



## Mississippi Timber Price Report

Department of Agricultural Economics • Department of Forestry

Box 9681  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

July/August 1997

### MISSISSIPPI TIMBER PRICE REPORT

#### 1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

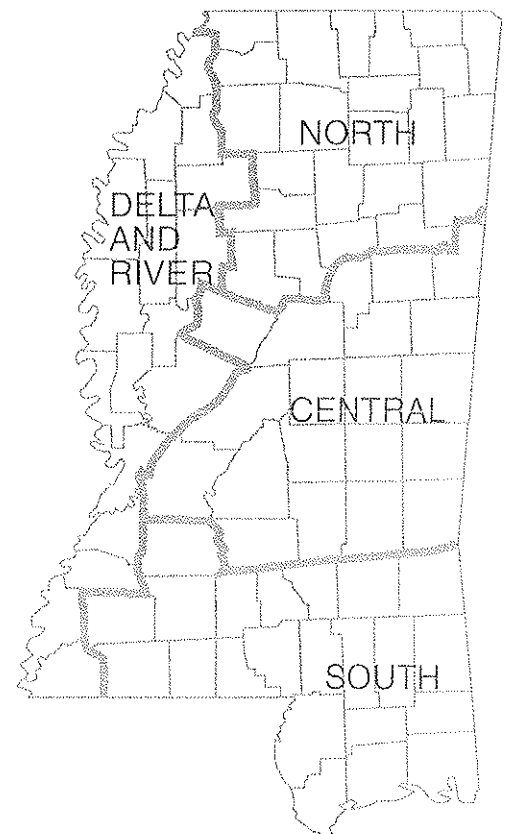
The Mississippi Timber Price Report is a bimonthly survey of stumpage and delivered timber prices in Mississippi. It is developed through the cooperation of public and private members of the forestry sector with the Cooperative Extension Service to provide an accurate picture of timber market activity. 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 standing timber market remained good in July and August.

The pine lumber market was active but prices for pine lumber lost steam in August and made mills pause. Timber buyers however, have continued bidding on good sales and several impressive sale reports were filed. Three sales of \$500/MBF for pine sawtimber were reported in North Mississippi and 3 in South Mississippi.

A stumpage price of \$300/MBF was reported for spruce pine in South Mississippi. In general, pine stumpage prices moved a bit lower statewide, but not by much.

The hardwood market was active and better logging conditions allowed loggers to move timber out of areas previously too wet. Mixed hardwood sawtimber and oak sawtimber standing prices increased statewide.

In Central Mississippi the following prices for individual hardwood species were reported (all in \$/MBF, Doyle):

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| ash          | \$300 |
| yellowpoplar | \$220 |
| sweetgum     | \$150 |
| sycamore     | \$150 |
| hickory      | \$100 |

In the lower Delta/River region of Mississippi the following individual hardwood species prices were reported (all in \$/MBF, Doyle):

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| cottonwood   | \$125 |
| sycamore     | \$120 |
| cypress      | \$150 |
| ash          | \$330 |
| maple        | \$80  |
| elm          | \$110 |
| locust       | \$60  |
| yellowpoplar | \$140 |
| hackberry    | \$120 |

#### Pulpwood

Pulpwood markets remained steady with mills wanting wood and trying to build inventory. Paper and paperboard markets have been good in 1997 compared to 1996.

#### Other Comments

The Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) has become active in Central Mississippi in the Bienville National Forest as evidenced by a number of salvage spots in July and August. Also, the Southern Pine Beetle Update page on the World Wide Web (<http://www.fs.fed.us/research/4501/no-graph.htm>) reports that SPB suppression projects are funded for several states in the south including Mississippi. Landowners are advised to check their timber periodically for signs of SPB.

The Mississippi Timber Price Report is now available on the World Wide Web. It can be accessed through the Mississippi State University Extension Service Homepage at <http://www.ces.msstate.edu>. Select the "Agriculture and Natural Resources" then select "Forestry" and then "Timber Prices." Current

price reports are available and other price data will be added soon.

Anyone can get copies of the Mississippi Timber Price Report from the local Extension office. The report is now available through the Cooperative Extension Service, County Computer Network to all County Extension Offices. For the latest timber prices, call your County Extension Office or to get on the mailing list, contact Extension Forestry at P.O. Box 9681, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

As always, your comments, pro and cons are welcome.

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**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE TIMBER MARKET COMMENTS!**

**STANDING TIMBER<sup>1</sup>**

|                                       | <u>North</u> |         | <u>Central</u> |         | <u>South</u> |         | <u>Delta and River</u> |         |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
|                                       | Low-High     | Average | Low-High       | Average | Low-High     | Average | Low-High               | Average |
| Pine sawtimber                        | 300-485      | 381**   | 300-450        | 390     | 315-513      | 433     | 335-460                | 379     |
| Chip-n-saw pine                       | 70-90        | 78      | 60-85          | 77      | 61-98        | 75      | -                      | -       |
| Poles (pine)                          | -            | -       | -              | -       | 450-675      | 581     | -                      | -       |
| Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup> | 141-205      | 176     | 120-225        | 183     | 151-205      | 177     | 95-230                 | 141     |
| Oak sawtimber                         | 200-254      | 227     | 234-444        | 258**   | -            | 254*    | 160-390                | 268     |
| Soft hardwood sawtimber <sup>3</sup>  | -            | -       | -              | -       | -            | -       | -                      | -       |
| Rare hardwood sawtimber <sup>4</sup>  | -            | -       | -              | -       | -            | -       | -                      | -       |
| Pine pulpwood                         | 21-42        | 31      | 20-50          | 30      | 20-45        | 28      | 15-29                  | 20      |
| Hardwood pulpwood                     | 18-35        | 23      | 14-27          | 18.50   | 10-25        | 19      | 12-25                  | 17      |

**DELIVERED PRICES<sup>5</sup>**

|                                       | <u>North</u> |         | <u>Central</u> |         | <u>South</u> |         | <u>Delta and River</u> |         |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
|                                       | Low-High     | Average | Low-High       | Average | Low-High     | Average | Low-High               | Average |
| Pine sawtimber                        | -            | 429     | 455-505        | 467     | 440-535      | 501     | -                      | 470     |
| Chip-n-saw pine                       | -            | 88*     | 70-110         | 90      | 81-105       | 92      | -                      | -       |
| Poles (pine)                          | -            | -       | -              | -       | -            | -       | -                      | -       |
| Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup> | 150-235      | 221     | 203-265        | 241     | 215-282      | 248     | 160-285                | 229     |
| Oak sawtimber                         | 240-310      | 296     | 290-350        | 318     | 255-350      | 330     | 330-405                | 370     |
| Other hardwood sawtimber              | -            | -       | -              | -       | -            | -       | -                      | -       |
| Pine pulpwood                         | 24-52        | 45      | 32-52          | 44      | 31-54        | 42      | 37-52                  | 43      |
| Hardwood pulpwood                     | 24-47        | 32.50   | 29-46          | 33.25   | 28-45        | 35      | 29-59                  | 37      |

<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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