



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW ENGLAND FIELD OFFICE**  
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## **USDA TO MEASURE MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION**

Concord, New Hampshire – Starting in April, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct its annual Maple Syrup Inquiry. The New England field office is responsible for publishing the official USDA maple production statistics for five New England States (excluding Rhode Island). “The annual survey of maple producers is supported by the North American Maple Syrup Council, and the statistics generated are the basis for many decisions made by producers and maple industry representatives throughout the region,” said Gary Keough, director of the NASS New England Field Office.

Questionnaires will be mailed to producers at the end of April when the sugaring season is winding down. To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate, reporting can be done via mail, telephone, internet, or personal interview. Those who do not return their forms by mail will be contacted in May by the New England office and asked to complete the survey by telephone.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The national survey results will be available in the Crop Production Report from Washington, D.C. on June 10, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. All reports are available on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) within minutes of the scheduled release time.