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### JennyLee Lesperance is reflected in syrup as she takes a sample

around one end because it rolled in a traffic accident. But it's ideal for sap storage.

And the trailer's gleaming tank with its "Cold, Beautiful Milk" lettering underlines the big differences between the farm's two liquid enterprises: milk sold through the province's highly organized milk marketing board and syrup sold at the farm gate.

"Maple syrup here is a long tradition," Lesperance said. Donna grew up on the farm. And her family "used to hang a few buckets."

But Bob and Donna decided to expand syrup self-sufficiency into a business sideline to supplement farm income from their 30-cow milking herd.

"I really like it," Lesperance said. "I enjoy working in the bush. It's three or four days a week starting about Christmas time," he said.

The daily bush work fits in well between morning and evening milking schedules.

It adds a crop to the farm with all the benefits and headaches that come with another crop.

"It makes another season," Lesperance said. "It's another seeding or it's another haying season."

"When maple syrup's on, it's another hectic time. You get geared up for seeding, geared up for haying and geared up for harvest.

"Not everybody wants to be out there when it's cold," Lesperance said.