

MAPLE

New York maple syrup 2002 production increased 18 percent from a year ago when production was the lowest since 1993. Production hasn't fully rebounded since the disastrous ice storm struck the northern region of the state in 1998 and damaged sugar bushes. Syrup production is estimated at 228,000 gallons, up from the 193,000 gallons produced in 2001. Only two states, Vermont and Maine, produced more syrup.

The number of taps, 1.24 million, increased 7 percent from last year. Syrup produced per tap averaged 0.184 gallons, up from 0.166 in 2001. The final value of the 2001 crop is \$5.69 million. Increased prices were offset by a decline in production from the 2000 crop.

Lack of heavy snowcover made tapping trees and running tubing much easier this year. Mild weather early in the spring resulted in an early maple season. The season opened on February 22 and closed on March 29. Opening date was the earliest since records began in 1972. The extended season pushed yield per tap to the highest level since 1966.

Sap was slightly below average for sweetness, requiring an average of 44 gallons to make one gallon of syrup. Syrup quality was 19 percent dark, 53 percent medium, and 28 percent light. Temperatures were reported as 28 percent too warm, 61 percent favorable, and 11 percent too cold.

Table 30. **MAPLE SYRUP:** Production and Value, 1992-2002

Crop Year	Syrup made ^{1/} <i>1,000 gals.</i>	Average date		Gallons of sap per gallon of syrup <i>Gallons</i>	Average price per gallon <i>Dollars</i>	Value of production <i>1,000 dollars</i>
		First run made	Last run made			
1992	400	Mar. 5	Apr. 12	41	23.40	9,360
1993	180	Mar. 20	Apr. 9	40	18.70	3,366
1994	251	Mar. 16	Apr. 11	41	24.50	6,150
1995	208	Mar. 4	Apr. 1	47	23.50	4,888
1996	343	Mar. 5	Apr. 10	40	25.50	8,747
1997	269	Mar. 4	Apr. 7	48	25.10	6,752
1998	231	Feb. 25	Mar. 28	41	26.85	6,202
1999	195	Feb. 27	Apr. 2	43	27.30	5,324
2000	210	Feb. 27	Mar. 24	49	29.00	6,090
2001	193	Mar. 11	Apr. 7	40	29.50	5,694
2002	228	Feb. 22	Mar. 29	44	^{2/}	^{2/}

^{1/} Includes syrup later made into sugar.

^{2/} Available June 2003.

Table 31. **MAPLE SYRUP:** Price by Type of Sales and Size of Container, 2000-2001

Type and State	Gallons		½ Gallon		Quarts		Pints		½ Pint	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	
Retail	28.10	29.90	16.50	17.30	9.80	10.10	6.35	6.30	3.95	4.20
Wholesale	24.30	25.80	14.20	15.60	7.65	8.65	4.55	5.05	2.75	3.00
	Bulk All Grades		Bulk All Grades		Bulk All Grades		All Sales			
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001		
	<i>Dollars per pound</i>		<i>Dollars per pound</i>		<i>Dollars per gallon</i>		<i>Equivalent per gallon</i>			
Bulk	1.35	1.40	15.00	15.60	29.00	29.50				