

Wisconsin's Maple Syrup Flows Strong

Wisconsin's 2009 maple syrup production, a record high 200,000 gallons, jumped 33 percent from 2008's production of 150,000 gallons. Sugar content of the sap increased from last year, requiring 36 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of maple syrup.

Over 500 maple syrup producers reported production and price information in April and May. These producers received \$39.10 per gallon for their 2008 production, \$3.40 more than a year earlier.

The estimated number of taps set during the 2009 season was 670,000, an increase of 8 percent over the 2008 season. The average yield per tap for Wisconsin producers was 0.299 gallons, up from 0.242 gallons last year and 0.158 gallons in 2007.

Wisconsin's maple syrup season began on February 23, 2009, and closed on April 30, 2009. This year's season consisted of several runs with excellent flow and averaged 27 days, 2 days longer than last year.

Ninety-two percent of the producers who responded felt that temperatures this season were favorable for sap flow. This was a large change in opinion from the 2008 season, when 70 percent of producers reported weather to be favorable. Four percent of this year's producers indicated that temperatures were too cold for sap flow, and four percent reported temperatures were too warm. For favorable sap flow, warm days and cold nights are desired.

Producers in the state reported 60 percent of the maple crop was medium in color, 22 percent was light, and 18 percent was dark. Last year, 65 percent of the syrup was of medium color, while 20 percent was dark, and 15 percent was light.

Nationally, maple syrup production for 2009 totaled 2.33 million gallons. Production was up 22 percent from last year's 1.91 million gallons and was the highest on record since 1944. Number of taps set was 8.65 million, an increase of four percent from the 2008 total of 8.33 million. Yield per tap was estimated to be 0.269 gallons, up 17 percent from the previous season.

The U.S. price per gallon for the 2008 production averaged \$40.50, up \$7.70 from the 2007 price of \$32.80.

Nationwide, sugar content of the sap was down from the previous year. Approximately 43 gallons of sap were required to produce one gallon of syrup, compared with 39 gallons in 2008 and 45 gallons in 2007. Most syrup was medium to dark colored.

MAPLE SYRUP

State	Production		Average Price per Gallon		Value of Production	
	2008	2009	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 gallons		Dollars		1,000 dollars	
WI	150	200	35.70	39.10	3,392	5,865
CT	19	13	53.90	61.60	593	1,170
ME	240	395	30.10	36.80	7,525	8,832
MA	65	46	46.10	45.80	1,844	2,977
MI	105	115	41.60	41.00	2,704	4,305
NH	95	94	46.80	52.30	3,276	4,969
NY	328	362	33.50	42.40	7,638	13,907
OH	100	90	39.00	37.90	2,457	3,790
PA	100	92	31.60	38.30	1,738	3,830
VT	710	920	29.10	39.20	18,624	27,832
US	1,912	2,327	32.80	40.50	49,791	77,477

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

MAPLE SYRUP: Price by Type of Sales, and Size of Container, by States, 2008

Type and state	Gallons	1/2 gal.	Quarts	Pints	1/2 pints
	Dollars				
Retail					
WI	37.70	21.50	10.70	7.40	5.20
CT	54.10	27.60	16.80	11.00	7.00
ME	45.20	25.20	14.20	8.30	5.50
MA	48.00	23.20	14.00	8.75	6.05
MI	36.30	20.90	12.00	7.40	5.00
NH	44.30	25.30	14.60	8.65	5.10
NY	38.10	22.90	14.00	8.85	5.85
OH	33.60	20.20	12.40	7.80	5.35
PA	37.30	22.00	13.00	7.15	4.40
VT	40.60	24.10	15.00	9.65	6.35
Wholesale					
WI	35.50	20.80	11.70	6.50	4.20
CT	46.80	27.70	14.60	8.90	5.75
ME	38.40	21.80	11.90	6.90	4.30
MA	42.20	24.20	13.00	7.40	4.95
MI	30.70	18.00	10.10	6.10	3.70
NH	38.60	22.90	13.40	7.70	4.15
NY	35.90	20.80	11.60	6.50	4.00
OH	32.50	18.00	11.20	6.70	4.80
PA	34.60	17.80	10.20	5.95	4.40
VT	38.10	21.70	12.60	7.45	5.10

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO