

The Gathering Tank

A Newsletter of the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association, Inc.

Volume 24, Issue 2

July 2019

Join Us for the Annual NHMPA Summer Meeting

The NHMPA will hold its annual summer meeting on Saturday, July 27th at Fuller's Sugarhouse in Jefferson, NH. Registration begins at 8:00am with the meeting starting at 9:00am. The day will be broken out into presentations in the morning with tours available in the afternoon.



Directions to 2021 Presidential Hwy Jefferson NH

Take 93N to Exit 35
Exit 35 for US-3 N toward Lancaster/Twin Mountain
Follow US-3 N and NH-115 N to US-2 E in Jefferson
Turn right onto NH-115 N
Turn right onto US-2 E

Sugarhouse will be on the left

The summer meeting is a great chance for NH sugar makers to get-to-know each other. Invite those you know who are new to sugar making to attend.

Tickets are \$15 per person and include a catered lunch. Tickets can be purchased online at the NHMPA website using the form in this newsletter and a check.

Strategic Direction for NHMPA

As a member, is NHMPA helpful to you and your maple operation? Is there something we should be doing that we are not? Are we doing things that are not useful and maybe wasteful of NHMPA limited resources?

We will attempt to get these questions answered and chart a refined direction for the Association. Look for a member survey to come later in the year.

FDA "Added Sugars" Update

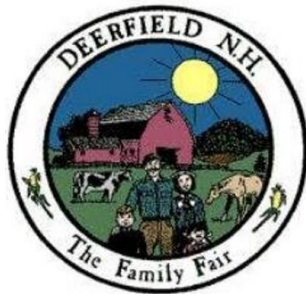
In its updated and final June 2019 guidance, the FDA has exempted single-ingredient packages of pure maple syrup from bearing the words "Includes Xg Added Sugars." Packages must still include percent Daily Value (DV) for added sugars on their labels. The final guidance is available on the FDA.gov website and goes into effect July 1, 2021.

From the President

With summer here, let's hope for some warmer and drier weather. I want to thank all of you for your efforts in making this New Hampshire Maple industry so strong. I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's summer meeting! - Nick Kosko



Aug 30 - Sept 2



Sept 26 - 29



Sept 13 - 29

2019 Fair Season Volunteers & Syrup Needed

Fair season is fast approaching. The NHMPA will be having a booth again at the Big E and staffing the sugar houses at the Hopkinton and Deerfield fairs. We are looking for volunteers at all three events.

For the Big E, you may remember, last year we did not purchase new syrup. This year, we will be buying bulk syrup as we did in the past. If you have bulk syrup in five gallon containers or drums for sale, let us know. As we will be making candy at the Big E, we're looking for good quality golden syrup.

Hopkinton and Deerfield fairs will be as it has been in the past; if you would like to sell your products, please contact Darrell.

More details will be available at the summer meeting. If you have any questions, contact Darrell Fisk at 603-554-4392 Cell 603-654-5312 Home or bigdarrell111954@gmail.com.

NH Maple Producers Association

141 Wakefield Road
Union, NH 03887

www.nhmapleproducers.com

Editor, The Gathering Tank—Brenda Noiseux

NHMPA Board of Directors

Nick Kosko - President	Dan Burbank
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Carlisle Awards Presentation at the Winter Meeting

At the Winter Meeting, the following producers were honored during the Carlisle Award Presentation. Special thanks to our guest judge, Kathryn Hopkins. Hopkins is a University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator and one of the creators of the International Maple Syrup Institute Maple Grading School as well as an inductee into the Maple Hall of Fame.



1st Place: James Fadden
Fadden's Sugar House

2nd Place: David Clark
Clark's Sugarhouse

3rd Place: Don & Barbara Lassonde
Beaver Meadowbrook Farm Sugar House

4th Place: Sean Atkins
Atkins Family Sugarhouse

5th Place: Marty Boisvert
Journey's End Maple Farm

2019 Carlisle Award Qualifier

All entries for the Carlisle Award must be qualified during the 2019 fair season. NH syrup entries must be judged in a participating 2019 NH state fair. The top 3 placements from NHMPA members at each fair will be recognized by the NHMPA as qualified entries. Contestants are responsible for storing their qualified samples until the Winter meeting. Anyone engaging in non-sportsmanship-like behavior may be disqualified

A full list of rules and requirements is available on the NHMPA website under the Awards menu.

Container Stock & Candy Boxes

Container Chair Bill Cheney has two updates. Bacon offered a discount to the Association if we placed our dealers' orders by June first. We placed an order May 28th for 5 of our dealers and also replenished the stock that was sold from our reserve held at Sunnyside Maples. In the past when the Association took advantage of the early order discount, Association container dealers started receiving their orders towards the end of August.

The NHMPA Board agreed that we should pursue offering candy boxes (white with clear window) to the membership through our container dealers. Once we have the details, we will let everyone know.

2019 Tucker Mountain Challenge

More than 800 students took part in this year's Tucker Mountain Challenge! Thirteen classes developed maple sugaring skills while learning about plant science, physical science, chemistry, math, history, economics, physical education and more. Their hard work culminated in submitting a quart of student produced maple syrup to NHAITC for the Tucker Mountain Challenge. Samples were tested for density, color and clarity by maple professionals Bruce Treat and Howard Pearl. Six finalists then moved on to taste testing at the NH State House to round out their score. Congratulations, everyone!

1st Place: Fuller Elementary School, 5th grade

2nd Place: Rochester Middle School, grades 6 and 7

3rd Place: Robert J. Lister Academy, grades 9-12

Finalist: Lincoln Street Elementary, 4th grade

Finalist: Madison Elementary School, grades 3 & 4

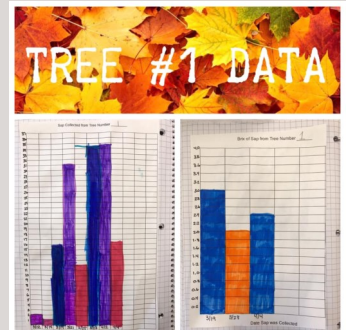
Finalist: White Mountains Regional High School, grades 9-12



The NHMPA is a proud sponsor of the Tucker Mountain Challenge, organized by Debbi Cox at NH Ag in the Classroom. A hands-on maple sugaring experience makes lifelong NH maple fans. Consider becoming a school mentor next year to help us reach even more students. Find more great photos of this year's competition on the NH Agriculture in the Classroom's Facebook page.

Sharing the Science on Social Media

Connecting classroom curriculum with real world experiences, teacher Christine Stilwell, is making it a community effort. Check out the RJLA Maple Syrup Makers Facebook page for fun photos and videos, including this year's maple syrup fair for three schools- RJLA, Little Harbour, and Dondero, and the colorful student-made tree data charts.





Summer Meeting Registration Form

Saturday July 27

Fuller's Sugarhouse, Jefferson, NH

Name _____

Sugar House Name _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

of people attending _____ X \$15 per person for lunch

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Please mail to NHMPA, 141 Wakefield Road, Union, NH 03887.

Union, NH 03887

141 Wakefield Rd



NH Maple Month

Reports point to a successful NH Maple Weekend and a good month. The strategic marketing plan included advertising for TV, radio and digital coverage. The NHMPA website alone had 250,000 hits, which was similar to last year. Our NH Maple Month Facebook posts and events had over 200,000 views. The NHMPA contests went well, including a 37% increase in social media photos shared with the #nhmaple hashtag. *Photo credit amyroy101*



The NHMPA is dedicated to raising awareness of NH's maple sugaring industry and proud maple tradition. With articles in The Maple News, press releases, social media, and more, the NHMPA works throughout the year to keep NH maple on the minds of the public.