MISSISSIPPI COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
MCES
Mississippi State University, United States Department of Agriculture, Counties Cooperating

MCES Timber Price Report

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Extension Forestry Department

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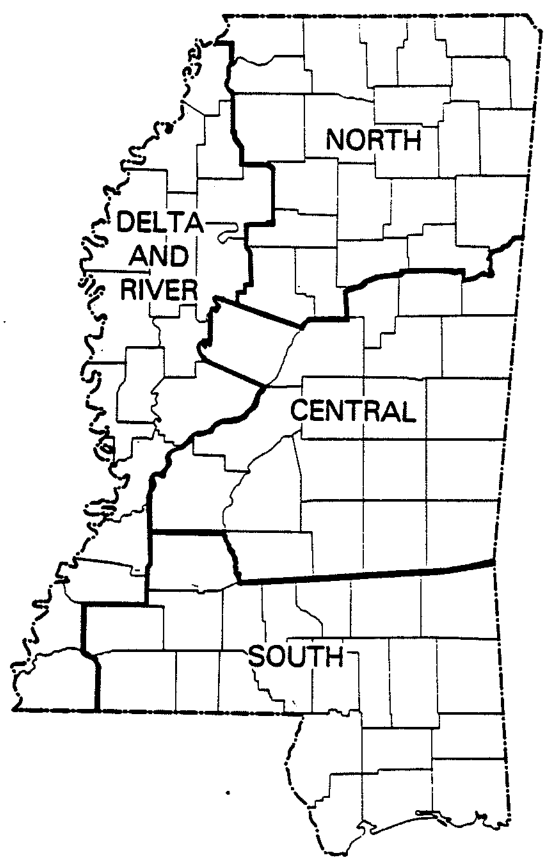
July 1988

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

Large supplies of lumber products are beginning to put downward pressure on prices in some areas. Some mills reported that supplies of logs on hand had reached workable levels but lumber yards now have higher inventories because lumber was harder to move.

Average delivered and standing pine sawtimber price reported for July showed very little change from June reports. Most mills reported very little change in bidding for pine sawtimber stumpage. Average stumpage prices ranged from $125 in the north to $177 in the south. Delivered pine sawtimber prices averaged $209 in the southwest and $244 in the southeast. Most mills reported a drop in pine lumber prices, and some expected log prices to drop if economic conditions did not improve soon.

Demand for oak and ash remained strong with some decline on the upper end of the price range for oak. Average delivered prices for oak in July were about the same as prices reported in June. A few mills reported fewer bidders and more erratic bidding on hardwood stumpage. Generally good oak stands continued to get premium prices. Many producers have taken advantage of the dry weather to move previously inaccessible timber in creek or river bottoms.

Pulpwood

Pulpwood supplies continue to be large and pulpwood is hard to move in most areas. Average stumpage prices ranged from $4.25 to $8.50 across the state. Producers should contact all local markets before cutting to make sure purchases are currently being made.

Other Comments

Some beetle activity was reported in most regions but outbreaks have not been as widespread as in previous years. Some individual producers, however, have had serious losses; and timberland owners should be alert to this potential danger.

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STANDING TIMBER

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	115-140	125	130-177	149	141-213	177	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	-	28-31.50	30	-	-	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber[2]	55-83	71	50-83	61	45-66	51	50-80	63
Oak sawtimber	100-150	108	95-150	123	-	-	135-180	160
Soft hardwood sawtimber[3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rare hardwood sawtimber[4]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine pulpwood	8-9	8.75	7-12	9.25	10-15.50	11.50	-	-
Hardwood pulpwood	3.50-5	4.25	4-10	5.50	3.50-11	8.50	5-6	5.50

DELIVERED PRICES[5]

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	200-235	215	190-263	225	180-250	222**	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	46-54	49.50	-	-	55-64	58.50	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	32-40/ton	35/ton	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber[2]	150-175	162	125-160	144	140-165	145	120-180	145
Oak sawtimber	-	-	170-225	200	-	-	220-290	243
Other hardwood sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	120-300	**
Pine pulpwood	32-39	34	28-35	31	32-39	34.50	29-40	35.00
Hardwood pulpwood	28-30	28.75	25-32.50	27.25	24-27	25.50	28-33	30.50

[1]Prices 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, pine poles in $/ton.

[2]"Mixed Hardwoods" are mostly: Low-grade oak, 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.

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

*Only one price reported.

**See Timber Market comments.

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