



AGRI-MARKETING

EXTENSION MARKETING DEPARTMENT

May 1987

MCES TIMBER PRICE REPORT

1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

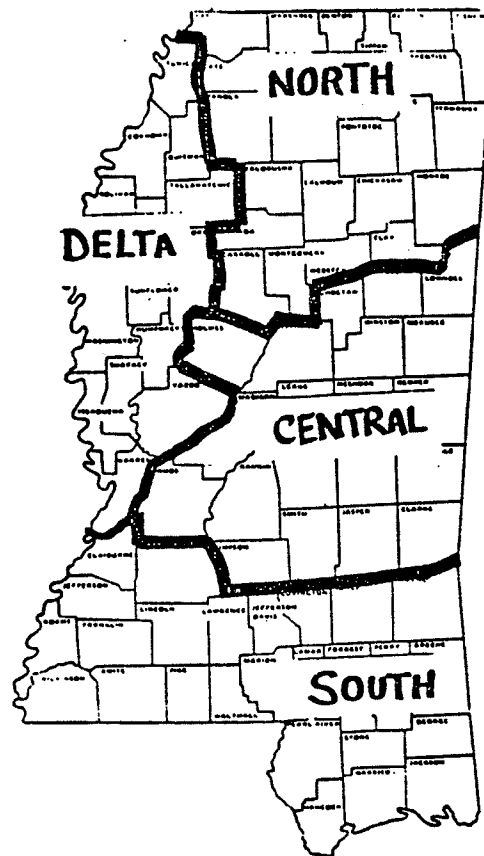
The MCES Timber Price Report is a monthly survey of stumpage and delivered timber prices in Mississippi. It is developed through the cooperation of public and private members of the forestry sector with MCES to provide an accurate picture of timber market activity. Mississippi is divided into four market regions that reflect distinct timber markets within the state (see map) and average prices for common forest products are listed. These values are compiled by polling cooperators from forest industry, public agencies, consulting foresters and landowners.

2. HOW TO USE THIS REPORT.

This report is intended to give a profile of timber prices in Mississippi.

Values given are offered as a guide to help individuals assess the fair-market value of their timber. The average price for a region should NOT be applied as the exact value for a particular timber tract. The best way for private landowners to obtain the highest price for a particular tract is to use competitive bidding. These prices, however, do reflect current timber market activity in each region.

Certain factors may cause a particular tract of timber to be valued higher or lower. For example, a tract that has a high timber volume per acre and can be logged during wet weather may bring a price per unit higher than the average reported here. On the other hand, a tract with less volume at great distance from the buyer's mill may bring less. Additional factors that affect timber values are timber quality, tract size, type of product to be made from the timber, access to the tract and many others. These values are a good price reference for landowners who wish to market timber, but individuals are advised to have their timber evaluated by a professional forester before making a timber sale.



3. TIMBER MARKET COMMENTS

Sawtimber

In south Mississippi some mills reported a shortage of logs and some temporary shutdowns because of a shortage of logs, but most mills had ample inventories. High humidity and dampness has caused problems at some mills. Lumber demand seems to be holding strong. Stumpage sales were few and scattered.

Many mills, both hardwood and pine, report that business is good. Oak and ash demand remains strong and still drives the hardwood market. Several manufacturers commented that oak lumber is getting hard to find. Pine lumber demand remains good with lumber prices holding steady or trending slightly down.

In the southern reporting district pine log prices again tended to be lower in the western section and higher in the east. During March, the average pine sawtimber delivered price for southwest Mississippi was \$197. The average price for the southeast was \$240.

In the Delta delivered prices for ash ranged from \$225-\$255/MBF, averaging \$243/MBF. Cottonwood prices averaged \$120/MBF and poplar averaged \$184/MBF. Pecan, hickory and hackberry averaged \$163/MBF.

Pulpwood

Pulpwood prices reported were steady to slightly lower than last month.

Other Comments

Several mills reported that the Southern Pine Beetle problem seems less severe than they expected for this time during the season.

Comments from users of the MCES Timber Price Report are welcome. If you see something you like or dislike let us know. Input from you will help make this report better. Send any suggestion to the authors at P. O. Box 5446, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

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STANDING TIMBER

	North		Central		South		Delta	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	125-150	136	100-180	147	125-205	156	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	-	24-42	31.50	-	26*	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber ²	49-85	68	50-110	78	55-63	60	65-125	90
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	135-176	160
Soft hardwood sawtimber ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rare hardwood sawtimber ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine pulpwood	7-11	9	8-12	10	9-12	10.75	-	-
Hardwood pulpwood	3-4.50	4.25	4-5	4.50	4-6	4.75	-	7*

DELIVERED PRICES⁵

	North		Central		South		Delta	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	144-220	188	175-235	212	170-260	219**	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	-	-	55*	49-62	58	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	360*	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber ²	140-170	154	130-200	154	140-150	145	120-150	137
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	225-253	238
Other hardwood sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	120-255	**
Pine pulpwood	34-38	36.50	30-37	33	35.75-37	36.00	38-41	39.25*
Hardwood pulpwood	28-30	29**	27-32	28.50	26-30	27.00	33-34.50	34

¹Prices reported are for timber market transactions during the previous 30-day period, sawtimber prices in \$/MBF Doyle, chip-n-saw and pulpwood prices in \$/cord.

²"Mixed Hardwoods" are mostly: Ash, Beech, Cottonwood, Willow, Elm, Gums, Locust, Hackberry, Magnolia, Pecan, Hickory, Sycamore, Tupelo and Birch.

³"Soft Hardwoods" are mostly: Cottonwood, Willow, Poplar and Gum.

⁴"Rare Hardwoods" are mostly: Walnut, Cherry, Royal Paulownia, Persimmon, some species and grades of Cypress, certain prime grades of Cherrybark and White Oaks.

⁵Delivered prices are values given at the sawmill or pulpwood yard gate.

*Only one price reported.

**See Timber Market comments.

Bob Martin
 Bob Martin
 Extension Economist
 (601) 325-2515

Bob Daniels
 Bob Daniels
 Extension Forester
 (601) 325-3150