

2014 Addison County Maple Seminar

Saturday, January 11, 2014

Middlebury Union High School (off Court Street), Middlebury, VT

Registration begins at 7:30 am • Sessions begin at 9:15 am
Complimentary morning coffee, tea and maple cream doughnuts will be served

*Learn to Make Better Maple Syrup! Talk with Experts!
Keep up with Trends! Share experiences! See new technology!*

Schedule

8:00-8:45	Registration: Coffee and Donuts
9:00-10:15	Welcome (in Auditorium) State of Industry Discussion: Economics, Effects and Concerns about a Growing Industry (Producers, Packers, and Financial Presenters will be included)
10:30-11:45	Session I
11:45-1:30	Lunch and Trade Show
1:30-2:45	Session II
3:00-4:15	Session III
4:15	Have a Safe Trip Home



2014 Addison County Maple Seminar • Session Topics and Presenters

Beginning Sugarmakers

Bill Scott, FFA Emeritus

In this two part session, Bill Scott, FFA Instructor Emeritus leads beginning sugarmakers from the tree to the sugarhouse, discussing taping, tubing, filtering basics and other techniques. The second session reviews boiling techniques, best practices when it comes to drawing syrup off, filtering, grading and canning.

New Grading System

Henry Marckers, VT Agency of Agriculture

A discussion of the new proposed system. What it means to sugarmakers, consumers and packers. The reasoning behind the proposed change. What are the next steps in making the change? How it might affect syrup prices.

Voluntary Sugarhouse Certification

Henry Marckers, VT Agency of Agriculture, Matt Gordon, VMSMA Executive Director, Kurt Kling and Tom Gadhue, Addison County Sugarmakers

Learn how to become certified, whether your operation is large or small. Henry and Matt will discuss the guidelines and criteria for certification. Kurt and Tom will offer input as to their experiences and what they had to do to meet the certification standards. Kurt has an established traditional operation and Tom's operation has been recently established.

Remaking Maple—

A Potential High Yield Method of Sap Collection

Dr. Tim Perkins, Proctor Research Center

The last twenty years have seen tremendous improvements in the materials and methods that maple producers use to collect sap from their woods, with the result that yields are considerably higher than they were a short time ago. Despite this, syrup yields on a per acre basis are relatively low, and the availability of well-stocked maple stands in some production areas is limited. Development of high-yielding traditional sugarbushes with traditional methods is a long-term endeavor and fairly costly. This presentation will outline a new method of collecting sap that can be applied to both naturally regenerating dense maple stands as well as plantations of maple saplings that requires less land and has yields greatly exceeding those possible with current methods.

Is 3/16" Tubing the Answer to Vacuum Systems?

Roundtable Discussion: Andy Hutchison, Moderator

New experimentation shows great promise in getting vacuum without the equipment when using 3/16" tubing. Sugarmakers Art Kruger and Miles Tudhope, each having very different sugarbushes, will discuss how the tubing worked from them. Tim Wilmot, Proctor Research Specialist, will speak from his controlled experiments at the Proctor Research Center.

How Small Is Too Small to Tap A Tree

Abby van den Berg, Proctor Research Center

Growth rates of trees tapped with high-yield sap collection practices—are Conservative Tapping Guidelines sustainable? Are existing tapping guidelines appropriate to use with current sap collection practices that enable the collection of much greater amounts of sap? This study examined the growth rates of trees from 18 VT sugarbushes that were tapped with high-yield sap collection practices, developed an interactive model of the tapping zone, and investigated whether the current Conservative Tapping Guidelines are appropriate to use with these practices.

Replacement and Cleaning on Sap Yields and Net Profits

Dr. Tim Perkins, Proctor Research Center

It is well established that tubing and spout sanitation practices have large effects on sap production. Replacement of droplines, use of new spouts, check valves, and tubing/spout cleaning all produce increases in sap yield. Each of these practices also come at a cost, therefore the resulting net profit (gross profit minus cost) will vary tremendously. This presentation will explore results of studies investigating the effects of different replacement and cleaning strategies on the amount of sap producers can expect to get out of their woods, as well as the projected net profits they can put in their pocket, based upon the strategy used, and will introduce a tool to help producers choose the approach that best fits their operation.

Effective Tubing Design and Set-Up

JR Sloan

How to get the best out of your tubing set-up. From mainlines to drops, learn the best practices of how to set up an efficient tubing/vacuum system. Get tips whether your woods are flat, steep or somewhere in between.

Filtering for a Good Product

Brad Gillilan, Leader Evaporator

Filtering is extremely important throughout the sugaring process. Whether filtering sap or syrup learn what you need to do to make the highest quality final product for your buyers—consumers or packers. Brad will discuss the new clear filter press and have some demos.

Boiling 101

Glenn Goodrich, Cabot

Glenn will explore the best practices for boiling no matter if you are the backyarder or a 50,000 tap operation or burning with wood, oil or other fuel.

Maple Confections

Ruth Goodrich, Cabot

Many producers sell their product in bulk, but there is a great market for value added products. Ruth will demonstrate some of the more interesting ways to use maple. Go beyond cream, candy and granulated sugar.