

Editor's Note: This is a monthly column from the Pennsylvania Ag Statistics Service (PASS), a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA). The Website is www.usda.gov/nass/.

# **MAPLE COUNTS TOO!**

In 2001, Pennsylvania sugarmakers produced 69,000 gallons of maple syrup, which was 47 percent more than the 47,000 gallons made in 2000. The 2001 crop was valued at \$1.8 million in 2001 compared to \$1.3 million in 2000.

With the current drought conditions, the 2002 crop is a subject for much discussion. The annual Maple Syrup survey will replace speculation with actual measurements of the 2002 maple crop.

The national survey is done at the request of the North American Maple Syrup Council and supported by all state members of the council. The survey is sent to all known maple producers in Pennsylvania and to producers in the other nine major producing states.

The survey asks for this year's tap numbers and syrup production and prices received for last year's crop. Maple production is published along with the average prices by container size for retail, wholesale, and bulk sales. The results of the Maple Syrup survey will be published in the June issue of the Crop Production report on June 12, 2002. For previous maple statistics, search for "Maple syrup" in the commodity list at www.usda.gov/ nass/search.htm.

### **To Sugarmakers**

In Pennsylvania, surveys are being mailed to all known producers twice, in early and late April. A prompt reply by mail will eliminate the need to bother you with a telephone call in May.

As with all NASS surveys, federal law protects the confidentiality of your individual information. Your answers to the survey cannot be disclosed to anyone, public or private. Your individual data are even exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Most producers cooperate with the survey. Your help allows us to publish timely and accurate measures of the maple industry. Thank you, in advance!

#### 2001 Trout Summary Published Feb. 28

Pennsylvania 2001 trout production ranks fourth in the nation based on the value of trout sold. Pennsylvania sales account for 6.9 percent of national trout sales. Only Idaho, North Carolina, and California had more trout sales.

Thank you to all the producers that helped us with your response to the annual trout survey conducted every January. The survey contacted all known producers and hatcheries.

Pennsylvania's 60 commercial trout growers sold 1.88 million pounds of trout, valued at \$4.89 million during 2001. This was down from the 2.01 million pounds valued at \$5.44 million sold in 2000.

Pennsylvania ranks first in the nation for the value of trout distributed for conservation and recreational purposes. With a value of \$10.8 million, Pennsylvania accounts for 16.6 percent of the nation's distributed trout. This includes trout released by state hatcheries, cooperative nurseries, and private fishing clubs.

The complete report includes statistics for the 20 major trout producing states. The tables include trout sales by size of fish, first point of sale by size of fish. trout loses by reason for loss, distributed trout by size of fish, and trout eggs both sold and distributed.

For the complete Trout report, search for "Trout" in the commodity list at www.usda-.gov/nass/search.htm.

## 2001 Honey Summary Published Feb. 28

Honey statistics are compiled for producers with five or more colonies. Thank you to all the producers that helped us with your response to the annual honey survey conducted every December. The survey con-

#### tacted all large producers and a sample of smaller honey operations.

Pennsylvania honey produc-tion in 2001 totaled 969,000 pounds, down 2 percent from 2000. This honey was pulled from 17,000 colonies statewide, down 5,000 from last year. The average yield was 57 pounds per colony, compared to 45 pounds in 2000.

Total Pennsylvania stocks of honey, as of December 15, 2001,

mile on Right.

for accidents.

Right.

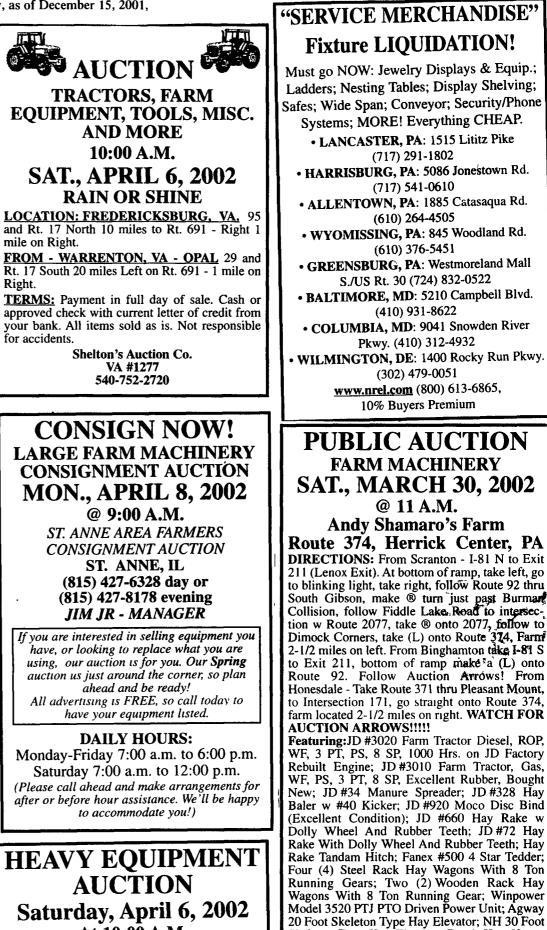
were 514,000 pounds, 7 percent less than the previous year.

Pennsylvania honey producers received an average price of 87 cents per pound, compared to 76 cents last year. Nationwide, there were 2.51 million colonies producing honey in 2001. National honey production totaled 186 million pounds, down 16 percent from last year. Yield per colony averaged 74.0 pounds, compared to 84.1 pounds last

year.

National producer honey stocks were 64.8 million pounds on Dec. 15, 2001, down 24 percent from a year earlier. Prices for the 2001 U.S. honey crop averaged 66.9 cents per pound, compared to 59.7 cents last year.

For the complete Honey report, search for "Honey" in the commodity list at www.usda.gov/nass/search.htm.



**IRVING**, Texas — Delegates to the National Farmers Union 100th anniversary convention elected Dave Fréderickson as the organization's 12th president.

A fourth-generation family farmer from Murdock, Minn., Frederickson is leaving his post of 11 years as Minnesota Farmers Union president to represent fellow farmers from across the nation as leader of the national organization. Frederickson, who celebrated his 58th birthday during the convention, is a former educator and state sena-

Frederickson said the first priority of his two-year term is getting a good farm bill passed out of conference committee that addresses depressed commodity prices and increasing concentration in agricultural markets.

"Farmers Union has worked hard throughout the House and Senate farm bill process, and we have much more work ahead of us," he said. "Let's go back to Washington and work for a farm bill so that when you go back into your fields you will know what kind of support you have behind you," he told more than 1,000 farmers and ranchers in attendance.

He was opposed in the race by Terry Detrick, an Ames, Okla., farmer currently serving as his state's Farmers Union vice president. Following the vote announcement, Detrick removed a "peace dove" pin from his own lapel and presented it to the newly-elected national president in a gesture of support.

Directions: Take PA Route 87 North off I-80 and proceed 1/4 mile north on Route 87. Auction on left hand side.

At 10:00 A.M.

Montoursville, PA

Selling: CAT 426B and CASE 580K Backhoe, CASE 450 Dozer, CAT 941 Crawler Loader, Adams Grader, Hough Loader, 3 Single Axle Dump Trucks, Pickup, Trailers, Lee-Boy Self Propelled Paver, 2 Rollers, Motorola 2-way Radio System, Transits, Concrete Forms, Signs, Cones, Skid Tanks, Sealing Machine, Hand Tools, Garage Equipment and much more.

For Information: (570) 433-3174 **Bill Lee Construction, Owner** Managed and Sold By: DICK CRITTENDEN AUCTION CO. Mansfield, PA 16933 Phone: (570) 662-3131 Fax: (570) 662-2215 PA License RY 26-L

#865 With Iwo Row Corn Head; / Pickup, Shed Kept; JD #210 Lawn Tractor; Century 215 Amp DC/295 Amp AC Heavy Duty 5 Star Welder; Ground Driven Fertilizer Spreader; Hydraulic Cylinders; Push Lawn Mowers; JD #68 Riding Mower: 1979 Ford F800 Dump Truck, V-8 Gas; Three Trailer Axles With Tires; 1" Hemlock Rough Cut Lumber; Butternut Rough Cut Lumber; 2'x12' Metal Drainage Pipe; Two Horse Drawn Potato Hillers; Snow Plow Cutting Blades; Chain Binders; Tractor Chains; Truck Chains; Two Ton Chain Hoist; Hydraulic Jacks; Nuts And Bolts; Woven Wire Fencing; Snow Fence; Electric Fence Posts; Grain Cart; Eye Beam Scale; Forks; Shovels; Cow Dehorner; Traps; New Windows; Refrigeration Compressor. Expect Many Surprises. AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Andy has sold the cows and the real estate, which prompts this sale. Most equipment was purchased new.

Skeleton Type Hay Elevator; Brush Hog Heavy Duty #SQ84, 3PT; JD Two Bottom Plows; JD 10

Foot Disc; NH #850 Round Baler; Gehl Chopper

Expect to see a good, clean line of equipment. TERMS: Cash or good check with driver's license.

Auctioneers: John Regan #AU003156L Tom Randt #AA002528L Phone: (570) 679-2376

**Minnesota Farmer Elected** 

NFU President