

# Maple Syrup Digest



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**Maple 2002 Drawing Winners**

Brian Wiskerchen - Ellsworth, WI - Quart Winner

Susan Ruble - Terre Haute, IN - Pint Winner



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# MAPLE SYRUP DIGEST

Official publication of the  
**NORTH AMERICAN  
MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL**

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**COVER: Luc Lussier accepting the  
Lynn Reynolds Leadership Award.**



## GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



It is with excitement that we look forward to our annual meeting just to notice with a certain regret that it's already past. It was an event of great interest again this year. We notice an important progress in our industry through a greater participation in the enriching exchanges between researchers in all areas. This common denomination cannot be other than beneficial for everyone. As such, we strongly encourage them in sharing their thoughts and research results through the Maple Syrup Digest.

We had the occasion to pursue our reflection work started in the frame of our strategic planification. Many new ideas emerged and will surely make their way in years to come. It takes some time to implant changes and it might be better this way. Added to the delegates reports from each State and Province, we noticed an evolution in the work done by the different committees.

In all, it was in an enchanted decor all in color in this late autumn that we also lived happy but somewhat intense moments. Those who went up Mt. Washington's summit will remember it for a long while. I want to thank the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association, the organization committee and finally all the participants in the meeting who made a success of this event.

Sincerely,  
Luc Lussier

## SALUTATIONS DE VOTRE PRÉSIDENT

C'est avec fébrilité que nous voyons venir la tenue de notre congrès annuel et constatons toujours avec une certaine nostalgie qu'il est déjà chose du passé. Encore cette année, ce fut un évènement de plus grand intérêt. Nous remarquons une évolution importante de notre industrie par une participation de plus en plus grande des chercheurs de tous les endroits à un échange enrichissant entre eux. Cette mise en commun des sujets et des résultats ne peut qu'être bénéfique pour tout le monde. Ainsi nous les encourageons fortement à partager les résultats à travers le Maple Syrup Digest.

Nous avons eu l'occasion de poursuivre nos travaux de réflexion entrepris dans le cadre de notre planification stratégique. Plusieurs nouvelles idées surgissent et feront sûrement leur chemin dans les années à venir. Les changements sont cependant toujours longs à implanter et c'est peut-être mieux ainsi. En plus de recevoir par les rapports des délégués de chaque état et province, nous avons aussi constaté l'évolution des travaux des divers comités.

En somme, c'est dans un décor enchanteur, tout en couleur dans cet automne tardif, que nous avons aussi vécu des moments heureux et parfois intenses. Ceux qui sont montés au sommet du Mont Washington s'en souviendront longtemps. Je veux remercier l'Association des producteurs d'érable du New Hampshire, le comité organisateur et finalement tous les participants du congrès qui ont fait ensemble un succès de cet évènement.

# IMSI NEWS

*By Larry Myott, Executive Secretary*

## **ANNUAL MEETING REPORT, NORTH CONWAY, NH**

Our New Hampshire hosts did themselves proud at the annual meetings in North Conway. Thanks so much for all the hospitality, even if we didn't get to the top of Mt. Washington. New Hampshire sugar-makers went all out to make it an enjoyable and profitable session for all aspects of the industry. The committee did a great job — thank you.

At the annual meeting of the International Maple Syrup Institute the group amended its by-laws to change to board of directors and how the board functions. The new by-laws will take effect on January 1st. Twenty-nine new board members will take their seats, representing all aspects of the industry.

A very interesting part of the IMSI session was a report from the Maple Equipment Manufacturers Association on the standards that have been developed for the manufacture of maple equipment. Mr. Yvon Pellerin of Airablow in Quebec is chair of that committee and he presented the draft report. These standards will be adhered to by all equipment developers and manufacturers. For a complete copy of the standards, call, write or email Larry Myott.

The IMSI will continue monitoring the purity issue of maple syrup. For three years now they have been randomly sampling maple syrup from around the world, looking for adulteration. These samples are collected in the field and tested at U.S. labs by the

IMSI. Samples to be tested for possible adulteration should be sent to the IMSI Executive Secretary Larry Myott, 5014 Route Seven, Ferrisburgh, VT 05456. Samples sent should be retail samples of unopened containers, with the seals intact. For further information call Larry Myott at 802-656-5417.

## **IMSI MAPLE CONTESTS**

Rick and Diane Marsh of Vermont Maple Outlet in Jeffersonville, Vermont won the International maple syrup contest for packers, sponsored by the IMSI. They were honored for their Grade A Medium Amber entry in the Gift Shop and Speciality category.

In the International category, the award was presented to the Citadelle Maple Syrup Producers Cooperative for the fifth straight year. Luc Lussier, director general of Citadelle and Rene Ares, President of the Coop received the award at the joint NAMSC and IMSI banquet.

## **LUC LUSSIER HONORED BY THE IMSI**

The 2002 honoree, presented with the Lynn Reynolds International Maple Leadership Award was Luc Lussier of Quebec. Lussier, director general of the Citadelle Maple Syrup Producers Cooperative, was presented the annual award. MARY Douglass, president of the IMSI presented the award and cited Lussier's involvement with the international industry since 1993 and the great impact that his leadership has had on the industry. Lussier came to maple via the daily industry, becoming director general of Citadelle in 1992. He has served the IMSI since that time and served two years as President.

## THE NH MEETING PHOTOS

George Cook, University of Vermont Extension Maple Specialist spent many hours putting together a Power Point computer presentation that was a hit at the NAMSC/IMSI banquet in North Conway. The program consists of about 400 photos taken by George and Larry Myott. Many attendees asked how to get a copy. George says if you have Power Point on your computer and would like to have a copy of the CD, send him a note and \$10.00US. He'll make you a copy. Send your order to: George Cook, UVM Extension, 29 Sunset Drive #2, Morrisville, VT 05661-8331.

## IMSI TO MEET AGAIN IN FEBRUARY

The next meeting of the IMSI board will be held on February 10, 2003 in Victoriaville, Quebec. Notice will be sent out in January.

For information on the IMSI, call or write: Larry Myott, IMSI Executive Secretary, 5014 Route Seven, Ferrisburgh, VT 05456. Email: [Larry.Myott@uvm.edu](mailto:Larry.Myott@uvm.edu)

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**JANUARY 2, 2003**



8<sup>th</sup> Annual New York

# Maple Producers Winter Conference



January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003 from 8:45 AM to 4:30 PM at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School, Verona, NY

Sponsored by NYS Maple Producers Association in conjunction with the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill FFA Youth Organization

8:00 – 9:00 Registration – V.V.S. High School Lobby

8:45 – 9:00 Welcome – Tom Todd, President NYSMPA

## Workshop Titles and Presenters

- 9:05 – 9:55
- Maple at the State Fair: Opportunities For You – Roger Sage, State Fair Maple Booth Manager
  - Tubing Installation and Demonstration – Kevin Schambach – Schambach Maple Inc. IPL Tubing Sardinia, NY
  - Blending Syrups to Achieve Density – Randy Heiligmann, Forestry Specialist, Ohio State Univ.
  - Product Liability: What are You Liable For – Gary Niedzielski, Farm Family Insurance, Booneville, NY.
  - Grading Maple Syrup – Sharon Hall, Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Syracuse NY
  - Get a Return on Your Investment: Vacuum, RO, & SteamAway-Brad Gillilan, Leader Evaporator, St. Albans VT
  - Maple Queen Contest (9:00 AM – Noon) – Laurie Jean Fanfarillo, 2000 NYS Maple Queen., Rome NY
  - Making Granulated Maple Sugar – Lyle and Dottie Merle, Merle Maple Farm, Attica, NY
  - Timber Stand Improvements to Increase Sap Production – John Clancy, NYS DEC, Castorland, NY
- 10:00 – 10:50
- Basics of Processing Sap and Packaging Syrup – Ben Benjamin, Ben and Judy's Sugarhouse, W. Edmeston NY
  - Product Liability: What are You Liable For – Gary Niedzielski, Farm Family Insurance, Booneville, NY.
  - Quality Product: From Sap to Syrup – Henry Marckres, Vermont Department of Agriculture, Montpelier, VT
  - Filtering Maple Syrup, – Tim Bockus, Dominio & Grimm, Fairfax, VT
  - Getting Started in Making Sugar and Sugar Coating – Karen Putnam, Maple Hill Farms, Cobleskill, NY
  - Licensing Regulations for Maple Producers – NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Syracuse NY
  - Ginseng – Increasing Your Profits Year-round – Bob Beyfuss – Cornell Cooperative Extension
  - V.V.S. FFA Maple Market Tour – Tour of school's retail maple market outlet
- 10:55 – 12:00 **Maple Syrup Finishing Points and Densities: What You Should Know**  
Randy Heiligmann, OSU Extension State Forestry Specialist, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
- 12:00 – 1:15 **Luncheon Highlighting Exhibitors –Catered Homestyle Buffet**
- 1:20 – 2:10 **Selling Your Entire Product in Just One Weekend: Maple Weekend**  
Terry Laubisch NYSMPA Promotions Committee Chair, Flyway Farm Medina, NY  
Steve Reszka, Reszka and Associates, Maple Promoter, Williamsville, NY
- 2:15 – 3:05
- Making Maple Baskets – Karen Putnam, Maple Hill Farms, Cobleskill, NY (Double Session)
  - Maple Promotion: It's All Elementary – Tiffany Casale, 2002 NYS Maple Queen Mohawk NY
  - Tubing Installation and Demonstration – Kevin Schambach – Schambach Maple Inc. IPL Tubing Sardinia, NY
  - Get a Return on Your Investment: Vacuum, RO, & SteamAway-Brad Gillilan, Leader Evaporator, St. Albans VT
  - Proper Tapping and Care of Spouts – Colin Campbell, Uihlein Sugar Maple Field Station, Lake Placid, NY
  - Marketing Maple in the Media – Laurie Jean Fanfarillo, 2000 NYS Maple Queen., Rome NY
  - Maple Lollipops and Chocolate Covered Cream – Dwayne and MaryLee Hill, Shaver-Hill Farm, Harpersfield NY
  - Sugarbush Studies at Cornell's Arnot Forest – Brian Chabot, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
  - VVS FFA Maple Sap House Tour: Preheater, "Piggyback", and R.O. Machine for 1,000 Tap Operation
- 3:10 – 4:00
- Making Maple Baskets – Karen Putnam, Maple Hill Farms, Cobleskill, NY (Double session continued)
  - Syrup Flavors and Off Flavors – Henry Marckres, Vermont Department of Agriculture, Montpelier, VT
  - Tax Benefits for Maple Producers – Gary Coles, Coles Turpique Tree Farm, Whitney Point, NY
  - Tree Improvement Program – Colin Campbell, Uihlein Sugar Maple Field Station, Lake Placid, NY
  - Sap Ladders and Vacuum Boosters – Brad Gillilan, Leader Evaporator, St. Albans VT
  - Marketing Maple in the Media – Laurie Jean Fanfarillo, 2000 NYS Maple Queen., Rome NY
  - Making Maple Cream – Dean and Ruth Delavan Delavan Maple Farms Cincinnati NY
  - Ongoing Forest Studies: Goats in the Woods – Peter Smallidge, Arnot Forest, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 4:10 – 4:30 Conference Wrap-up and Evaluation Door Prizes -- Thank you for Participating!
- Registration: Adults: \$15.00 Students: \$12.00 FFA Members: \$10.00**  
Keith Schiebel, FFA Advisor, Vernon-Verona-Sherrill Central School Route 31, Verona, NY 13478

# WISCONSIN FALL TOUR

By Anne Reynolds

The Wisconsin Fall Tour was October 5th at Antigo, Wisconsin and was hosted by District 2. We met at Northstar Lanes for coffee and donuts to socialize before boarding a couple of school busses with one group going to Don Kakes Sugar Bush in Bryant. Started in 1897 By Otto Buboltz, transferred to his son Henry, transferred to his daughter Mavis and husband Don. Daughters and sons-in-laws Penny and Bruce Mcleod and Karen and Wayne Acker help 900 taps keep going with covered pails. They cut their own firewood and cook on a 4' x 12' evaporator. Don had several old restored cars and an iron wheel tractor. Both girls were maple queens.

Canopy Gardens in Antigo was operated by Pam and Pete Augustyn and their 7 children who are home schooled. Hydroponic vegetables were for sale in the country store. A Cook Garden, Tea Garden, Medicinal Garden and a Bee, Bird and Butterfly Garden are being established. An 11-bay gutter-connect greenhouse that covers 31,000 sq. ft. is in operation.

Volm Bag and PlasPack is a national distributor for package products to dairy producers, industries and businesses. They manufacture a low-density polyethenol bag used for "Sap Bags," PlasPack manufactures knitted produce packages, shade material, construction fencing and is also a printing company. Visitors were give a pen and a mesh bag.

Kriha's at Birnamwood is run by Jim and Mary Kriha and their 3 children,

his sister Jeanne and husband Butch Schultz. A 4' x 12' oil evaporator cooks the sap from 2500 taps. Five hundred taps are with bag holders and the rest are pails.

Adamski's buy sap from local producers and run about 2900 taps in several maple stands. A 4' x 14' wood-fired evaporator and reverse osmosis machine processes 450-550 gallons of sap per hour. Jim is 4th generation with Gary and Vicky, parents. She does crafts as well.

At lunch we enjoyed a wonderful meal with many prizes donated by merchants and hosts. The Maple Producer of the Year was awarded to Lyle and Shirley Stockwell of Ellsworth, Wisconsin. They have been active in the industry for many years. A plaque and large wooden maple leaf traveling trophy was on display for them to keep for the year.

Weather cooperated and we enjoyed the tour seeing old friends and acquaintances.

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## STATEWIDE MAPLE CONFERENCE ATTRACTS HUNDREDS

### Western NY Transportation to Conference Available

Hundreds of maple enthusiasts from New York, surrounding states, and Canada, will ascend on central New York for the 8th Annual NYS Maple Producers Winter Conference. For the fourth year, the one-day event will be held at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill (V.V.S.) High School and features workshops and an industry trade show geared toward maple producers. The conference is scheduled for Saturday, January 11th, 2003 and is sponsored by the V.V.S. FFA and New York State Maple Producers Association.

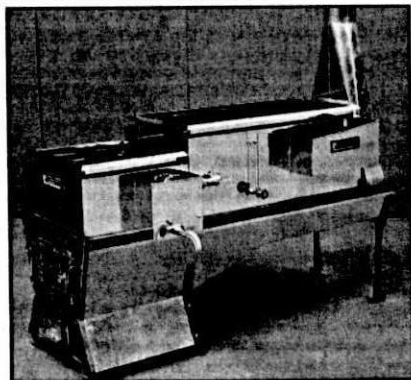
This year's workshops focus on four major areas of emphasis: marketing, value-added products, forest management, and producer techniques. During each of four time slots, individual workshops focused on each of the four areas will be offered.

Under marketing, presentations on product liability, blending maple syrups, making gift baskets, marketing maple in the media, and licensing regulations will be conducted. Value-added product workshops include making maple lollipops, making granulated sugar, maple sugar and sugar coating, and making maple cream.

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Forest management workshops focus on current research and recommendations for woodlot improvements. These include current studies at Cornell University's Arnett Forest and the Uihlein Maple Research Field Station in Lake Placid.

Tubing installation, sap ladders and vacuum boosters, and filtering techniques demonstrations will focus on improving sap production from the woodlot. Other technical workshops emphasize producing a quality syrup product, finishing points and densities of maple syrup, and determining flavors and off-flavors in maple syrup. Highlighting this year's conference will be guest speaker Dr. Randall Heiligmann of Ohio State University and co-author of the North American Maple Syrup Producers Manual. Amongst other topics, Dr. Heiligmann will be discussing the "finishing point" of maple syrup, which explores why finishing syrup at the correct density is important in terms of both quality and economics. His presentation takes a close look at the methods of determining finishing points, from hydrometers to refractometers, and the affects of each on syrup densities.

Other workshops include basics of maple production, intended for beginners, tax benefits for maple producers, and getting a return from vacuum systems, SteamAway, and reverse osmosis. In all, thirty workshops will be offered at this year's conference.

In a separate, dedicated session, a panel of maple producers and promoters will discuss Maple Weekend, a statewide initiative promoting maple during a specific weekend in March. The presentation will outline state initiatives promoting Maple

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Weekend, scheduled for March 22 and 23, 2003, and answer producer questions regarding this event.

For western New York producers interested in attending the conference, special group transportation is available and being coordinated by Greg Zimpfer. For transportation costs and details, contact Greg Zimpfer at (585) 591-1190 or email at: [Gzimpfer@strippit.com](mailto:Gzimpfer@strippit.com).

Registration will open at 8:00 A.M. with the conference program beginning at 8:45 A.M. and concluding at approximately 4:30 P.M. The conference is open to the general public, as well as any maple producer, and is geared toward all levels of sugar makers. The cost of the conference registration is \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for students and \$10.00 for FFA members and includes a homestyle buffet luncheon.

The V.V.S. High School is located between Utica and Syracuse, New York on State Route 31 and is just two minutes from NYS Thruway Exit 33. Overnight accommodations are within five minutes of conference site. For more information on conference topics and presenters, contact V.V.S. FFA advisor Keith Schiebel at (315) 829-2520 ext. 262, email at [kschiebel@vvs-csd-high.moric.org](mailto:kschiebel@vvs-csd-high.moric.org), or visit the school's website at: [www.vvscentralschools.org](http://www.vvscentralschools.org).



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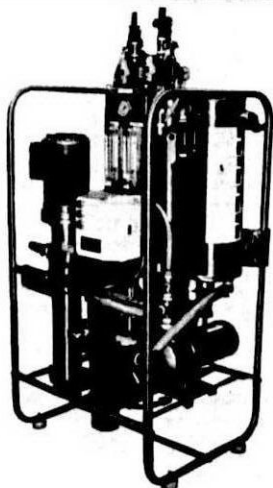
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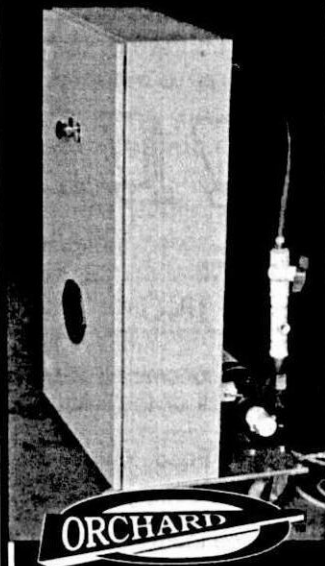
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## WINNERS!



Rick and Diane Marsh (right of Vermont Maple Outlet in Jeffersonville, VT) won the International maple syrup contest for packers, sponsored by the IMSI. Also shown here is Larry Myott, left, Vermont Extension Maple Specialist and Mary Fogle Douglass, president of the IMSI presenting the award. (George Cook Photo)



Luc Lussier, director general of the Citadelle Maple Syrup Producers Cooperative and Rene Ares, President of the Coop receive the International Maple Syrup Contest category award for the fifth straight year. Presenting the award is Mary Fogle Douglass, president of the IMSI and Larry Myott (left), executive secretary of the IMSI. (Larry Myott Photo)



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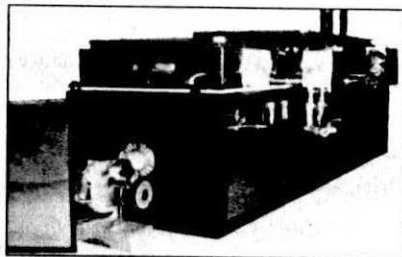
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C	27 to 43.9	\$ 1,90/lbs cdn dollars	Commercial, Grade B 43.9 and less
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# 2002 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE BEGINS TO COUNT THE NATION'S FARMS

Farm operators across America are about to participate in the Nation's largest, most detailed statistical portrait of U.S. agriculture — the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Conducted by the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the census will provide a comprehensive portrait of agriculture at the county, State, and national levels.

Census of agriculture report forms will be mailed to farm operators in mid-December to collect data for the 2002 calendar year. Operators must complete and return their forms by February 3, 2003.

Data provided by individual farmers is held strictly confidential by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). Statistical results are aggregated and published only in geographical summaries to prevent identification of individual farms.

New questions will collect information on multiple operators per farm, production contracts, certified organic acreage, grain storage capacity, computer and Internet use, and new commodities such as bison, deer, elk, llamas, emus, and ostriches. Other questions will be similar to those asked in previous censuses and will focus on key information such as acreage and land use, operator characteristics, crop and livestock production, and agricultural product sales.

Twenty-five percent of operators will also be asked about production expenses, fertilizers and chemicals, machinery and equipment, market

value of land and buildings, and income from farm-related sources.

How do census of agriculture results help farmers?

**Farm organizations, Congress and State and local governments** have the facts needed to plan programs that help farmers get the most for their investments.

**Farm machinery manufacturers, grain elevators, slaughter and cold storage and other agribusinesses** more effectively target their locations to where they are most needed by using county and State statistics, resulting in economic benefit for farm operators.

**Seed and fertilizer producers** compare yields and other information to help operators do the most effective job.

**Irrigation specialists, water resource developers, and irrigation equipment manufacturers** convert census knowledge into practical advice for farm operators.

**State and national lawmakers** use census facts to determine where to allocate funds that will benefit agriculture producers.

**Farm broadcasters and agricultural editors** convey census results to their audiences and use the data to help focus their stories on important areas of agriculture.

**Researchers and legislators** use county-level data to define problem areas and help farmers recover from outbreaks of disease and pests.

A farm, for census purposes, is any place from which at least \$1,000 worth of agricultural products were produced and sold or could have been sold during the census year. Because a key strength of the census



is providing detailed facts about small farms, every response counts — whether from a large or very small operation. By responding completely and accurately, farmers and ranchers can make the 2002 Census of Agriculture an effective tool to help chart the future of their industry.

If you do not receive a census form in the mail by late December, contact the New England Agricultural Statistics Service at 1-800-642-9571 so that your farming operation can be

included. You Make It Known — Agriculture Counts!

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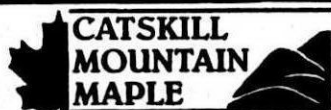
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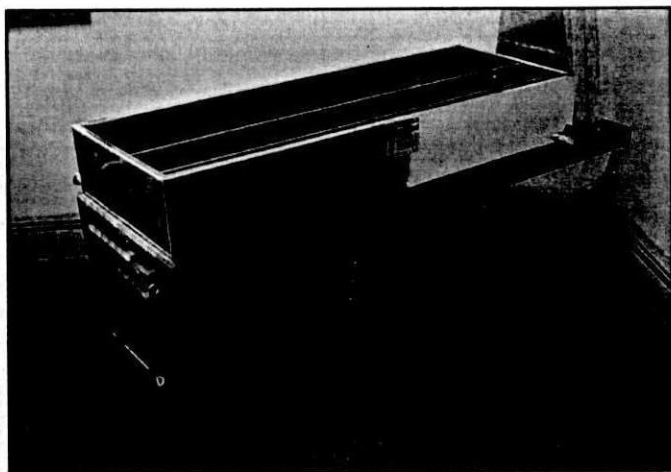


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# 2002 NORTH AMERICAN MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL 43RD ANNUAL MEETING AND CONVENTION OCTOBER 20TH-23RD, 2002 North Conway, New Hampshire

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council (NAMSC) was hosted by the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association and was held at the Red Jacket Inn & Conference Center in North Conway, New Hampshire. The four day conference began on Sunday, October 20th. As participants gathered and registered for the Annual Meeting, various committee meetings were started. Extension Maple Specialists, the Maple Manual Authors, and the NAMSC Director's meetings were held at the Red Jacket Inn.

Registrants enjoyed meeting friends and colleagues at the social hour in the evening. An excellent complimentary meal and presentation by David Neilsen on "The Old Man of the Mountain" was enjoyed by everyone. After the program the attendees were off to bed getting some sleep in the shadows of the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Following a complete breakfast, attendees were welcomed to New Hampshire and the NAMSC meetings by Bill Eva, President of New Hampshire Maple Producers, and Commissioner Bald of the Department of Economic Resources and Development.

President Luc Lussier, welcomed the delegates and participants to the 43rd Annual Meeting of the NAMSC. Secretary Carl Vogt read the Roll Call of Delegates and Alternates of the member States and Provinces. Delegates present for the meeting represented: Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New York, Nova Scotia, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Vermont and Wisconsin. All provincial and state delegates were present. Newly elected Delegates and Alternates were presented with pewter membership pins as a token of appreciation for their service to the council.

Minutes of the 42nd Annual Meeting held in St. Cloud, Minnesota last year were presented by Secretary-Treasurer Vogt. Delegates approved the minutes as presented. President Lussier gave a brief report on activities and contacts made by the executive committee. President Lussier then appointed delegates to various committees. Auditing Committee: Roger Sage (New York), Burton Kimball (Pennsylvania), Avarad Bentley (Nova Scotia). Nominations: Hank Peterson (New Hampshire), Richard Norman (Connecticut), Bill Robinson (Ontario). In addition, Mary Douglas (Michigan) was appointed to a vacancy on the Long Range Planning committee.

The Treasurers Report was approved pending an Audit Committee recommendation. Mike Girard presented the Maple Research Fund Report which was approved pending an Audit Committee recommendation. The Research Fund provides seed money to universities and institutions in Canada and the U.S. that perform research benefiting the entire maple industry. Since research dollars are based on income from the \$.01 per container fee, a motion was made and

approved that set the amount available for research in fiscal 2003 to be \$27,000.00. Members of the Research committee for 2003 are Richard Norman, Warren Wells and Luc Lussier. Research Proposals approved for 2002-03 are:

Title	Amount Requested	Recommended Amount
Monitoring of Impact of Forest Pests in Ice-Damaged Sugar Bushes — <i>Ontario Ministry of Agriculture</i>	\$41,000	\$4,500
Apt Vapor (Steam) Compression Heat to Open Pan Evaporator — <i>Ontario Ministry of Agriculture</i>	\$25,000	\$3,000
Evaluation of Sap Ladders — <i>Ontario Ministry of Agriculture</i>	\$11,000	\$4,500
Effects of Global Change on Maple Production in the Northeast — <i>Proctor Research Center, VT</i>	\$ 5,500	\$3,000
Modernization of the Research/Demonstration Sugarbush at the <i>UVM Proctor Maple Research Center, VT</i>	\$10,000	\$3,500
Improving Production of Sugar Maple Seedling Selected for High Sucrose — <i>Cornell University, NY</i>	\$ 5,500	\$5,000



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President Luc Lussier then asked the Delegates to give individual reports on their specific region's production, marketing ideas, events, and conditions. The reports were most informative and interesting. For the most part the 2002 maple season ranged from very good to poor. Local weather conditions as always impacted sap production. Most areas reported an increase in the number of taps. Trees damaged by past wind storms appear to be on the mend and sap production has increased in some areas. A general theme has been that those who tapped earlier in January and February probably got in on an early run which was missed by some producers especially in the southern commercial range of syrup production. From all indications, sales of all grades of syrup have been good. Delegates also reported on the many activities of their respective associations at various local, state and provincial events. From the sound of the reports, the maple industry is alive and well and everyone is looking forward to the 2003 season just four months away.



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Roy Hutchinson, Editor of the Maple Digest presented a brief report on the Digest. He noted that advertising has recovered slightly and encouraged delegates and producers to support the Digest. Portions of the Digest appear both in French and English. The Maple Digest report was approved subject to audit.

Dr. Randall Heiligmann reported on the Maple Manual Revision. Based on current information, it is expected that the Maple Manual will be published by Spring 2004. The current manual published in 1996 is out of print but some copies are available from equipment dealers. The new manual will feature color photographs and new design changes. Many people representing the maple industry in North America are helping with the revision. The council wishes to thank Dr. Randy Heiligmann and Dr. Melvin Koelling for their leadership in the effort.

Russ Davenport gave a report about the North American Maple Museum. Russ stated that the museum has added new material to its collection and invited everyone to attend the May 2003 induction of new members into the Maple Hall of Fame. Richard Norman and Randall Heiligmann were inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002. The council donates \$500.00 annually to the Maple Museum for its educational programs.

The business meeting was adjourned at noon by President Luc Lussier and will continue on Wednesday.

A companion tour visited Heritage, New Hampshire, enjoying a trip through

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history from England to the settlements of New Hampshire, to present day North Conway.

After a delightful lunch, participants boarded busses for a trip to the Cog Railway. After traveling about an hour from North Conway the group arrived at the Cog Railway base station. The conditions in the valley were partly sunny and about 45 degrees. The summit of Mt. Washington is 6,288 ft. (highest mountain in the northeast) was obscured in clouds but folks were anxious to make the trip on the cog. . . Maple producers filled three train cars and coal fired engines. As the trains slowly "cogged" up the mountain past a panorama of fall colors visitors enjoyed the stories of the tour guides as they talked about the railway which has been in existence since the mid-1800's.

As we passed the half-way house one of the engines had some problems with "steam production" but all trains continued up the mountain. Soon the transition from the spruce-fir type and timberline was reached. The trees were coated in ice and snow and visibility was reduced to less than 50 feet. Reports came back via radio that the temperature at the summit just about 1,000' higher was 16 degrees F. and gusty winds exceeded 60 m.p.h. Snow, ice and rain was also evident (not good for a panoramic view). The railway company decided that it was best if we came back off the mountain.

After turning the seats backs around we descended the mountain and were treated to excellent views once below cloud level. The trip was an adventure for everyone. The group was then taken to the "old grande" but newly refurbished Mt. Washington Hotel. The hotel balcony affords one a beautiful view of Mt. Washington and the surrounding mountains. After spending some time looking around we enjoyed a wonderful meal and presentation about the area, its history and future plans.

On Tuesday morning following a complete breakfast buffet the 2002 maple tour busses were boarded. Stops were made at Charlie Stewarts Sugar House, Twin Mountain Fish & Wildlife History Center, Northern Forest Heritage Park, Bisson's Maple Sugar House, White Mountain Lumber Company, Fuller's Sugar

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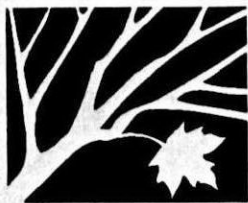


House, Christies Maple Farm & Museum, and Labonville Equipment Company. The tour guides from the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Service, New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Society of American Foresters and others did an outstanding job of leading the groups. Their comments and insight into local and regional cultural, historical and natural resources was most enjoyable. The field tour host's were most accommodating and the scenery on this sunny day was exceptional.

After breakfast on Wednesday, the NAMSC business meeting was continued. Summary presentations and updates were made by researchers who received grants in 2001. They included Dave Chapeskie - Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Colin Campbell - Cornell University and Dr. Tim Perkins - Proctor Maple Research Center - University of Vermont. Some of these projects received continued funding for 2002-2003.

President Lussier gave an update on the Long Range Planning committee. Their report will be completed this summer and reported at the annual meeting next fall.

The Audit committee reported that the records and accounts of the NAMSC, Research Fund, and Maple Digest were correct. A motion was passed approving all reports. President Lussier then asked for the Nominating Committee Report. Associate and Life Members were approved. The committee also recommended



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Luc Lussier, President; Roger Sage, Vice President and Carl Vogt, Secretary/Treasurer as officers for fiscal 2003.

President Lussier thanked everyone for their work this past year and invited everyone to the next annual meeting scheduled for October 22-25, 2003 in Truro, Nova Scotia.

The meeting was adjourned by President Lussier at 10:00 A.M.

A companion tour to Hartmann Model Railroad was enjoyed by about 50 people, and in the afternoon a bus brought some shoppers to the North Conway outlet stores.

A series of Technical Sessions were held during the morning and early afternoon. Titles of the sessions were: Land Conservation, Tree Farm Program and Green Certification, The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Web Sites, NH Markets and Food Programs, Climate Change, Ole Time Sugarin, Sugarbush Mapping and Layout using GPS and Black Bears. The programs were well attended and everyone benefitted from the presentations.

The International Maple Syrup Institute (IMSI) held its annual meeting. President Mary Douglas introduced the directors and a variety of reports and presentations were made at the meeting. Awards from the IMSI will be made at the banquet Wednesday evening.



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The Social Hour and Banquet was held in the Hampshire Hall at the Red Jacket Inn. 232 people were in attendance. Gordon Gowen was MC for the evening. At intervals during the meal presentations were made by the NAMSC, IMSI and the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association. The North American Maple Syrup Council presented awards to: Mary Jo Gillilan, Russ Davenport, Mary Ellen Hutchinson and Roy Hutchinson for their contributions to the council.

The North American Maple Syrup Council presented awards for the world's best maple products entered into a competition among individual maple producers.

Winners of the Maple Syrup Contest and Maple Cream and Candy Contest will be announced in the next issue of the Maple Syrup Digest.

The IMSI presented the Lynn Reynolds Award for outstanding contributions to the Maple Syrup Industry to Luc Lussier. The Package and Gift Award from the IMSI went to Rick and Diane Marsh of Vermont Maple Outlet in Jeffersonville, Vermont. The Maple Syrup Award was awarded for the fifth straight year to the Citadelle Maple Syrup Producers Cooperative of Plessisville, Quebec.

Don Lassonde introduced Dick Coffin who impersonated a whole array of entertainers and others. The evening program was an excellent opportunity to enjoy the company of others and reflect on the past and look to the future.

The 2002 meeting in New Hampshire was a wonderful event. The accommodations, food, entertainment, companion tours, technical programs, "goodie bag," and hospitality were outstanding. Thank you New Hampshire Maple Syrup Producers for a wonderful meeting.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Truro, Nova Scotia in October, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carl Vogt, Secretary — NAMSC



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## THANKS — NEW HAMPSHIRE

Many, many thanks to the maple people of New Hampshire who put on such a wonderful maple convention. The fall colors were magnificent and the beauty of the mountains were just gorgeous. We are still talking about the Cog Railroad experience, and Mt. Washington Hotel, what a place of art and history. You New Hampshire folks have so much to be proud of and we certainly appreciate the grand splendor of the Red Jacket Hotel, the services were so excellent and the food was delicious and plentiful.

Again we thank you for your hospitality and splendor. Besides maple you have a great state to vacation in.

Roland Jorns for Wisconsin

P.S. I'm still waiting for an invitation from Roy H. to come and tame some of those moose you have out there.

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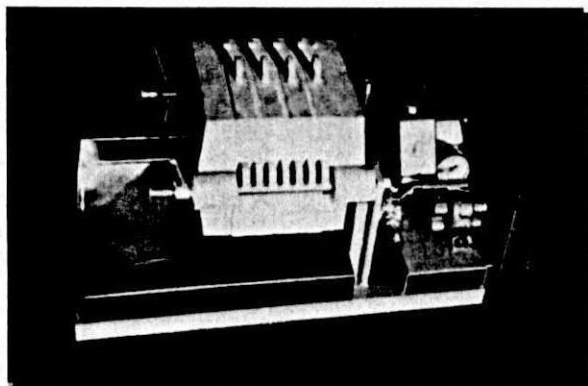
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## **CORNELL MAPLE SCHOOL/WINTER CONFERENCE AVAILABLE ON INTERNET**

Through a collaboration of the Cornell-Uihlein Sugar Maple Field Station, Vernon-Verona-Sherrill Central School, BOCES, and partial funding from the NYS Maple Producers Association, a special effort was made to join the Cornell Maple School with the 2002 NYS Maple Producers Winter Conference.

Distance of travel will no longer be an issue for maple producers who want to participate in this year's NYS Maple Producers Winter Conference. The one-day show will be as close as the family computer or local library. This program is meant to provide the same convenience and quality information as the past 12 years of Cornell Satellite Maple Schools.

Using the Internet and live video streaming, maple enthusiasts from across North America will be dialing into maple demonstrations, presentations, and workshops about various maple topics, all part of the NYS Maple Producers Winter Conference. The Conference format will be the first of its kind for the maple industry using the Internet to deliver industry information and practices.

Scheduled for January 11th, 2003, the conference will be hosted, for the fourth year, at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill Central School, Verona, NY. Using the school's website, [www.vvs-centralschools.org](http://www.vvs-centralschools.org), participants may register to receive live video segments from the actual conference, which will feature 30 presentations related to

industry topics and issues. The Internet audience may participate in workshop dialog and ask presenters questions using on-line chats or email, phones, or faxes. Colin Campbell, NYS Maple Specialist Cornell-Uihlein Sugar Maple Field Station, will be the moderator.

Highlighting this year's conference will be guest speaker Dr. Randall Heiligmann of Ohio State University and co-author of the North American Maple Syrup Producers Manual. Among other topics, Dr. Heiligmann will be discussing the "finishing point" of maple syrup, exploring why finishing syrup at the correct density is important in terms of both quality and economics. His presentation takes a close look at the methods of determining finishing points, from hydrometers to refractometers, and the affects of each on syrup densities. Other conference topics: forestry management techniques, tubing installation and cleaning, vacuum systems for tubing, marketing strategies, value-added products, Maple Weekend tips, and the latest in maple research.

If you have research, extension or association information you would like to announce to the maple community during the program, contact Colin Campbell at (518) 523-9337 or e-mail [cac49@cornell.edu](mailto:cac49@cornell.edu).

For Internet registration info, contact V.V.S. FFA advisor Keith Schiebel at (315) 829-2520 ext. 262, email at [kschiebel@vvs-csd-high.moric.org](mailto:kschiebel@vvs-csd-high.moric.org), or visit the school's website at: [www.vvs-centralschools.org](http://www.vvs-centralschools.org). Registration forms are available online. Fees for the Internet web cast are \$10 per individual, \$20 per family, \$50 per site access for groups of 5 to 10 individuals, and \$100 per site for groups of 10 to 20 participants.



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# Contributions to the NORTH AMERICAN MAPLE SYRUP COUNCIL RESEARCH FUND Contributions from 9/1/01 to 8/31/02

The North American Maple Syrup Council would like to extend their thanks to the contributors to the NAMSC - Research Fund through the "PENNY PER CONTAINER" program from September 1, 2001 to August 31, 2002.

Contributions can be made through your container manufacturer or supplier or sent directly to the North American Maple Syrup Council Research Fund in care of Michael Girard, 352 Firetown Rd., Simsbury, CT 06070-1238. Please make check payable to: NAMSC - RESEARCH FUND.

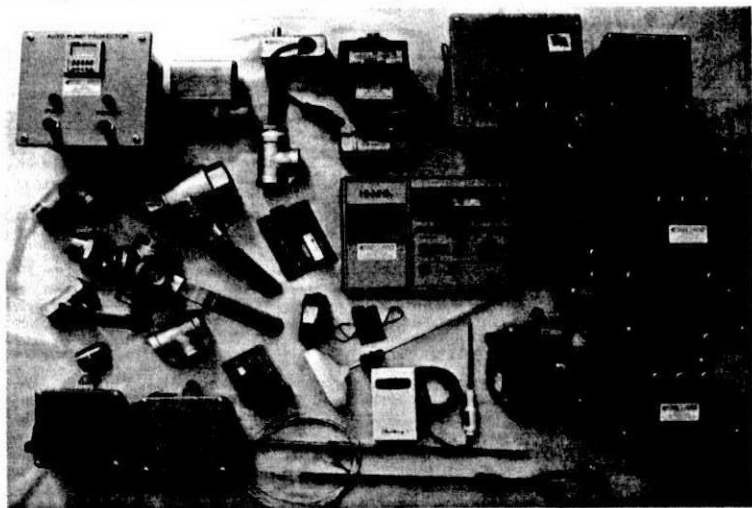
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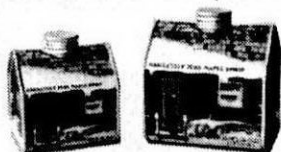
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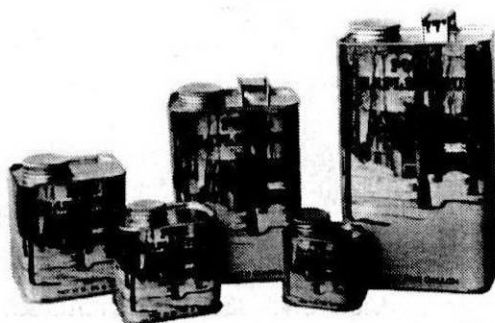
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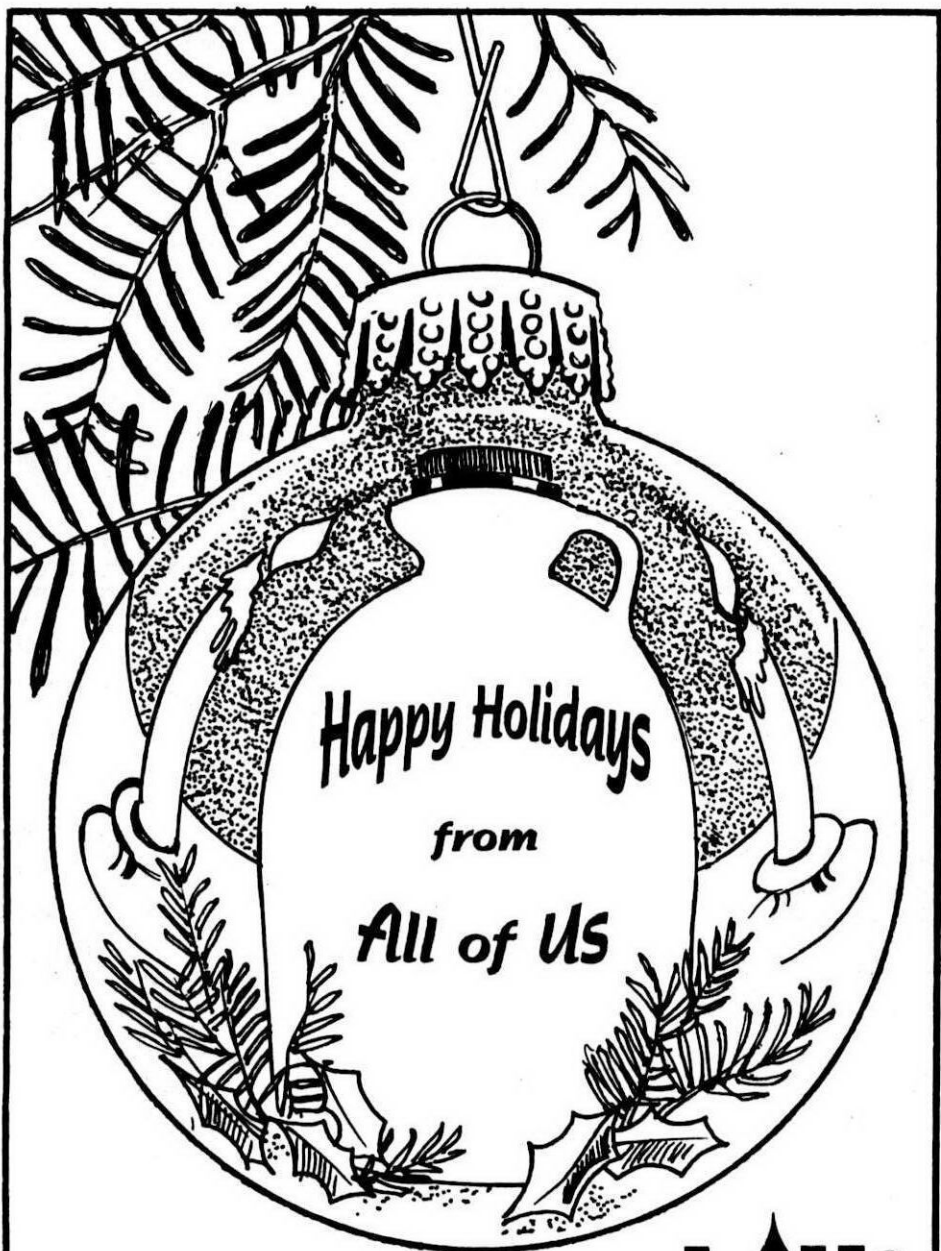
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