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Potential Sources of Lead Contamination in Maple Syrup Production and Processing by Exhibit Category

February 2015

Item	Specific Components that May Contain Lead
Spiles	Terneplate coated spiles. Lead-soldered, tin or galvanized spiles.
Buckets and Pails	Terneplate coated buckets and pails. Lead-soldered, tin or galvanized buckets and pails.
Sap Gathering and Storage Tanks	Lead-soldered seams or galvanized tanks.
Valves, Connectors, Joints and Level Controls	Any lead-containing fitting, solder or other contact surface that comes into contact with sap or syrup. Lead-containing bronze alloy valves.
Pre-heaters, Piggy Backs, and Steam-Away	Lead-bearing solder or fittings. Brass piping may contain lead.
Syrup Pumps	Pumps made of brass or bronze alloys may contain lead, including fittings, etc.
Evaporator Pans (Sap & Syrup)	Lead soldering. Flue pans have more solder seams, resulting in greater potential for lead transfer.
Finishing Stoves & Tanks	Lead soldering in contact surfaces of tanks.
Sap Pumps	Pumps made of brass or bronze alloys may contain lead, including fittings, etc.
Filling Units	Lead soldering. Lead-containing bronze valves, fittings or taps.
Filter Tanks	Lead soldering.
Filter Units	Lead soldering. Brass and bronze alloys in pumps.
Syrup Storage	Galvanized or lead soldered drums. Old milk cans or other lead bearing or non-food grade containers.

- Ensure that any soldered repairs are done with lead-free solder.
- As a preventative measure, use a lead test kit if you are unsure whether a specific contact surface contains lead.
- Samples of maple syrup may be sent to a laboratory for lead content analysis to monitor the effectiveness of removal of lead-containing equipment in your operation. A listing of recommended laboratories is available.