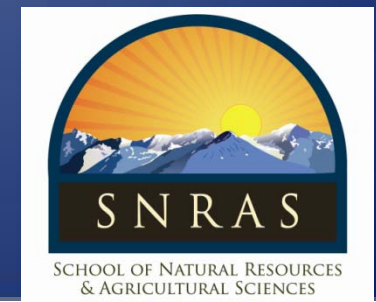




Birch Tree Tapping

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Birch Sap





Components of Birch Sap

fructose,
glucose,
fruit acids,
amino acids,
vitamin C,
potassium,
calcium,
phosphorous,
magnesium,
manganese,
zinc,
sodium,
iron



Backyard Tree Tapping - Equipment

When to tap



Generally mid April in the Mat-Su

Select a Tree

- Trunk at least 8 inches diameter





Selecting Trees to tap

Not healthy crown

Healthy crowns

Taphole Location





Drill round
hole, slightly
slanted up



Put in the spout



Collect Sap



Collect Sap Daily



End of Season



Sap Collection using Tubing



Making Birch Syrup

Cook the sap to concentrate it.



Monitor temperature



Pour into sterile jars



Clear sap, concentrated sap (50% reduced), Sap reduced 75%

Resources

- Backyard Birch Syrup Basics, Alaska Birch Syrupmakers Association
- Birch Sap/Syrup Activity plan,
http://forestmanagement.enr.gov.nt.ca/forest_education
- Birch: white gold in the boreal forest, AFES Publication MP-04-02,
http://www.uaf.edu/files/snras/MP_04_02.pdf