



SYRUP HYDROMETER INSTRUCTIONS



Leader Evaporator Co., Inc.

49 Jonergin Drive

Swanton, VT 05488

Tel: 802-868-5444

www.leaderevaporator.com

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HYDROMETER FUNCTION

A hydrometer works based on the density of the maple syrup. There are two scales on the hydrometer; Brix and Baume. The Brix scale indicates the percentage of sugar in the maple syrup. The Baume scale is a measure of how dense the maple syrup is related to the density of water. The correct density for maple syrup is a minimum of 66% sugar (66°Brix/35.6°Baume). You will need to verify your state’s rules and adjust your readings as necessary. The hydrometers supplied by LEADER EVAPORATOR have been calibrated at two temperatures; 60°F Cold Test (66.9°Brix/36°Baume) and 211°F Hot Test (59.1°Brix/32.1°Baume). The maple syrup is expected to be at the upper temperature when it is measured immediately after being drawn off the evaporator.

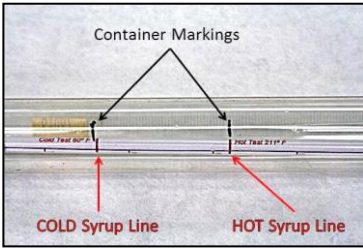
NOTE: Hydrometers from Leader Evaporator by law are calibrated by the State of Vermont. . The HOT and COLD test lines should be considered guidelines. Hydrometers should only be used by reading temperature and Brix/Baume readings.

USE OF A HYDROMETER

NOTE: Hydrometers are very fragile. Two most susceptible points of damage during use are the bottom and where the stem meets the body. Take extreme care when handling a hydrometer.

As hydrometers are susceptible to damage it is recommended the sugar house have a spare.

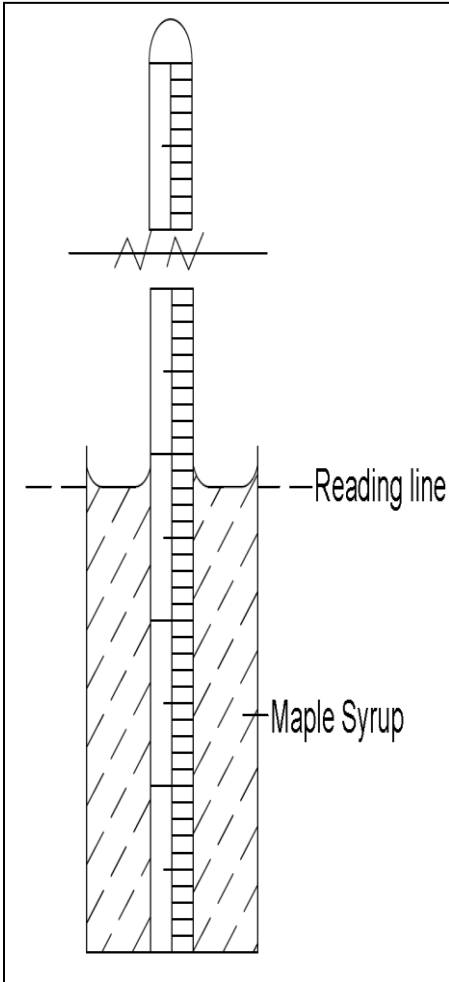
Preparing A New Hydrometer For Use:



1. Unpack the hydrometer from its tube or box.
2. Carefully inspect the hydrometer for any breakage. If you suspect any cracks, fill your test cup with hot water and immerse the hydrometer. If it leaks then it is damaged and can't be used.
3. Place the hydrometer in its original container seated in the packaging and mark the container where the bottom of the hydrometer aligns.
4. Mark the container at the same lines as the HOT and COLD test lines in the hydrometer. When using the hydrometer in the future these lines are a check to ensure the scale inside the hydrometer has not moved.

Using The Hydrometer

1. Prior to using the hydrometer for the day, place it into its original container and check the hydrometer lines against the lines you marked on the container. If they do not match then replace the hydrometer.
2. Ensure the hydrometer is clean prior to every use. Accumulated material on the hydrometer will cause the hydrometer readings to be incorrect as it will have extra weight and not float as easily.
3. Hold the test cup upright. Fill the test cup up to $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the top with the syrup to be tested or from the syrup section of the syrup pan. **DO NOT HAVE THE HYDROMETER IN THE CUP.**
4. Do not allow the syrup to cool. Place the cup on a level surface. Immerse a thermometer into the test cup. Slowly immerse the hydrometer into the syrup in the test cup until it reaches the "HOT" test mark then carefully release it. **NEVER DROP THE HYDROMETER INTO THE TEST CUP.**
5. Read the temperature from the thermometer.
6. Read the Brix or Baume number from the hydrometer.



NOTE: To correctly determine the Brix/Baume, you need to read from the line of the syrup.

LEADER EVAPORATOR

Hydrometers: Hydrometers from LEADER EVAPORATOR are calibrated by the State of Vermont at two temperatures; 60°F Cold Test (66.9°Brix/36°Baume) and 211°F Hot Test (59.1°Brix/32.1°Baume). After numerous measurements it was determined 211°F is the average temperature of syrup when measured immediately after draw-off from the evaporator. When checking syrup at 211°F, the syrup is at the proper concentration when the reading line is at the Hot Test line. If the Hot Test Line is below the reading line of the liquid, continue to boil as the syrup is “light”. If the Hot Test Line is above the reading line of the liquid, the syrup is “heavy” and will need to be diluted with sap.

TEMPERATURE °F	Degrees Baume	Degrees Brix
209	32.0	59.0
202	32.25	59.6
193	32.5	60.0
185	32.75	60.4
176	33.0	60.9
167	33.25	61.4
158	33.5	61.8
149	33.75	62.3
140	34.0	62.8
130	34.25	63.3
120	34.5	63.8
110	34.75	64.3
100	35.0	64.8
90	35.25	65.4
80	35.5	65.9
70	35.75	66.4
60	36.0	66.9
50	36.25	67.4

7. Refer to the chart to determine if your syrup is “light” or “heavy”. If the reading is higher than the number on the table your syrup is “heavy” and will need to be diluted. If the number is lower than the number in the table, the syrup is “light” and will need to be boiled more.

8. After reading the hydrometer, remove it from the test cup and rinse it with either hot water or hot sap to ensure it is clean. Dump the contents of the test cup into the syrup section of the syrup pan or back into it’s storage container. Rinse the test cup with hot sap or hot water.
9. During the boiling period, store the hydrometer in a container of clean hot water or hot sap.