



# MCES Timber Price Report

Agriculture Economics Department  
Extension Forestry Department

P. O. Box 5446  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

March/April, 1991

## MCES TIMBER PRICE REPORT

### 1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

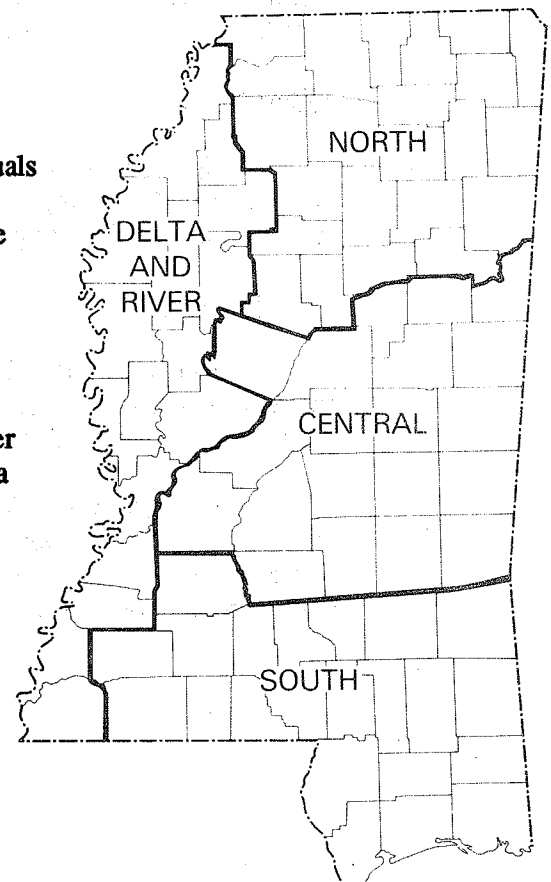
The MCES Timber Price Report is a bimonthly survey of stumpage and delivered timber prices in Mississippi. It is developed through the cooperation of public and private members of the forestry sector with MCES to provide an accurate picture of timber market activity. Mississippi is divided into four 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

The story is rain. Logging conditions remained poor over much of the state during March and April with record rainfall being reported at some locations. During the period from December 1990 to April 1991 much of Mississippi received about 90% of our annual rainfall. Weather like that and soft lumber markets continue to keep activity slow. Many mills have had unscheduled down time because of log shortages and buyers have had difficulty getting logs.

Many reporters commented that there wasn't much timber on the market even if they could cut it. A few buyers said that they had some sales to cruise but couldn't get to them because of high water. One north Mississippi consultant commented that "people had just quit selling timber for a while."

Stumpage prices for pine sawtimber moved higher statewide even though the stumpage market is relatively inactive, reflecting competition for winter logging and increased plywood demand. A few reporters commented that the market for wide pine lumber had improved a bit.

Hardwood sawtimber prices remained relatively steady or moved up slightly. Most hardwood mills reported that log inventories were getting low but that there was lots of lumber to sell. One contact remarked that even if the lumber market was better the weather has made drying lumber difficult. Most hardwood and pine reporters were looking for increasing activity once the rainy weather pattern breaks. Most were hoping that the weather improves soon.

Pulpwood

Pulpwood prices were steady to slightly lower statewide with pulpwood demand slower. Pine pulpwood was reported harder to move with quotas becoming common. Hardwood pulpwood demand was improving but contacts reported the prices too low.

Other Comments

This issue of the MCES Timber Price Report includes graphics showing average standing and delivered sawtimber prices over the past two years. Please note the change from monthly price charts to bimonthly price charts which allows us to show two-year trends.

Spread the word! If you have a friend who owns forestland, tell him or her about the *MCES Timber Price Report*. Many landowners are not aware of this timber price reference, so help educate your fellow landowners. Anyone can receive the report by contacting their county Extension agent or Extension forester.

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DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE TIMBER MARKET COMMENTS!

STANDING TIMBER<sup>1</sup>

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	97-238	181	130-250	203	163-248	206	185-236	211
Chip-n-saw pine	43-62	52.50	-	40*	38-50	42*	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup>	70-150	98	70-120	91	75-110	87	63-111	84
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	150*	-	-	-	150*
Soft hardwood sawtimber <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rare hardwood sawtimber <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine pulpwood	8-15	12.50	8-14.75	12	6.250-15	10.75	6.25-13	9.25
Hardwood pulpwood	4-8	5.75	4-8	6.25	5-10.25	8.00	6-10.25	8.00

DELIVERED PRICES<sup>5</sup>

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	220-260	236	250-268	259	235-280	266	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	64-71	69	66-70	69	62-73	65.75	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	38/T*	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup>	175-200	184.50	140-205	162	173-190	180	135-160	150
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	150-250	213
Other hardwood sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	150-250	-
Pine pulpwood	36-50	43	36-48	43	36-39	37.25	-	46*
Hardwood pulpwood	34-39	37	31-41	34	30-35	32.50	37-38	37.50

<sup>1</sup>Prices reported are for timber market transactions during the two-month period listed, sawtimber and standing pole prices in \$/MBF Doyle, chip-n-saw and pulpwood prices in \$/cord, delivered pine poles in \$/ton.

<sup>2</sup>"Mixed Hardwoods" are mostly: Low-grade Oak, Beech, Cottonwood, Willow, Elm, Gums, Locust, Hackberry, Magnolia, Pecan, Hickory, Sycamore, Tupelo and Birch.

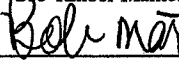
<sup>3</sup>"Soft Hardwoods" are mostly: Cottonwood, Willow, Poplar and Gum.


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

<sup>5</sup>Delivered prices are values given at the sawmill or pulpwood yard gate.

\*Only one price reported.

\*\*See Timber Market Comments.

  
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