

Current Indiana Code and Its Application to the Processing of Maple Sap into Maple Syrup in the Sugar House

Prepared for the Task Force on Seasonal and Value Added Food Products by
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August, 2005

Note: This section deals with the processing of maple sap into maple syrup in the evaporator room or sugar house. It does not cover the packaging of maple syrup or making maple confectionaries. That processs will be addressed in the following section.

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution
IC 16-42-5-6 Health and Comfort		
1 Adequate lighting, heat, ventilation, drainage	Conditions in sugar house located remotely in the woods will be different from those encountered in conventional facilities.	Interpret "adequate" to include natural light through windows and ventilation for steam through a cupola or steam hood will meet requirements. Artificial electrical lights or gas lanterns should be so placed as to avoid contamination of sap or syrup if a fixture should break.
2. Uncontaminated running water	Sugar house may be in woods without pressure water system	Portable container of potable water or condensate from evaporator can substitute for conventional source of running water
3. Adequate sanitary facilities	Sugar house in woods will not have flush toilet.	Interpret "adequate" to include primitive conditions such as might be encountered in backwoods camping if sugar house is in woods, utilize flush toilet in adjacent home if sugar house is near farmstead.

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution
IC 16-42-5-7 Construction & Cleanliness	Sugar house may have other than impermeable floors and walls	Interpret construction in context of boiling sap. Encourage installation of concrete floors (if not already present) when upgrades occur. Walls may be of other than washable surfaces (wood for example) since they do not come in contact with boiling sap, and any bacteria harbored in porous surfaces will not survive in boiling sap.
IC 16-42-5-8 Cleanliness and Sanitation	Sanitary may be variously interpreted	Interpret "sanitary" and clean in context of boiling sap. Walls and ceiling may be of other than washable surfaces (wood for example) since they do not come in contact with boiling sap. Surfaces over boiling sap should be free of any loose paint or other foreign material that could fall into boiling sap and cause chemical adulteration.
IC 16-42-5-9 Walls Ceilings Construction, Washing	Older sugar houses, especially those in the woods, will most likely not have washable walls and ceilings. This is a very difficult requirement to meet in older sugar houses, and one that does not impact the safety of boiling sap or hot syrup.	Interpret cleanliness and ability of surfaces to be cleaned in context of the nature of boiling sap and the nature of older sugar houses.
IC 16-42-5-10 Floors Construction, Washing	Older sugar houses, especially those in the woods, may or may not have washable floors. This is a very difficult requirement to meet in older sugar houses, and one that does not impact the safety of boiling sap or hot syrup.	Interpret cleanliness and ability of surfaces to be cleaned in context of the nature of boiling sap. Encourage installation of concrete floor if one is not present.
IC 16-42-5-11 Domestic Animals, Rodents, Insects	none	Reasonable means can include season of year for insects (none in early spring) traps for rodents if present. Domestic animals such as dogs are not a problem given the high temperature of the boiling sap. Screen on steam cupola (if present) is encouraged to prevent birds from roosting above an open evaporator.

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution
IC 16-42-5-13 Toilet room	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas may have no toilet or at most, an out house.</p> <p>Sugarhouses near a farmstead will usually not have toilet facilities since the farmhouse is nearby.</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider the farmstead's toilet facilities to be adequate.</p>
IC 16-42-5-14 Washrooms	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas with no toilet or at most, an out house will not have a wash room.</p> <p>Sugarhouses near a farmstead, that utilize the farmhouse toilet will not have a washroom.</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider the washroom facilities associated with the farmstead's toilet to be adequate.</p>
IC 16-42-5-15 Food Handling-Exclusive	none	<p>Interpret regulations in the context of the location and seasonal nature of the boiling process. Sugaring equipment may be stored in the evaporator room in the off season, but no items that could be potential chemical adulterants should be stored or used in the area designated for sap processing.</p>
IC 16-42-5-16 Dressing Rooms	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas will not have dressing rooms.</p> <p>Operations with sugarhouses near the farmstead will usually utilize the farmhouse and not have a dressing room .</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider the farmhouse to be adequate.</p>
IC 16-42-5-18	<p>Sugar houses in remote locations may have a cot for resting for those occasions when the operator must boil for long periods during big sap runs.</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.</p>

Section

Problem encountered to meet code

Proposed Solution

Sugarhouse p 3

IC 16-42-5-21 Washing

Sugar houses in remote areas may have no running water

Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.

Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider portable containers of potable water or condensate from the evaporator to adequately meet this requirement.

Current Indiana Code and Its Application to the Packaging of Maple Syrup and the Manufacture and Packaging of Maple Confections

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Art Harris and Larry Yoder, Indiana Maple Syrup Association
August, 2005

Note: This section deals with the the packaging of maple syrup and making maple confectionaries.

The processing of maple sap into maple syrup in the evaporator room or sugar house was addressed in the previous section.

IC 16-42-5-6 Health and Comfort

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution
1 Adequate lighting, heat, ventilation, drainage	Conventional concepts differ from conditions in packing area in sugar house	Interpret "adequate" to include natural light through windows and ventilation for steam through a cupola or steam hood will meet requirements. Artificial electrical lights or gas lanterns should be placed or shielded to avoid contamination of syrup if a fixture should break.
2. Uncontaminated running water	Packing area may be in sugar house without a pressure water system	Portable container of potable water or condensate from evaporator can substitute for conventional source of running water
3. Adequate sanitary facilities	Packing facility may not have flush toilet nearby.	Interpret "adequate" to include primitive conditions such as might be encountered in backwoods camping if sugar house is in woods, utilize flush toilet in adjacent home if sugar house is near farmstead.

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution
IC 16-42-5-7 Construction & Cleanliness	Packing room in older facilities may have wood floors and walls	Encourage installation of impermeable surfaces as quickly as possible.
IC 16-42-5-8 Cleanliness and Sanitation	Sanitary may be variously interpreted- especially if walls and ceiling are made of permeable material	Interpret “sanitary” and clean in context of maple packaging..
IC 16-42-5-9 Walls Ceilings Construction, Washing	Packing room on older facilities may have other than impermeable floors and walls	Encourage installation of impermeable surfaces as quickly as possible.
IC 16-42-5-10 Floors Construction, Washing	Older sugar houses, especially those in the woods, may not have washable, impermeable floors.	Encourage installation of impermeable floors as quickly as possible.
IC 16-42-5-11 Domestic Animals, Rodents, Insects	none	Packing area utilized only during the spring will not need screens on windows

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution	Packing p 3
IC 16-42-5-13 Toilet room	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas may have no toilet or at most, an out house.</p> <p>Packing rooms near a farmstead will usually not have toilet facilities since the farmhouse is nearby.</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the packing process ie syrup is hot as it is being packaged.</p> <p>Recognize the nature of syrup packaging and in usual circumstances consider the farmstead's toilet facilities to be adequate.</p>	
IC 16-42-5-14 Washrooms	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas with no toilet or at most, an out house will not have a wash room.</p> <p>Packing rooms near a farmstead, that utilize the farmhouse toilet will not have a washroom.</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the packing process ie syrup is hot as it is being packaged.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider the washroom facilities associated with the farmstead's toilet to be adequate.</p>	
IC 16-42-5-15 Food Handling-Exclusive	<p>There is a problem if syrup is packaged in the home kitchen</p>	<p>Interpret regulations in the context of the location and seasonal nature of the packing process.</p> <p>Sugaring equipment may be stored in the packing room in the off season, but no items that could be potential chemical adulterants should be stored or used in the area designated for sap processing.</p>	
IC 16-42-5-16 Dressing Rooms	<p>Sugar houses in remote areas will not have dressing rooms.</p> <p>Operations with sugarhouses near the farmstead will usually utilize the farmhouse and not have a dressing room .</p>	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the packing process.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of syrup packaging and in usual circumstances consider the farmhouse to be adequate.</p>	
IC 16-42-5-18 Sleeping	<p>There is a problem if syrup is packaged in the home kitchen</p>	<p>Interpret regulations in the context of the location and seasonal nature of the packing process.</p>	

Section	Problem encountered to meet code	Proposed Solution	Packing p 4
IC 16-42-5-21 Washing	Sugar houses in remote areas may have no running water	<p>Interpret regulations for remote locations in the context of the location and nature of the boiling process.</p> <p>Recognize the seasonal nature of sap processing and in usual circumstances consider portable containers of potable water or condensate from the evaporator to adequately meet this requirement.</p>	