

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

# SUGAR BUSH NEWS

*The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association*

## Syrup and Volunteers Needed for Big E

Mass Maple will again have our booth at the Big E, and we're looking for volunteers. This is a fun opportunity for members to educate the public about sugaring and help the Association by staffing the booth and making sales. Volunteers get free admission to the fair and parking, and your choice of meal money or an MMPA t-shirt. The dates for the Big E this year are September 16 – October 2. Work shifts run from 9:30 AM - 3:15 PM and from 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Volunteering at the MMPA booth at the Big E is a great way to help the Association, promote Massachusetts maple products, educate the public, and have fun!

Contact Lisa Brackney at 413-247-6225 or 413-325-1886, or email [bige@mass-maple.org](mailto:bige@mass-maple.org) to sign up. Please indicate what days and shifts you're interested in volunteering.

## Jug Prices Increase

Due to the rising cost of petroleum, Hillside Plastics announced an increase in jug prices, effective June 1. Warehouse and subdealer prices for Mass Maple and Allstate jugs increased on that date. A new price list has been included in this mailing.

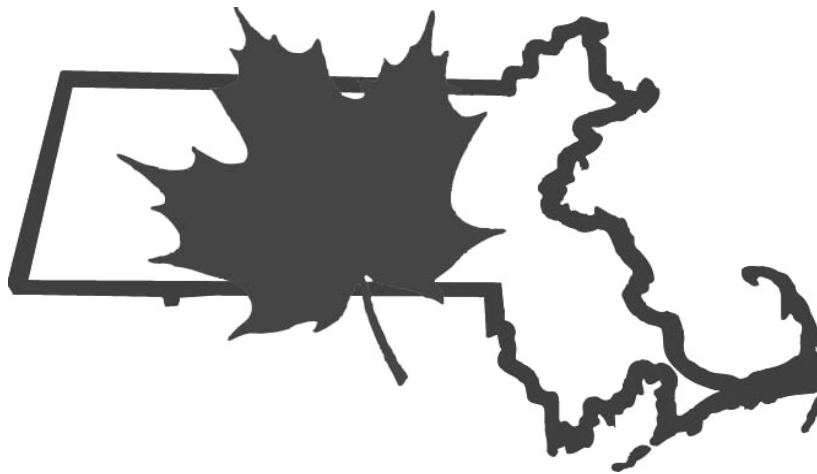
## MMPA Summer Picnic July 31, Sunderland

### Bub's BBQ, Syrup Tasting, ALB Training

The Mass Maple summer picnic will be held on Sunday, July 31, at Sunderland Town Park. The meal will be catered by Bub's BBQ. Following the meal will be a training session on surveying woodlands for Asian Longhorned Beetles. Please see the enclosed flier for details and send in your form and payment today. We can only accept reservations for meals until July 22.

We'd like to use the picnic as an opportunity to put into practice some of what we learned from the workshop at the annual meeting about grading and detecting off-flavors, in the form of a syrup tasting. Anyone who is interested in receiving feedback on their syrup, please bring a

quart of Medium Amber in an unmarked container (so comments can be anonymous) to the picnic. Over the course of the afternoon these will be available for anyone to sample and write (anonymous) comments about, with the comment sheets to be returned to the producer at the end of the afternoon.



# From the President

It sure feels like summer has come today It won't be long before we get together in Sunderland for our annual picnic hosted by the Hubbards. This year the food will be prepared by Bub's Barbecue. Come and enjoy the park, visit and learn about how to keep an eye out for ALB.

Plans are taking shape for the booth at this year's Big E. Someone will be at the picnic to start the volunteer schedule. Sign up early and get your pick of times and days.

The word is that everyone had a good or better than good season. No one I talked to had any complaints once their lines were dug out and taps were set. I hope my snowshoes can stay hanging on the wall for a long time!

See you in July.

-- Ed Parker, President

# Do We Have Your Email Address?

If you haven't been getting emails from us, it's because we don't have your email address. Don't miss out on news and events between the printed newsletters. Send your email address to [winton@massmaple.org](mailto:winton@massmaple.org).

# Local Contests

Remember that most town and county fairs that offer contests and premiums for agricultural products have categories for syrup and other maple products. Some of last summer's fairs had just a few entries in these categories – one had just a single entry! Entering these contests is a great way to promote your products.

# MMPA on Facebook

If you use Facebook, look for the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association page and 'like' it. We'll be using it for news and event notices.

## Massachusetts Maple Producers Association Board of Directors

The Massachusetts Maple Producers Association is a non-profit organization representing more than 250 producers in our state. The Association is governed by a board of directors, and daily operations are conducted by a coordinator who serves at the discretion of the board. If you have any questions, problems or suggestions, please let one of the following people hear from you. The board relies on your input to keep them informed on issues of importance to you.

Name	Term Expires	E-mail Address	Town
Paul Zononi	2014	<a href="mailto:pzononi@massmaple.org">pzononi@massmaple.org</a>	Haydenville
Cynthia Cranston	2013	<a href="mailto:ccranston@massmaple.org">ccranston@massmaple.org</a>	Ashfield
Keith Bardwell - Secretary	2012	<a href="mailto:kbardwell@massmaple.org">kbardwell@massmaple.org</a>	Whatley
Chip Williams	2013	<a href="mailto:cwilliams@massmaple.org">cwilliams@massmaple.org</a>	Deerfield
Stan Zawalick	2014	<a href="mailto:szawalick@massmaple.org">szawalick@massmaple.org</a>	Florence
Ed Parker – President	2011	<a href="mailto:eparker@massmaple.org">eparker@massmaple.org</a>	Granby
Andy Schmidt - Vice President	2013	<a href="mailto:aschmidt@massmaple.org">aschmidt@massmaple.org</a>	Windsor
Pat Delaney	2013	<a href="mailto:pdelaney@massmaple.org">pdelaney@massmaple.org</a>	Belchertown
Jeanne Boyden	2012*	<a href="mailto:jboyden@massmaple.org">jboyden@massmaple.org</a>	Conway

*Those Directors with a \* next to their term expiration date will have served two consecutive terms as directors, and cannot be re-elected without at least a one year break.*

### Containers

Mass Maple Warehouse	212 Reynolds Rd., Shelburne, MA 01370	413-625-2900
Devon Lane Farm Supply	Daniel Shays Hwy, Belchertown, MA 01007	413-323-6336
Red Bucket Sugar Shack	Kinne Brook Rd., Worthington, MA 01098	413-238-7710

### Main Office

Winton Pitcoff - Coordinator/Treasurer	<a href="mailto:winton@massmaple.org">winton@massmaple.org</a>	Plainfield
Mass Maple Association office	PO Box 6, Plainfield, MA 01070	413-628-3912
E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@massmaple.org">info@massmaple.org</a>	Mass Maple Website: <a href="http://www.massmaple.org">www.massmaple.org</a>	

## **IMSI - International Maple Grading School**

**December 7 & 8, 2011, Berlin, VT**

The International Maple Grading School is for maple producers, bulk syrup buyers, state inspectors and others needing to accurately grade maple syrup or judge maple product entries at fairs and contests. This school will provide a strong scientific base combined with intensive hands-on exercises. This approach will enable participants to learn how to grade or judge maple products with confidence. It is being held in Berlin, VT on December 7 and 8, 2011.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For further information contact Kathy Hopkins, Phone 207-474-9622, FAX 207-474-0374 or Email: [khopkins@maine.edu](mailto:khopkins@maine.edu).

The International Maple Grading School is sponsored by the International Maple Syrup Institute, the University of Maine Cooperative

---

## **New Members**

Welcome to the following new members, who have joined MMPA in the last six months:

Arthur Clapp, Westhampton  
Chris & Jody Mossman, Westminster  
Christopher Gray, Ashfield  
David and Michelle Ferron, Plainfield  
Ed Gray, Bernardston  
Gordon Middleton, Otis  
Greg Day, Princeton  
Greg Ostrander, Cummington  
Jacob Rau, Gill  
Jody Fess, Westminster  
Justin Sobol, Jefferson  
Raymond Gray, Ashfield  
Scott Bowdish, Bernardston  
Scott Malkasian and Alicia Merritt, Worcester  
Thomas LeRay, Royalston  
Tillman Estes, Southborough  
Timothy Henderson, Wayland  
Tom Bratko, Hubbardston

---

## **Classified Ads**

4'x7' raised flue pan for \$800 and a 4'x3' syrup pan for \$300. We also have a Becket 1200 2 stage oil burner \$800 (reason for selling, State awarded us an energy grant.... all equipment is in good condition.) We can send photos if anyone is interested and can be reached at Turner Farms Maple Syrup, South Egremont, MA. 413-528-5710

## **Sugarhouse Directory**

### **Now Online**

Mass Maple is retiring the printed directory of sugarhouses in favor of steering visitors to the web version. Demand has decreased for the paper version and traffic to the online directory and map has increased dramatically. This change means that our directory can be updated more frequently, will be more widely accessible and will be less costly for the Association to produce and maintain. We will develop a printed, general brochure about sugaring in Massachusetts that we will distribute in the same way that we have distributed the brochure in the past, which will direct readers to the website for information about individual sugarhouses.

You can make changes to your online directory listing at any time. Check out the directory at <http://www.massmaple.org/directory.php> and if you have any changes contact Coordinator Winton Pitcoff at [winton@massmaple.org](mailto:winton@massmaple.org) or 413-628-3912, or mail changes to MMPA, PO Box 6, Plainfield, MA 01070. Please note that being a member of Mass Maple does not mean you are automatically included in the directory – you must let us know that your sugarhouse is open to the public and that you would like to be listed.

---

## **Franklin County Fair**

Mass Maple will once again have a booth in the historic roundhouse at the Franklin County Fair in Greenfield, September 8-11. If you are interested in managing the booth for those four days, or for any portion of the time (this is a paid position), or if you are interested in volunteering at the booth for even just a few hours during the fair, please contact [winton@massmaple.org](mailto:winton@massmaple.org). Volunteers receive free parking and admission to the fair.



# National Maple Crop Report From the National Agricultural Statistics Service

State	Number of taps			Yield per tap			Production		
	2009 (1,000 taps)	2010 (1,000 taps)	2011 (1,000 taps)	2009 (gallons)	2010 (gallons)	2011 (gallons)	2009 (1,000 gallons)	2010 (1,000 gallons)	2011 (1,000 gallons)
Connecticut	71	75	71	0.183	0.120	0.238	13	9	17
Maine	1,478	1,478	1,470	0.288	0.214	0.245	385	315	360
Massachusetts	238	258	245	0.200	0.118	0.283	48	29	62
Michigan	458	488	495	0.258	0.187	0.248	115	92	123
New Hampshire	385	428	420	0.244	0.207	0.288	94	87	120
New York	1,838	1,983	2,011	0.240	0.184	0.280	439	362	564
Ohio	375	385	405	0.240	0.188	0.208	90	85	125
Pennsylvania	484	485	503	0.198	0.118	0.254	92	54	128
Vermont	3,338	3,158	3,308	0.204	0.283	0.245	680	890	1,140
Wisconsin	878	858	880	0.258	0.180	0.235	220	117	155
<b>United States</b>	<b>8,875</b>	<b>9,258</b>	<b>9,580</b>	<b>0.238</b>	<b>0.212</b>	<b>0.232</b>	<b>2,404</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>2,794</b>

The 2011 United States maple syrup production totaled 2.79 million gallons, up 43 percent from the revised 2010 total. The number of taps is estimated at 9.58 million, 3 percent above the 2010 revised total of 9.26 million. Yield per tap is estimated to be 0.292 gallons, up 38 percent from the previous season's revised yield.

All states showed an increase in production from the previous year. Temperatures were reported to be favorable for optimal sap flow in all states. On average, the season lasted 32 days compared with 23 days last year. In most states, the season started later than last year. Sugar content of sap for 2011 was up from the previous year. On average, approximately 43 gallons of sap were required to

produce one gallon of syrup. This compares with 46 gallons in 2010 and 43 gallons in 2009.

Production in Massachusetts, at 62,000 gallons, increased 114 percent from last season. Vermont led all States in production with 1,140,000 gallons, an increase of 28 percent from 2010 and the highest on record in over sixty years. In Connecticut, production is estimated to be 17,000 gallons, up 89 percent from 2010.

The 2010 average price per gallon in Massachusetts was \$56.50, up \$2.90 from 2009.

The Canadian province of Quebec has reported production of 9.15 million gallons of syrup for 2011.

**GREENFIELD PAPER BOX COMPANY, INC.**  
**65 PIERCE STREET**  
**GREENFIELD, MA 01301**

T (413)773-9414 F (413)774-5134

**CUSTOM PACKAGING MANUFACTURERS**  
**SPECIALIZING IN MAPLE PRODUCTS PACKAGING**

**You know the effort and love that you've put into your maple products, now let us manufacture the package or display to SELL it! Call or e-mail us any-time for free consultation and estimates.**

- Engineering, package and graphic design
- Pre-press, printing and foil stamping
- Rigid set-up boxes
- Folding boxes with or without acetate windows
- Set-up or Folding gift packs
- Shelf and Counter Displays
- Die-cutting

**www.greenfieldpaperbox.com** **gpbox123@verizon.net**

# Mark Your Calendar!

## Mass Maple Association Summer Picnic

Sunday July 31, 2010, Sunderland  
See enclosed flier for details

## The Big E

September 16-October 2, 2010  
It's never too early to set aside time to volunteer at the MMPA booth at the Big E!

## Annual Meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council & the International Maple Syrup Institute

October 23-26, 2010  
Frankenmuth, Michigan



## Mass Maple Warehouse

212 Reynolds Road • Shelburne, MA 01370  
413-625-2900

**SUPPLIES:** The warehouse is well stocked with all sizes of maple syrup jugs, maple cream jars. Other syrup containers stocked include three sizes of glass maple leaf bottles and five-gallon plastic containers for bulk packing. The warehouse also has cardboard cartons for all size of jugs, gift boxes and maple candy boxes. Many other materials are available: Posters, recipe booklets, coloring books, labels, hang tags, producer manuals, instructional and educational videos, etc.

**HOURS:** The warehouse is open seven days a week, on a "call ahead" basis only. During the maple season if no one can answer the phone, a message on the answering machine will indicate the hours for that day when someone will be home. Otherwise, please leave a message and someone will return your call. Please be sure to call ahead for everyone's convenience - don't be disappointed by arriving unannounced and finding no one there to assist you. Terms are cash or check only upon pick-up - no charges.

**UPS:** We can ship only full cases of jugs. You will be billed for the cost of the jugs plus UPS charges. Call in your order to the warehouse (413-625-2900) and we will send it out with a bill. Partial cases of jugs and glass of any quantity cannot be shipped safely.

# DIGITAL BAROMETER WITH BOILING POINT OF WATER



**MARCLAND**

**(518)532-7922**

[www.maroland-usa.com](http://www.maroland-usa.com)

## GET YOUR GIFTS FROM MASS MAPLE

Get all of your gift shopping done AND support MMPA!

Does your favorite sugarmaker have the The **North American Maple Syrup Producers Manual**? We've got it for only \$35!

Then there's our great DVD -- **Making Maple Candy & Cream**. \$25

And don't forget Mass Maple **tshirts** (\$10), **sweatshirts** (\$15), **hooded sweatshirts** (\$23) and **caps** (\$12). Limited quantities of some sizes, so order soon!

Everything's available online, at:

<http://www.massmaple.org/buy.php>



**HICKORY HILL MAPLE**

**159 Buffington Hill Rd**

**Worthington, MA 01098-0272**

Carrying the full line of Lapierre maple sugaring equipment  
Servicing all of Massachusetts and Connecticut

- Custom designed high vacuum tubing systems
- Hurricane Force 5 Gasificator Evaporators
- Lapierre R.O.'s
- Lapierre & Bernard sap extractors
- Stainless Steel tanks
- Currently operating 10,000+ tap high vacuum system

Paul Sena - Owner

phone: (413) 238-5514

[hickoryhillmaple@gmail.com](mailto:hickoryhillmaple@gmail.com)

[www.hickoryhillmaple.com](http://www.hickoryhillmaple.com)

## **Asian Longhorned Beetle Update**

It has been nearly two years since Asian Longhorned Beetle was first discovered in Worcester. The quarantine zone, expanded most recently in May, now covers 98 square miles. More than a million trees have been surveyed, with 19,624 found to be infested in Worcester, Holden, West Boylston, Boylston and Shrewsbury. More than 29,000 trees have been removed, and approximately 6,000 replacement trees planted.

Preventative treatment of trees with Imidacloprid continues. At least 96,000 trees are slated for soil or trunk injection with the chemical. Treated trees are being tagged with a small metal tag that includes the words 'DO NOT TAP.' Under no circumstances should treated trees be tapped for sugaring.

## **Notes on Mass Maple Jugs**

If you purchase Mass Maple jugs, 100% of the syrup put into those jugs **MUST** be from Massachusetts. If you buy in bulk and are unsure about where the entire product comes from, please do not use these jugs. The warehouse has Allstate jugs available.

If you sell in Mass Maple jugs, you **MUST** add a label or hang tag with the name and contact information for your sugarhouse. Federal regulations require this.

The artwork on the Mass Maple jugs is owned by MMPA and may not be copied, in whole or in part, for any reason. Photos of your jugs in advertising or on your website are acceptable.

All of the plastic jugs we sell are 100% BPA free.



# Indiana Vacuum

*"Simply the best"*

dba Harris Sugar Bush

Harris Sugar Bush

999 East County Road 325 North, Greencastle, IN 46135-8025

phone/fax 765-653-5108

aharris@link2000.net

www.harrissugarbush.com



## Advantages:

- 29" vacuum capacity. High cfm at high vacuum.
- Electric or gas units. 20 cfm to 150 cfm.
- Aluminum separation tanks outperform the competition by cooling the oil faster and separating air and oil with little to no loss of oil.
- Simple durable design with proven advanced vacuum technology gives you the most efficient system and cost effective setup available on the market today.
- We are vacuum experts with liquid ring pumps, nothing out performs our units.
- We design & built our systems to be completely ready for you to install. No add-ons needed.
- Our pumps will average their vacuum capacity between 22-25" vacuum. Our competition's is around 16-18" of vacuum. This is a huge difference that makes our units number one in sap production. Give us a call today.