeting resulting. Our sincere thanks to all the PA Maple folks for such a fine job.

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NEWS FROM WISCONSIN

By Roland Jorns

This has been a difficult year for some Wisconsin folks, starting out with a low yield of Maple Syrup this Spring, the weather being just a little too hot or a little too cold, missing the right temperature for good production, consequently there is very little syrup on hand at this time. I expect every producer will be full steam ahead this Spring.

Another shock was the sudden passing away of Lynn Reynolds. Lynn loved Maple, as did his entire family. He loved to lead and start new adventures in the Maple Industry. He loved to meet people, give a big smile and shake their hand. The annual State, National and International Conventions, was certainly his world. He committed himself to bring people together for a better industry. We and the Maple Industry will always remember Lynn for his contributions and services.

This year on my moose hunt, just before our Pennsylvania convention on October 15th, my hunting party of Jorns' experienced the death of my son-in-law Lovely Newell by a massive heart attack. He passed away fifteen minutes after detecting chest discomfort on the way to a hospital two to three hours away. This was a very horrifying experience. Lovely did much of the delivering of syrup and kept our maple shop going in his spare time.

On the brighter side of things, yours truly received the Wisconsin Maple Producer of the year award, which I

shall cherish. District Six of Wisconsin was in charge of this years Maple Tour, they sponsored an excellent tour of interest and an excellent noon meal. Thanks guys, my hat goes off to you.

It was questionable whether or not we should attend this years National Convention because of the death in the family, but talking to our maple friends at the convention helped ease some of the sadness.

I won't use any names for fear of offending someone who I might leave out, I will just say, Pennsylvania you did a great job, we had a very friendly good time. The business part of our meeting were somewhat short, which gave us that much more time to visit and enjoy our friends, many of whom we see only once a year. During these visits we pass on each others experiences and helpful ideas, and this is what it is all about. We were amazed of all the history that surrounds the Titusville area. We enjoyed the tours and the scenery was just gorgeous.

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NEW YORK STATE MAPLE PRODUCERS PARTICIPATE IN SEEDLING OUTPLANTING TRIAL

By Marianne Krasny, Lewis Staats,
and Peter Smallidge
Cornell University,
Department of Natural Resources

Starting in the late 1950's, the US Forest Service embarked on an effort to identify superior sugar maple trees. These trees would have not only higher than average sap sugar content, but would be vigorous and free of disease, insects, and other defects. The hope was that the improved trees eventually

would serve as the parental source for improved sugar maple seedlings or growing stock, which would be made available to maple producers across the Northeast.

What progress has been made 40 years later in identifying and propagating improved sugar maple trees? Of the over 50 trees identified in the original survey of northeastern forests, the offspring of 25 trees have been tested and shown to have higher than average sap content. The Forest Service and Cornell University have developed means to vegetatively propagate these unique genotypes by the rooting of greenwood cuttings and by scionwood grafting. Cornell University has also established a "cultural trial" to determine the best practices for controlling weeds, reducing deer and rodent browsing, and fer-

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tilization for the established outplantings of improved seedlings.

Starting last spring, maple growers, in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension county agents, began limited outplanting trials of the improved seedlings. These outplanting trials, which are being conducted in the northern, western, Finger Lakes, and Catskills regions of New York State and in northern Pennsylvania, are designed to determine growth and survival of the improved stock under different growing conditions. Growers and county agents planted the two-year-old seedlings in May of this year, and noted growth and survival over the summer. They used plastic mesh tree shelters to discourage deer and mouse damage. Each grower planted from 20-60 seedlings on an inter-tree spacing of approximately 35' by 35'. Most of the growers planted the seedlings in former pastures or grassy areas near their homes or sugar house. One grower planted the seedlings in a sugar bush that had been recently thinned.

Thus far, we are seeing about 85% survival of the seedlings. Some of the seedlings, which averaged 20 inches in

height at planting time, have overtopped the 40 inch high tree shelters. Others have put on only limited growth, but the majority looked healthy several months after outplanting. The growers and agents will continue collecting data on the seedlings over the next several years to determine their longer-term health and survival.

We owe much to the growers who are participating in the outplanting trials. The data they collect will be invaluable to our goal of developing improved maple seedlings for producers in the Northeast. The cooperative effort among scientists, extension agents, and landowners may also contribute to the development of new ideas or methodologies for outplanting seedlings. Additionally, the landowners' contribution to creating a forest of healthy, high sap sugar trees will be appreciated many years into the future.

Funding for the outplanting trials comes from the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Cornell Cooperative Extension, the McIntyre-Stennis federal grants program, and the North American Maple Syrup Council.

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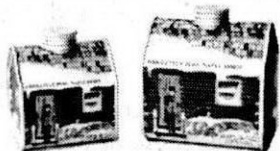
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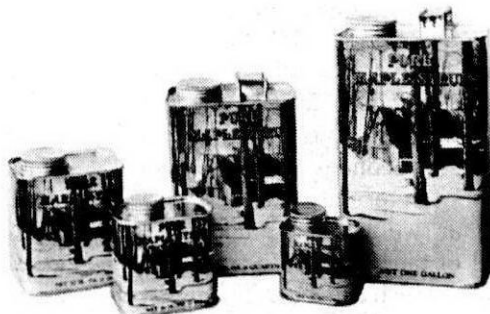
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Middleton, CT
Consumers Packaging, Inc. Etobicoke, Ontario
Donald Cook, Sherburne, NY
Coombs Vermont Gourmet, Inc.,
Jacksonville, VT
Corn Crib, Mason, NH
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
The Corse Farm, Whitingham, VT
Countryside Hardware, DeRuyter, NH
Carl Curtis, Newfoundland, PA
Danforth's Sugarhouse, E. Montpelier, VT
Davenport Maple Farm, Shelburne Falls, MA
Deloughary's Sugar Bush, Bark River, MI
Devon Lane Farm Supply, Belchertown, MA
DeVooght Sugarbush, Marquette, MI
Donald Dodd, Niles, MI
Dubes Pure Maple Products, Eagle Lake, ME
Edge Hill Sugarhouse, Ashfield, MA
Emerson's Dairy Farm Alfred Station, NY
Emerson's Sugar House, Newbury, VT
Everson Maple Products, Clifton Springs, NY
Ewen's Sleepy Hollow, Lunenburg, MA
Fairlee General Store, Fairlee, VT
Family Farm, Spencer, NY
Fessler's Maple Magic, Moravia, NY
Filliciotto's Hilltop Farms, Inc.,
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Filtrine Manufacturing, Harrisville, NH
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Forest Society, Concord, NH
French Camp Academy, French Camp, MS
Funk Grove Maple, Shirley, IL
25,000 Gifts, White River Junction, VT
G & G Maple Farms, Lake Placid, NY
Girard's Sugar House, Simsbury, CT
Gortner's Maple Syrup, Salem, OH
Goshen Corner, Center Conway, NH
Gordon Goss, Barnet Center, VT
Green Mt. Sugar House, Ludlow, VT
Green's Sugarhouse, Poultney, VT
Gordon Gross, Barnet Center, VT
Hamley's Maple Farm, Barton, NY
Haubrich Brothers, Selmer, TN
Herb Crates & Co., Findley, OH
Hickory Works, Trafalga, IN
Highland Sugarworks, Websterville, VT
Patrick Hill, Morris, NY
Homeward Bound Maple, Franklin, NH

Indian Mission Enterprises, Federal Dam, MN
 Indian Water Maple Co., New Creek, WV
 Infraspection Institute, Shelburne, VT
 J & L Syrup, Lebanon, CT
 R.N. Johnson, Walpole, NH
 Johnstone Sugar Hollow, Mapleton, ME
 Jorn's Sugar Bush, Egg Harbor, WI
 K.E. Farm and Sugarhouse, Sturbridge, MA
 Kedron Sugarmakers, So. Woodstock, VT
 Ken's Maple Equipment, New Castle, IN
 Kent Hollow Maple Products, Arlington, VT
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 Kreig Maple Products, Girard, OH
 Lamothe's Sugarhouse, Burlington, CT
 Layfield Farms, St. Matthews, SC
 Lead Mine Sugar Shack, Staint George, WV
 Leader Evaporator Company, Inc.
 Saint Albans, VTS
 Littleton Coin Co., Littleton, NH
 Longview Forest Products, Hancock, NH
 Lookaway Farm, Springfield, VT
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 Lucerne Maple Products, East Holden, ME
 Lucy Farm, Conway, NH
 Maine Maple Products, Madison, ME
 Maine Maple Products, Farmington, ME
 Mann Lake Supply, Ltd., Hackensack, MN
 Maple Acres Sugar Bush, Caroline, WI
 Maple Crest Farm, Buckfield, ME
 Maple Crest, Underhill, VT
 Maple Hill Farm, Cobleskill, NY
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 Northern Wisconsin Maid, Park Falls, WI
 Owens Sugar House, Colebrook, NH
 Patrick Hill Maple, Morris, NY
 Patterson Fruit Farm, Chesterland, OH
 Pearl & Son, Concord, NH
 Pemberton Orchards, Cambridge, MA
 Pick & Shovel, Newport, VT
 Remo Pizzagalli, Charlotte, VT
 Polly's Pancake Parlor, Sugar Hill, NH
 Potter - Tioga Maple Products,
 Mainesburg, PA
 Ivan R. Puffenbarger, Blue Grass, VA
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 Red Bucket Sugar Shack, Worthington, MA
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 Alstead, NH
 Reynolds Memorial - Richards Maple Prod.
 Chardon, OH
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 Spring Hill Sugar House, West Kingston, RI
 Stonewall Farm, Keene, NH
 Strawberry Valley, Whitney Point, NY
 Stuart & John's Sugar House,
 Westmoreland, NH
 Sugar Bush Creek Farm, Middlefield, OH
 Sugar Tree Country Store, McDowell, VA

Sugar Bush Supplies, Mason, MI
The Sugar Shack, Arlington, VT
Sugar Ridge Farm, St. Johnsbury, VT
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Titcomb Hill Maple, Farmington, ME
Toad Hill Maple Products, Athol, NY
Todd's (Thomas) Sugar House, Norwood, NY
Top Notch, Stowe, VT

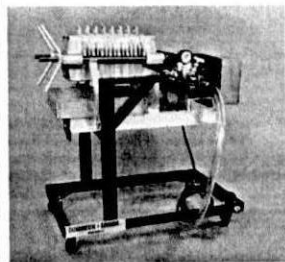
Truchan's Maple Syrup, Lansing, MI
Trudell Family Farm, E. Fairfield, VT
Upper Hudson Maple Prod. Assoc.
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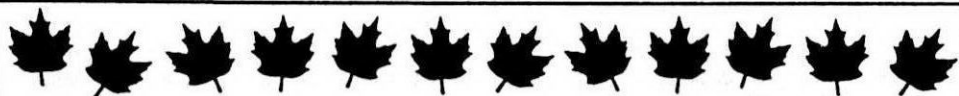
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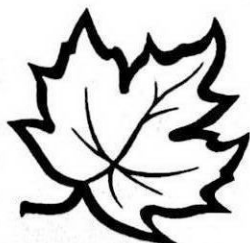
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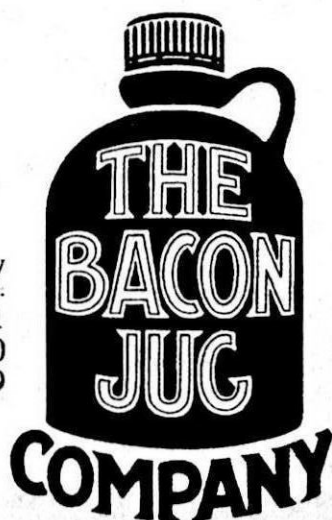
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1999 MAPLE PRODUCTION SCHOOL
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1999
HOSTED BY
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
CORNELL DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CORNELL MEDIA SERVICES
NEW YORK STATE MAPLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

The 1999 Maple Production School will be broadcast via satellite from Cornell University on **Saturday, January 23, 1999**. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will end at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time) with a short break mid-way through the broadcast. The live broadcast time period provides local sites with ample time for lunch and/or live programming at the individual sites. The school is offered as an in-service program for Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE); therefore **there is no charge for CCE sites to receive the transmission**. For out of state and non CCE sites within NY, registration for the program is \$75 per site before January 8, 1999 and \$150 after January 8, 1999 (registration deadline is January 15, 1999).

The program will be valuable for improving production efficiency and increasing profits for both large and small maple producers. The agenda is as follows:

- 9:30 a.m. Welcome by D. Merrill Ewert, Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension
- 9:35 Introduction by Nancy A. Fey; Announcements by Lewis J. Staats
- 9:40 Eric Randall, President, New York Maple Syrup Producers Assoc.
- 9:45 **The Cornell sugar maple research and extension program.** An overview of CCE educator training during 1998 for maple program outreach by Marianne E. Krasny, Director of Cornell Maple Program.
- 9:55 **The 1998 ice storm; its impact and recovery program in New York.** Lewis J. Staats, Extension Associate, will provide an overview of the ice storm impact to New York's maple producers.
- 10:10 **Sanitation and cleaning of sap collection tubing systems.** A progress report on the research performed in the Province of Ontario will be presented by Dave Chapeskie, Agroforestry Specialist.
- 10:40 **Innovative maple practices and processing concepts.** The experiences of a mature Cornell MPS graduate student, Chuck Winship while visiting and interviewing maple producers throughout New York will prove enlightening.
- 11:05 Program break **Bulletin of maple events for 1999 will be flashed on the screen.**

- 11:15 **Summary and analysis of maple production business planning.** A valuable lesson on the economics of maple production with the use of a spreadsheet will be presented by Andy Dufresne, CCE Educator, Chautauqua County, NY.
- 11:35 **How to present a maple field trip program to school children.** Mrs. Irene Andersen of Andersen's Maple Farm, Long Eddy, NY will discuss the all important but often overlooked means of explaining the maple story to young people while expanding future marketing opportunities.
- 12:05 Announcements and additional comments.
- 12:15 p.m. Questions and answers
- 1:00 End of satellite broadcast. We hope you enjoyed the program. Local sites may continue with lunch and live programming. **Please complete the questionnaire and give to your local site host.**

**For registration or more information about the program, you may call:
Lewis J. Staats (518) 523-9337 or Deanna Owens (607) 255-2814**

**For information regarding the technical aspects of the satellite broadcast
you may contact:
Glen Palmer (607) 255-8162**



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CENTRAL NEW YORK MAPLE CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

January 16, 1999

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IN MEMORIAM

Charles Allen "Charlie" Prall, maple syrup producer in central Ohio for 48 years, passed away on June 6, 1998. He owned and operated Maple Lakes Farm with his family near West Liberty, Ohio in Logan County. He will be truly missed by his many customers who were counted as his friends. The maple syrup making operation will continue under new management with the help of the dedicated friends who worked so hard for the Pralls over the years.

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, 1999 for consideration in 1999. Proposals received after that date will be considered in 2000.

(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: Richard Norman, Research Committee, North American Maple Syrup Council, 387 County Road, Woodstock, CT 06281.

Remember: July 1 Deadline.

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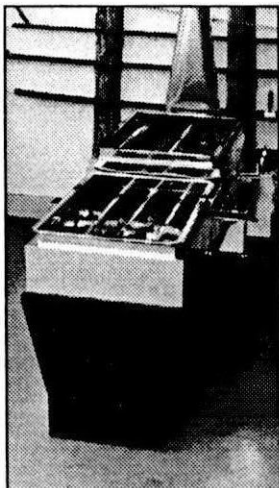
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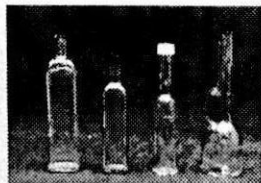
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