MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Jan.-March, 2008, Vol. 18 No. 1
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$3,335	$835	$1,835	$2,355	$2,530	55	Int. - MBF	19
White oak (group)	$2,000	$835	$1,800	-	-	43	Int. - MBF	4
Sawlogs								
Cottonwood	$60	$40	$60	-	$40	67	Int. - MBF	2
Elm	$40	$40	$40	$85	$65	1	Int. - MBF	1
Gum	$100	$100	$100	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Hackberry	$60	$60	$60	$215	$70	2	Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$150	$40	$110	-	$190	8	Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$205	$100	$135	$120	$215	135	Int. - MBF	12
Mixed Hardwoods	$300	$50	$260	$95	$170	2,119	Int. - MBF	15
Oak (mixed species)	$370	$85	$165	$160	$190	1,025	Int. - MBF	6
Post Oak	$220	$90	$180	$200	$160	136	Int. - MBF	10
Red oak (group)	$255	$100	$205	$195	$265	2,665	Int. - MBF	21
Shortleaf Pine	$100	$100	$100	$215	$105	178	Int. - MBF	5
Soft Maple	$210	$125	$195	$110	$180	198	Int. - MBF	4
Sycamore	$135	$85	$110	-	-	11	Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$835	$585	$675	$775	$720	118	Int. - MBF	11
White oak (group)	$290	$115	$205	$200	$210	604	Int. - MBF	16
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$290	$290	$290	-	-	23	Int. - MBF	1

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$2,500	$835	$1,520	$2,610	$1,990	17	Int. - MBF	9
White oak (group)	$1,040	$835	$960	-	-	6	Int. - MBF	2

Sawlogs								
Cottonwood	$60	$40	$60	-	-	67	Int. - MBF	2
Elm	$40	$40	$40	$85	-	1	Int. - MBF	1
Hackberry	$60	$60	$60	$85	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$40	$40	$40	-	-	3	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$125	$50	$105	$95	$175	344	Int. - MBF	6
Oak (mixed species)	$100	$85	$95	$145	$75	486	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$150	$100	$135	$100	-	83	Int. - MBF	3
Soft Maple	$210	$125	$195	$110	$190	198	Int. - MBF	4
Sycamore	$135	$85	$110	-	-	11	Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$835	$585	$655	$845	$660	31	Int. - MBF	4
White oak (group)	$185	$125	$170	$145	-	117	Int. - MBF	3
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$290	$290	$290	-	-	23	Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$2,500	$835	$1,670	$1,665	$2,015	18	Int. - MBF	7
White oak (group)	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Hard Maple	$150	$150	$150	-	-	5	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$150	$125	$130	-	$80	46	Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$85	$85	$85	-	$90	74	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$125	$125	$125	-	$90	120	Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$835	$625	$705	$665	$805	58	Int. - MBF	4
White oak (group)	$165	$165	$165	-	$90	91	Int. - MBF	2

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$3,335	$1,250	$2,270	$2,360	-	19	Int. - MBF	3
White oak (group)	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	-	-	35	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Gum	$100	$100	$100	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$205	$100	$135	$120	$215	89	Int. - MBF	10
Mixed Hardwoods	$300	$80	$295	-	$60	1,701	Int. - MBF	7
Oak (mixed species)	$370	$130	$225	$160	$210	539	Int. - MBF	4
Post Oak	$220	$90	$180	$205	$160	136	Int. - MBF	10
Red oak (group)	$255	$135	$215	$200	$265	2,462	Int. - MBF	16
Shortleaf Pine	$100	$100	$100	$215	$105	178	Int. - MBF	5
Walnut, Black	$820	$600	$635	-	$175	30	Int. - MBF	3
White oak (group)	$290	$115	$225	$215	$215	396	Int. - MBF	11

Note: We received no timber price reports from the Southwest area this month.

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 41 timber sales containing 7.8 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Timber Mart-South Reports Sawtimber Markets Weak, Pulpwood Strong

Timber Mart-South's Southeastern average sawtimber and pulpwood prices moved in different directions in 2007. Pine sawtimber prices declined in response to lower lumber production and ample timber supply. Pulpwood prices rose in response to strong international paper markets and substitution effects due to the lumber slowdown. Pine sawtimber prices fell 3.1% to US$37.05 per ton, and pine chip-n-saw prices fell 11.1% to US$19.67 per ton. Twelve-year low residential housing starts exerted downward pressure on pine sawtimber prices due to lower softwood lumber volume, with production down about 11 percent in the South. Softwood lumber prices were at record lows for most of 2007. Consistently good logging conditions from the recent drought across the eastern half of the South resulted in ample timber supply further depressing prices.

In contrast, pine and hardwood pulpwood prices rose in 2007 due, in part, to stable domestic and strong international pulp and paper markets. US pulp exports grew 21% this year to a ten-year high. The U.S. also increased exports of pulpwood logs and wood chips. Lower lumber production also buoyed pulpwood prices by reducing the amount of low-cost sawmill byproducts available for pulp production.

Source: Timber Mart-South

US Housing Downturn Hits the Timber Markets

The historic housing collapse in the United States will continue in 2008 before markets will show signs of a recovery in 2009, according to a new forecast by the Western Wood Products Association.

The lumber trade association has forecast that housing starts in the U.S. will reach just 968,000 in 2008, less than half the total in 2005, and making 2008 the worst year for new construction since the Second World War.

Single-family starts will be off by 60 per cent from the 2005 total, which peaked at more than two million, according to the forecast by the association. Analysts have noted the collapse in U.S. housing demand has also been exacerbated by the U.S. sub-prime mortgage crisis, which has made credit harder to get and sent ripples of uncertainty through Wall Street. With more than 40 per cent of lumber used annually in the U.S. in new home construction, lumber demand is expected to decline to 45.3 billion board feet this year, the Western Wood Products Association also forecast.

Source: Western Wood Products Association

Tree Care After Storms

Snow, ice, tornadoes, hail and high-velocity winds are just a few of the natural perils Missouri's trees experience. When storms damage trees, cleanup and recovery can be overwhelming. Some injured trees can be treated and repaired to maintain their health and value to your home. Others should be removed. Here are some tips that will help you make the right decisions for your trees.

Safety First

Damaged trees often are tangled with overhead or down utility lines, creating a dangerous situation. Under no circumstances should you remove limbs that have electrical lines running through them. Treat all lines as if they were live; do not touch or approach them.

If there is no danger from electric lines, the first step is to remove trees or limbs that have fallen on your home or are blocking access. Look for hanging limbs up in the tree that could drop on your home or family.

Selecting an Arborist

When hiring someone to work on your trees, be sure you use a certified, experienced professional arborist. Here are some tips to help you find a qualified person in your area:

- Check the phone directory – if they're listed then you'll be able to find them later if something goes awry.
- Ask for proof of certification, worker's compensation and liability insurance.
- Ask for local references.
- Do not accept take-it-now deals; get multiple estimates for your job.
- A conscientious arborist will not use climbing spikes unless the tree is to be removed or someone is hurt

- Good arborists do not recommend topping.

Experts Agree: Don't Top Your Tree

Under no circumstance should trees be topped. This drastic pruning practice is also called dehorning, hat racking or stubbing back. Topping creates large wounds that rarely seal and are a convenient entry point for insects and decay. In addition, such radical pruning results in a profusion of sucker sprouts. These fast growing shoots are the first to go in the next storm. For more information on tree topping call toll free 1-877-40NO-TOP (1-877-406-6867).

There's Still Time to Order Tree Seedlings!

The George O. White State Forest Nursery, near Licking, will continue offering Missouri residents a variety of seedlings for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, as well as wildlife food and cover through April. The 2007-2008 Seedling Order form is updated and online at http://www.mdc.mo.gov/forest/ . You can use the online order form to acquire seedlings, or download a printable, PDF version of the order form to mail or fax your order in.

News from Missouri

I have made several contacts with the forest products industry in the past three months. My contacts reveal that industry is experiencing tough economical issues. These issues are resulting from two topics; fuel prices and the slumping housing market.

Diesel prices are approaching $4.00 per gallon now. Even before the fuel prices went so high there really wasn't much money in trucking. Trucking is now a losing business venture for sawmills. The problem is that sawmillers or loggers are getting less for their end product with more money being spent on producing it.

The housing market is the main reason for the downturn in the market for hardwood lumber. Higher grades of lumber are used in new home construction or in remodeling projects. Hardwood lumber is used for hardwood floors, cabinets, and furniture. Experts cannot agree on when the housing market will come back but industry is hoping it will only be about a year.

Several loggers are in timber sale contracts that were entered into when markets were good. Others are still giving more for standing timber just to have trees to harvest. When timber markets turn down it usually takes time for landowners to accept less for their timber; this lag time really hurts loggers and sawmillers financially.

On a brighter note I have been working with the Missouri Forest Products Association (MFPA) to create the Master Logger Certification (MLC) program. This program is meant for loggers that want to showcase their abilities to the public. Loggers that sign up for the MLC program will agree to uphold several areas of responsibilities. The logger will be subject to an independent third party audit and can be removed from the program if he does not carryout his responsibilities. This program will demonstrate to landowners that the logger is doing the right thing on the timber harvest. Stay tuned for this program to be implemented. It will be about a year before the first loggers are fully certified.

The MLC program is different from the Professional Timber Harvesters training that has trained approximately 290 loggers in Missouri. The Professional Timber Harvesters training is just training. The logger receives his training and does not have to worry about an audit to make sure he is living up to his areas of responsibilities. In the MLC program a logger can and will be removed from the program if he is not fulfilling his responsibilities.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me.
John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304.

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

April-June, 2008, Vol. 18 No. 2
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,960	$625	$1,565	$1,835	$1,275	11 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$665	$665	$665	$1,800	$1,040	2 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Cottonwood	$65	$40	$55	$60	$85	314 Int. - MBF	4
Elm	$85	$85	$85	$40	-	- Int. - MBF	1
Hackberry	$85	$85	$85	$60	-	2 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$50	$50	$50	$110	$100	3 Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$150	$40	$105	$135	$110	39 Int. - MBF	5
Mixed Hardwoods	$215	$40	$160	$260	$95	734 Int. - MBF	11
Oak (mixed species)	$225	$40	$125	$165	$195	1,323 Int. - MBF	7
Post Oak	$150	$65	$145	$180	$115	13 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$335	$40	$135	$205	$150	444 Int. - MBF	8
S Yellow Pine	$80	$80	$80	-	-	89 Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$165	$140	$145	$195	$210	10 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$415	$415	$415	$675	$810	1 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$180	$40	$85	$205	$180	228 Int. - MBF	7
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$150	$150	$150	$290	$275	12 Int. - MBF	1

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,960	$625	$1,565	$1,520	$1,305	11 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$665	$665	$665	$960	-	2 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Cottonwood	$65	$40	$55	$60	-	312 Int. - MBF	3
Hard Maple	$50	$50	$50	$40	-	3 Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$50	$40	$50	-	-	12 Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$165	$40	$125	$105	-	158 Int. - MBF	5
Oak (mixed species)	$140	$40	$65	$95	$150	85 Int. - MBF	4
Red oak (group)	$85	$40	$65	$135	-	157 Int. - MBF	3
Soft Maple	$165	$140	$145	$195	-	10 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$415	$415	$415	$655	$815	1 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$60	$40	$45	$170	-	155 Int. - MBF	3

Stave Logs

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
White oak (group)	$150	$150	$150	$290	-	12	Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Cottonwood	$60	$60	$60	-	$85	1	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$85	$85	$85	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Hackberry	$85	$85	$85	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$60	$60	$60	$130	-	3	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$100	$85	$100	$85	$95	199	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$165	$125	$155	$125	$150	6	Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$165	$150	$165	$165	$185	21	Int. - MBF	2

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Mixed Hardwoods	$125	$125	$125	-	-	6	Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$150	$40	$140	$135	$110	25	Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$215	$75	$210	$295	-	372	Int. - MBF	3
Oak (mixed species)	$225	$125	$130	$225	$205	1,238	Int. - MBF	3
Post Oak	$150	$65	$145	$180	-	13	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$335	$140	$175	$215	$150	281	Int. - MBF	3
S Yellow Pine	$80	$80	$80	-	-	89	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$180	$160	$165	$225	$175	51	Int. - MBF	2

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed “# of Rpts.” to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. (“# of Rpts.” refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

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Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 18 timber sales containing 3,449 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

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Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

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Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
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Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri's Neighbors

The market for hardwood lumber has not improved in Tennessee since the last report; still remains "terrible" at best. Two bright spots are railroad ties and pulpwood – both are strong and have increased in price in an attempt to help with the higher cost of transportation primarily. Many sawmills are low in log inventory, partly because of the rainy weather, but also because of the poor market and inability to generate a profit. It is difficult to find something you can cut that will be positive. The high cost of fuel is making it extremely tough for loggers to make ends meet. Tough to find timber to cut as well for some as some landowners, aware of the poor market and are waiting for better times to sell their timber.

Overall, U.S. lumber production through the first quarter this year totaled 7.541 billion board feet, down 16.5% compared to the first three months of 2007, according to the Western Wood Products Association. First-quarter production in the West was down 20.9%, while production in the South declined 12.0%. WWPA also released final 2007 production figures for the West. The region produced 16.3 billion feet last year, a 9.3% decline compared to 2006.

Timber-Mart South reports that south-wide average sawtimber stumpage prices declined significantly this quarter compared to 4th Quarter 2007 and to one year ago. Pulpwood prices, however, eased upwards. Stagnant housing and lumber markets weakened solid wood prices, while strong domestic and international pulp markets supported higher pulpwood prices. While hardwood lumber markets have been hard-hit by the U.S. housing market slump, hardwood products also have a strong and strengthening export market.

Source: Tennessee Department of Agriculture-Division of Forestry, Western Wood Products Association, Timber-Mart South

Secondary Wood Processors: A New Directory

During the late summer and fall of 2008, the Missouri Department of Conservation will be surveying secondary wood processors (makers of cabinets, flooring, pallets, etc.) to update MDC's free publication, *Directory of Secondary Wood Processors.* The directory will be available in print and on the web and allows landowners, loggers, mills and the general public to easily find the business contacts they need.

The survey is voluntary and no confidential information will be collected or published. If you run (or know someone who runs) a secondary wood processing facility, think of it as free advertising!

Forest Activities

Forests are important to the millions of Missourians who hunt, hike, camp, enjoy scenery, watch birds, canoe, or photograph nature. Missouri is one of America's great forested states, ranking seventh of the 20 northeastern states in the amount of forest land. Forests cover about a third of the state – forests containing some of the finest oak, walnut, pine, and redcedar found anywhere.

In addition to hiking, camping, wildlife and nature viewing, bird watching forests add to the clear water and scenic beauty associated with many of Missouri's favorite float streams. River access and camping opportunities are available on many Conservation Areas.

Forests near you

The Department of Natural Resources controls over 3,600 developed campsites in Missouri's State Parks, and the Forest Service has another 500 developed campsites in the Mark Twain National Forest. But for those who prefer a more primitive camping experience, most Department of Conservation and Forest Service land is open to camping.

Hikers and backpackers use hundreds of trails in Missouri's forests. The Ozark Trail, when completed, will stretch over 500 miles through the Ozarks from St. Louis to Arkansas. Trails on Conservation Department and Forest Service lands add another 1,200 miles available to hikers. Horseback riders have over 1,000 miles of road and trails on public land open for riding.

Wilderness Areas offer other opportunities to enjoy the forest. Congress has designated eight federal Wilderness Areas in Missouri, totaling 71,358 acres, on national forest land and national wildlife refuge land. Regulations prohibit management practices, vehicles and motorized equipment in these areas. Wilderness Areas offer the solitude and undisturbed experience that many forest users desire.

News from Missouri

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) recently solicited nominations for the 2008 MDC Regional Logger of the Year Award. There are eight MDC regions throughout the state and each region was given the opportunity to nominat a logger that meets the criteria of the Logger of the Year.

The criteria for being chosen for the MDC Regional Logger of the Year are as follows: must be a logger operating in Missouri that has completed the *Professional Timber Harvester's Training Program* and be current with the qualifications (or equivalent training if the logger is an out of state resident.), must be practicing sustainable forest management, have good forest product utilization, and is implementing best management practices. More criteria for the logger award is that they should have low residual tree damage on their harvests, must be practicing safe work habits and preferably using all the safety equipment, and they must not have any recent complaints or issues working with landowners and foresters on timber sales.

Jim Nelson was selected the Southwest Regional Logger of the Year. Jim Nelson has been operating a logging and sawmill business out of Oldfield, Missouri for over three decades. He and his son Brian were some of the first loggers in the state to voluntarily attend the Professional Timber Harvesters Training and have made it a point to stay current on all requirements of the certification.

Lawrence (Larry) Young and Danny Chaney were selected as Co-Ozark Regional Logger of the Year Award winners. Danny comes from a family rich with logging experience and history, including his father who was also involved with early education efforts with Missouri's loggers. Danny's quality work was also a major factor in the success of the harvest operations around the conservation flagship of the Ozarks, the Twin Pines Conservation Education Center. Larry Young's logging operation is small scale with many jobs less than 250,000 BF. He has excellent product utilization skills and has found markets for small diameter material, culls, and shortleaf pine. Larry is always agreeable and works well with landowners and foresters.

Joe and Greg Brinkley received the Southeast Regional Logger of the Year Award for 2008. Joe and Greg have cut numerous state land and private land sales for the Department of Conservation throughout the SE Region. They have worked for at least 11 MDC foresters over the past 30 plus years. Joe and Greg have always proven to be easy to work with and do what they say they will do.

Shannon Jarvis received the St. Louis Regional Logger of the Year Award. Shannon's crew has worked for both private landowners and USDA Forest Service. This crew uses directional felling of trees and installs BMPs to prevent erosion as needed. Shannon has been active in the Missouri Forest Products Association and has worked hard to implement new programs.

Crader Distributing Company, headquartered in Marble Hill, Missouri, the exclusive distributor of STIHL Outdoor Power Equipment in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Southern Illinois, is sponsoring the Logger Award program. STIHL has donated to each Regional Logger Award recipient a Protective Kit.

After all the Regional winners were selected, a committee then selected one as the State Logger of the Year. This committee recently selected Lawrence (Larry) Young as the state winner. Larry will be receiving his award at the Missouri Forest Products Association's summer meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks.

For contact information on any of the loggers mentioned above please contact the nearest MDC forester or give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

July-Sept., 2008, Vol. 18 No. 3
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,150	$2,150	$2,150	$1,565	$2,850	2 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$2,085	$835	$1,475	$665	-	20 Int. - MBF	4
Sawlogs							
Hard Maple	$450	$335	$345	$50	$170	1 Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$250	$100	$130	$105	$150	130 Int. - MBF	5
Mixed Hardwoods	$185	$50	$165	$160	$75	423 Int. - MBF	6
Oak (mixed species)	$290	$60	$115	$125	$150	760 Int. - MBF	6
Post Oak	$110	$70	$105	$145	$150	141 Int. - MBF	3
Red oak (group)	$485	$50	$105	$135	$215	1,716 Int. - MBF	8
Walnut, Black	$460	$375	$430	$415	$710	7 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$335	$80	$115	$85	$300	919 Int. - MBF	6
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$515	$500	$505	$150	$315	14 Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,150	$2,150	$2,150	$1,565	-	2 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$835	$835	$835	$665	-	8 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$65	$65	$65	$125	$90	60 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$60	$60	$60	$65	$100	135 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$375	$375	$375	$415	$690	2 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$190	$190	$190	$45	$125	82 Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$50	$50	$50	$100	-	12 Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$70	$70	$70	-	$100	20 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$50	$50	$50	$155	$160	682 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$80	$80	$80	$165	$150	302 Int. - MBF	1

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Walnut, Black	$460	$460	$460	-	-	5	Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
White oak (group)	$2,085	$900	$1,875	-	-	12	Int. - MBF	3
Sawlogs								
Hard Maple	$450	$335	$345	-	-	1	Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$250	$100	$130	$140	$150	130	Int. - MBF	5
Mixed Hardwoods	$185	$110	$185	$210	$75	351	Int. - MBF	4
Oak (mixed species)	$290	$85	$125	$130	$150	625	Int. - MBF	5
Post Oak	$110	$110	$110	$145	$150	121	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$485	$110	$140	$175	$215	1,034	Int. - MBF	7
White oak (group)	$335	$110	$125	$165	$300	536	Int. - MBF	4
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$515	$500	$505	-	-	14	Int. - MBF	2

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 16 timber sales containing 4,134 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

The United States Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Department of Agriculture have placed Wayne County, Mo., under quarantine for material related to emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis) until further notice.

Wayne County, where the EAB was found, is under quarantine as of September 3, 2008. Quarantined materials include the following:

- Ash nursery stock
- Any part of an ash tree, including green lumber, waste, compost, chips, etc.
- Firewood cut from any species of hardwood.

For more information about the quarantine or compliance agreements, contact the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Collin Wamsley at (573) 751-5505, or visit the Missouri Department of Agriculture web site at http://www.mda.mo.gov/ .

The emerald ash borer is a small, metallic green beetle native to Asia. Its larvae burrow into the bark of ash trees, causing trees to starve and die. In the summer of 2008, Missouri became the ninth state to have a confirmed emerald ash borer infestation. The pest was first found in Michigan in 2002. Since that time, eight other states (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, West Virginia and Virginia) have confirmed infestations. Missouri is the farthest south and west of any other known emerald ash borer infestation.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) trapping effort that revealed the infestation is part of a monitoring program started in 2004. It is Missouri's contribution to a nation-wide early detection effort coordinated by USDA in partnership with the Missouri departments of Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the University of Missouri.

While EAB does not pose any direct risk to public health, it does threaten Missouri's ash tree populations and may have a large economic impact. Ash trees make up approximately 3 percent of forests and up to 14 percent of street trees in Missouri. Since no ash trees in North America are known to be resistant to the pest, infestations are devastating to these tree species.

Economic Impacts

Using existing data from Forest Inventory and Analysis plots, Timber Product Output surveys, Timber Price Trend reports and the most recent street tree inventories, we can estimate the potential economic cost of this invasive species in Missouri. The economic impacts of EAB come in two flavors, the loss to the wood products industry as trees die or are quarantined, and the loss to communities as street trees die.

The annual impact to the wood products industry includes foregone payments to landowners and loggers, and the lost value added at the sawmill. In addition, these losses will lead to further effects throughout the economy, as landowners, loggers and mill operators have that much less to spend on other items.

Losses from affected street trees include the cost of removing the tree, its "landscape value" and the cost of replacing it. Landscape value is a catchall term that includes everything from a tree's aesthetic value to its impact on property values and cooling costs.

Totally, these impacts statewide effect of EAB could be over $180 million in today's dollars. If Missouri can contains the EAB to Wayne County, losses may be reduced to $1.7 million.

Clearly, Missouri has a lot to gain by keeping EAB within any possible quarantine area!

Source: Missouri Department of Conservation

News from Missouri

A couple of issues ago I wrote about the upcoming Missouri Master Logger Certification program. I am happy to announce that the Master Logger Certification (MLC) program is ready for loggers to sign up.

The MLC program is for loggers who want to demonstrate to the public that they harvest timber according to Best Management Practices (BMPs), sound forest management, and good business practices. If you are or know of a logger that wants to prove he has been doing the right practices then this program is for you.

The MLC is considered the Gold Standard for Loggers. It is a Certification Program that certifies logging companies for carrying out sound timber harvesting activities. The third party verification will require verifiers to inspect the logging site to make sure the logger is complying with program requirements. A certifying board will then review the findings of the verifiers and make decisions on whether to accept the loggers into the program or to remove them based on non-compliance.

What are the requirements for the MLC program? There are seven areas of responsibilities that a logger must agree to uphold:

- Abide by water quality and soil retention standards
- Must comply with acceptable forest management practices
- The logger must be committed to safety
- Continued participation in an on-going training regimen
- Must comply with all state and federal regulations
- Utilization of sound business management principles
- It is mandatory that the logger documents harvest operations planning

So how does this program differ from the Professional Timber Harvesters training? The MLC is not an education or training program. But it does require the training which is already the industry standards such as the Professional Timber Harvesters training. It is an on-the-ground assessment of harvesting practices.

Why should you become a Master Logger? The MLC program will promote the profession of wood harvesting as a key element in your business success. The program will make it clear that loggers are "environmentalists of trees" who spend their work time in the forest. The MLC program will allow the logger to gain economic leverage by marketing what he knows and does. In addition the logger will hopefully gain reciprocity for harvesting timber across state lines that require a Master Logger such as Tennessee and Kentucky. Hopefully in time the Master Logger will be able to purchase timber and sell his services to landowners who realize there is more to selling timber than just money.

I feel this will be an outstanding program for loggers that know they are doing the right thing but do not get credit for it. It will also be a program that landowners should love since they would have reassurance from the Certifying Board that the logger is honest, and he knows how to implement good timber harvesting techniques. The forest landowner will know if the logger does not perform based on the MLC program requirements.

If you are interested in the Missouri Master Logger Certification program you can call the Missouri Forest Products Association at 573-634-3252.

As always if I can assist you in concerning forest products or if you have any questions you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304.

Wood Increasingly More Attractive as Energy Source

Synopsis of Chicago Tribune article "Interest Increases in Wood-Fired Electric Plants Amid Nationwide Push for Renewable Power"
by Robert Mense of St. Charles, MO

The Associated Press (10/9, Lindsay) reports, "The push for more power from renewable fuels has renewed interest in one of the oldest energy sources: wood." In 2007, "wood generated more net electricity in the U.S. than" solar and wind power combined. "New wood-burning electricity plants are again being proposed from Massachusetts to New Mexico as the nation finds itself in a third energy shock." According to the Department of Energy, as of January 2007, "there were 196 wood burning electricity plants in the" U.S., "including 72 with 40 megawatt capacity or larger." The AP notes, "The bulk of today's wood power comes from plants that mainly serve the onsite lumber or paper mills that supply their fuel." Developers point out there is no "need to cut down trees to power plants because there is a surplus of wood currently available," with "many proposed plants [planning] to use wood left over by routine activities such utility line clearing or from existing timber companies. Wood is also found on forest floors."

To view the entire article, please go to
http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/sns-ap-wood-power-plants,0,3102367.story

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Oct.-Dec., 2008, Vol. 18 No. 4
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,500	$1,460	$1,930	$2,150	$2,355	10 Int. - MBF	3
White oak (group)	$915	$665	$855	$1,475	-	18 Int. - MBF	4
Sawlogs							
Basswood	$40	$40	$40	-	-	- Int. - MBF	1
Cottonwood	$85	$65	$75	-	-	96 Int. - MBF	2
Hard Maple	$60	$60	$60	$345	-	2 Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$130	$75	$90	$130	$120	36 Int. - MBF	7
Mixed Hardwoods	$140	$50	$105	$165	$95	252 Int. - MBF	5
Oak (mixed species)	$200	$70	$145	$115	$160	1,339 Int. - MBF	9
Post Oak	$130	$75	$130	$105	$200	307 Int. - MBF	4
Red oak (group)	$190	$85	$130	$105	$195	1,708 Int. - MBF	16
Shortleaf Pine	$130	$130	$130	-	$215	- Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$290	$150	$200	-	$110	76 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$800	$585	$675	$430	$775	30 Int. - MBF	4
White oak (group)	$165	$75	$120	$115	$200	107 Int. - MBF	8
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$500	$335	$435	$505	-	37 Int. - MBF	3

* Numbers are rounded to the nearest $5 increment.

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,500	$1,460	$1,990	$2,150	$2,610	7 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$835	$665	$810	$835	-	4 Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs							
Cottonwood	$85	$65	$75	-	-	96 Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$90	$50	$75	$65	$95	126 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$85	$85	$85	-	$100	13 Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$290	$150	$200	-	$110	76 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$625	$585	$605	$375	$845	17 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$165	$165	$165	$190	$145	15 Int. - MBF	2
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$335	$335	$335	-	-	10 Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
White oak (group)	$915	$835	$865	-	-	14	Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs								
Basswood	$40	$40	$40	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$60	$60	$60	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$90	$85	$85	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$165	$70	$150	-	-	719	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$100	$90	$95	$50	-	29	Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$115	$110	$115	$80	-	57	Int. - MBF	2
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$500	$460	$470	-	-	27	Int. - MBF	2

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$1,750	$1,750	$1,750	-	$2,085	2	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Mixed Hardwoods	$140	$125	$135	-	-	121	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$190	$190	$190	-	$170	27	Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$800	$760	$775	$460	$745	13	Int. - MBF	2

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$130	$75	$90	$130	$120	34	Int. - MBF	5
Mixed Hardwoods	$100	$100	$100	$185	-	5	Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$200	$115	$130	$125	$160	593	Int. - MBF	6
Post Oak	$130	$75	$130	$110	$205	307	Int. - MBF	4
Red oak (group)	$190	$95	$130	$140	$200	1,666	Int. - MBF	13
Shortleaf Pine	$130	$130	$130	-	$215	-	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$130	$75	$110	$125	$215	36	Int. - MBF	4

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

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Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 28 timber sales containing 4,788 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

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Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

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Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

I have been traveling around the state some this past quarter to visit with the forest products industry. I have been to several sawmills and log buying yards. I keep hearing from sawmills and log buying businesses that is getting tough to sell lumber and logs. I also know of several sawmills that have gone out of business and others that do not know how much longer they can stay in business.

Rough green flooring and grade lumber is getting hard to sell. Most of the mills told me that they are on lumber quotas. When a sawmill does sell a load of grade or flooring lumber the price of the lumber brings less.

Pallet lumber is still moving. I have been told by a couple of pallet producers that their business is off by about 25 percent.

Walnut lumber and logs has really been in demand this past year. After visiting with one buying yard, I learned that they currently were not selling any logs anywhere. This buying yard said the demand has basically dropped off to nothing. Some other walnut log purchasers said that they are still selling veneer but the logs have to be really good to sell them.

Stave logs area a bright spot in the forest products industry. I hear white oak logs that will make staves for barrels are still selling for a good price.

Railroad cross ties are in high demand. I understand that some tie purchasing companies have even raised their prices some.

The questions that I get asked most often are "when is the forest products market going to return? What caused the market to decline?" There is no good answer to when the market will return. I have heard predictions that range from the second quarter of 2009 to the summer of 2011. The biggest reason for the market downturn is the housing bubble broke in the US. There are more houses on the market than buyers.

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304.

Ice Melters and Plants

Our mobile society can slip and slide to a crawl when a Missouri winter arrives. Chemicals used to melt ice and snow can mean safer traveling for cars and people, but can also mean real trouble for plants and soils.

Why are ice melters a problem? Almost all ice melting substances are technically salts, which work by causing water to remain liquid at temperatures under 32º F. Their effectiveness varies with the outside temperature. Some salts also have unfortunate side effects, which include potential harm to plants and soils, damage to concrete surfaces, corrosion of metals, and even pollution of water supplies. The problems caused by ice melters depend upon the specific chemical being used and how heavily it is applied. A choice of melting agent can be determined by its advantages compared to its disadvantages for any given situation.

Salts can damage plants in two ways: as an airborne mist affecting foliage, buds, and stems, or by entering the soil. Either type of contamination can cause slow growth, deformities, susceptibility to diseases, or death of plants.

Some common ice melters

Common salt (NaCl) is the most popular ice melting agent because of its availability and relatively low cost. It is also potentially the most damaging to plants and soils. Like all of the salts mentioned below, it can draw moisture from roots. The sodium and chloride components of common salt can each interfere with nutrient intake and growth. Sodium also accumulates in the soil and causes it to become tight and unworkable, impeding root development. Chloride can become a pollutant of the water supply if large quantities of common salt are used or stored without protection. Common salt is effective as an ice melter only above + 15º F.

Calcium Chloride (CaCl2) is also used extensively, although it is somewhat more expensive than common salt. It is effective as an ice melter at lower temperatures. It is much less toxic to plants than common salt, but can "burn" plants if applied heavily. Calcium chloride tends to attract moisture from the air even after ice is melted, and will therefore cause pavements to remain moist. It is effective at temperatures to -20º F.

Ammonium nitrate (NH4NO3) is a fertilizer that is occasionally used for melting ice. It is destructive to concrete and corrosive to steel. Although not the problem to plants as the above sails, ammonium nitrate or any nitrogen fertilizer can cause "burn" if it enters the root zone of the soil in sufficient concentration.

Urea (CO(NH2)2) has several uses, including fertilizer and ice melter. It does not cause damage to concrete, but i s relatively expensive. It can "burn" plants if applied too heavily. It is effective at temperatures above + 15º F. CF-4

Abrasives such as sand, cinders, wood ash and other gritty substances are used mainly for traction, sometimes in combination with chemicals. Abrasives can aid in melting, however, by absorbing heat from sunshine. They do not pose serious threats to the environment if applied independent of chemicals.

Treating for salt damage to plants: Damage to plants from contact with salt spray or mist can occur many feet from a street or highway. Evergreens may show immediate effects while deciduous plants may not show damage until the growing season after exposure. Symptoms include yellowing or dwarfing of foliage, or dieback and “witches broom” of twigs. Damage is usually more noticeable on the side facing the drift.

If possible treat by pruning dead or deformed branches and by washing away any surface salt residues. Treat for soil contamination if exposure has been long and heavy.

Damage from salt contamination of the soil is caused when moisture is drawn from plant roots. Above-ground symptoms include wilting, yellowing, or “burning” of the foliage and stems. Salt contamination of the soil can have a cumulative effect, but the brine solution is more likely to soak in when the ground is not frozen. Sodium from common salt can build up year after year of application.

Salts can be leached out of the root zone by a thorough watering if salt contamination is suspected. However, some difficulties will be encountered with tight, high clay soils that do not have good internal drainage.

To alleviate the adverse effects of salt ($NaCl$) in the soil, gypsum ($CaSO_4$) may be applied as a corrective or preventive measure. Rate of application will depend on the severity of salt contamination. For moderately contaminated soil, or where it is anticipated, apply 100 to 200 pounds of gypsum per thousand square feet over the affected area. This treatment can be made every three years. For heavily contaminated soil, apply up to 700 pounds of gypsum per thousand square feet, or 150 to 200 pounds per year for up to three years.

Powdered gypsum should be used to promote its solubility and movement into the soil. Gypsum is a naturally occurring substance that will not pollute the environment. It is frequently used as a soil conditioner or for clearing muddy water in ponds and is available at garden centers in 50 pound bags. Plants that have been weakened by heavy or chronic exposure to salt may not respond to gypsum treatment.

Seedlings for Sale

Seedlings are bareroot, one, two or three years old, depending on species available in single species bundles of 25 seedlings for use in Missouri.

Seedling sizes vary greatly depending on species. For areas where a variety of seedlings are needed, in smaller quantities, four special bundles are available.

The Conservation Bundle is recommended for people who want to add a mix of trees and shrubs to their property.

The Wildlife Cover Bundle will improve habitat and food sources for a number of Missouri wildlife species.

The Extra-Large Nut Tree Bundle is made up of pecan and walnut that are larger than our normal stock size.

The Quail Cover Bundle provides plants for quail food and cover.

The contents of these special bundles are preselected by the nursery, and no substitutes can be made. See the online order form or PDF order form for bundle contents.

Seedling bundles range from $4 to $28. Prices for each species and special bundles are listed in the order form.

Sales tax of 5.725 percent will be added to all bills unless you furnish, at the time of your order, a tax exemption certificate.

A handling charge of $5 is added to each order.

You can order online at: www.mdc.mo.gov/forest/nursery or contact the nursery directly at (573) 674-3229.

Missouri Rolls Out New Master Logger Program

The Missouri Master Logger Certification program is now ready for loggers to signup. If you know of an outstanding logger please encourage him to consider this program. This program is a voluntary third party audit program for loggers. It allows the logger to say he is one of the best and for someone to verify his claim. This program abides by seven areas of responsibilities which include best management practices for preventing erosion, wildlife habitat considerations, and forest management plans for landowners.

Most loggers that have completed the *Professional Timber Harvesters* course and have been practicing what they learned would qualify for the MLC. This could be a program for loggers to show they offer a service to landowners. In addition, landowners should realize by using a master logger they are getting the best logger industry has to offer.

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Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Jan.-March, 2009, Vol. 19 No. 1

Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$835	$835	$835	$1,930	$1,835	- Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Ash	$110	$110	$110	-	-	10 Int. - MBF	1
Basswood	$85	$85	$85	$40	-	1 Int. - MBF	1
Eastern Redcedar	$110	$110	$110	-	-	4 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$125	$110	$115	$60	$110	10 Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$130	$80	$105	$90	$135	264 Int. - MBF	7
Mixed Hardwoods	$170	$65	$110	$105	$260	672 Int. - MBF	5
Oak (mixed species)	$240	$95	$185	$145	$165	635 Int. - MBF	10
Post Oak	$130	$80	$125	$130	$180	237 Int. - MBF	6
Red oak (group)	$210	$80	$135	$130	$205	2,419 Int. - MBF	10
S Yellow Pine	$80	$80	$80	-	-	65 Int. - MBF	1
Shortleaf Pine	$80	$80	$80	$130	$100	7 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$385	$385	$385	$675	$675	7 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$210	$80	$125	$120	$205	516 Int. - MBF	9
Stave Logs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$240	$240	$240	-	-	42 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$315	$285	$295	$435	$290	40 Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$95	$70	$85	$75	$105	491 Int. - MBF	2

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$835	$835	$835	-	$1,670	- Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Basswood	$85	$85	$85	$40	-	1 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$125	$125	$125	$60	$150	3 Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$65	$65	$65	-	$85	5 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$120	$120	$120	$150	-	18 Int. - MBF	1Red oak (group)

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
White oak (group)	$200	$200	$200	$115	$165	53	Int. - MBF	1
Stave Logs								
Mixed Hardwoods	$240	$240	$240	-	-	42	Int. - MBF	1

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Oak (mixed species)	$155	$95	$130	$190	-	214	Int. - MBF	5
Red oak (group)	$135	$135	$135	-	-	13	Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Ash	$110	$110	$110	-	-	10	Int. - MBF	1
Eastern Redcedar	$110	$110	$110	-	-	4	Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$110	$110	$110	-	-	7	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$130	$80	$105	$90	$135	264	Int. - MBF	7
Mixed Hardwoods	$170	$110	$170	$100	$295	176	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$240	$155	$215	$130	$225	403	Int. - MBF	4
Post Oak	$130	$80	$125	$130	$180	237	Int. - MBF	6
Red oak (group)	$210	$80	$135	$130	$215	2,392	Int. - MBF	8
S Yellow Pine	$80	$80	$80	-	-	65	Int. - MBF	1
Shortleaf Pine	$80	$80	$80	$130	$100	7	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$210	$80	$115	$110	$225	464	Int. - MBF	8
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$315	$285	$295	-	-	40	Int. - MBF	2

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 27 timber sales containing 5,472 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

I made some sawmill visits this month and was sadden to hear the economic state of the forest products industry. I heard that #3a lumber was just bringing 10-15 cents per board feet and #2a is only bringing about 24 cents per board feet. Most mill owners said they were trying to avoid the production of grade lumber since they were losing money on every board they produced. Mill owners told me that the only products that they were producing which were making them some money were railroad ties and the selling of stave logs to the stave mills.

When will the market start to turn around? My answer to this question is that I do not know. I did hear USDA Chief Economist Joseph Glauber predict that in the last quarter of 2009, the US should start to see improvements in the economy. I hope he is right, and I hope the mill owners can survive financially until the turn around starts.

If you have any questions regarding the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304

Downturn Hits Lumber

U.S. lumber demand is expected to fall this year to the lowest point in history before starting a slow recovery next year, according to an industry forecast released by the Western Wood Products Association. They predict lumber demand will slide to just 28.9 billion board feet — a 30 percent decline from 2008 totals and a 55 percent decline from 2005, when the industry reached an all-time high of 64.3 billion board feet.

That decline — the steepest in history — is the result of a continued weak home construction market, which typically accounts for more than 45 percent of the lumber used each year. An estimated 432,000 homes will be started in 2009, less than half of the total from last year and just one-fifth of 2005 totals.

The home construction market is expected to turn around in 2010, with an initial forecast indicating home starts will jump to 553,000, increasing lumber consumption to 30 billion board feet. Housing starts are not expected to exceed 1 million units until 2012.

U.S. lumber production is expected to fall to 21.8 billion board feet this year — down 25 percent — increasing slightly in 2010 to 22.4 billion board feet.

Source: Puget Sound Business Journal

UN: Financial Crisis Puts Pressure on Forests

The global economic turmoil has resulted in reduced demand for wood, shrinking investments in forest industries and forest management, according to the United Nations "State of the World's Forests" report.

Stronger forest management and greater investments in science and technology are needed to handle the dual challenges posed by the financial crisis and climate change, advises the report, which is issued by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization once every two years.

"Adapting forestry institutions to rapid changes in the larger environment is a major challenge," says Jan Heino of FAO's Forestry Department.

The report expresses concern that the economic downturn could lead governments to water down ambitious green targets or defer key policy decisions related to climate change mitigation and adaptation as they focus on bringing in funds. Initiatives for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation that are dependent on international financial transfers could also face problems.

"Of particular importance is the need to re-invent public sector forestry agencies that have been slow in adapting to changing customer needs," Heino said.

The report warns that contraction of formal economic sectors can open opportunities for expansion of the informal sector and could lead to more illegal logging. But there are also opportunities arising from the current crisis. Increased attention on "green development" could provide a new direction to the development of the forest sector. Planting trees, increased investments in sustainable forest management, and active promotion of wood in green building practices and renewable energy will all become integral parts of "green development".

A separate FAO report last week found that 10 million new green jobs can be created by investing in sustainable forest management. "As more jobs are lost due to the current economic downturn, sustainable forest management could become a means of creating millions of green jobs, thus helping to reduce poverty and improve the environment. Since forests and trees are vital storehouses of carbon, such an investment could also make a major contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts," said Heino.

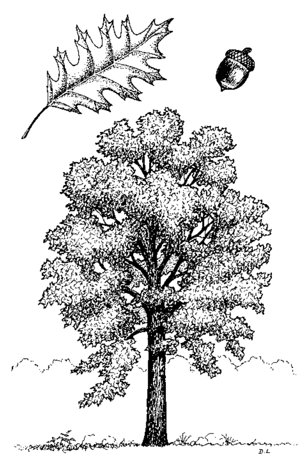
The near future of forestry in North America will depend on how quickly the region reverses the recent economic downturn and its impact on the demand for wood and wood products, especially in the U.S. The forest sector will need to address challenges of climate change, including increasing frequency and severity of forest fires and damage by invasive pest species.

Forest cover in the region is stable. North America accounted for two percent of annual global deforestation from 2000 to 2005, although the rate of loss has been decreasing. Most of the loss was in Mexico, attributed mainly to agricultural expansion and unsustainable logging, while the United States reported a small net gain in forest area for the period.

But the report warns that climate change is threatening forest health. The intensity and frequency of forest fires have increased in both Canada and the United States, fueled by prolonged drought attributed to climate change and successful fire control programs that have inadvertently increased the amount of combustible material.

The loss of trees is releasing more carbon than that from forest fires in spite of efforts to salvage the timber, which continues to store carbon.

Source: Environment News Service



Wildfire in Missouri

A combination of dry weather and wind make early spring the heart of wildfire season in Missouri. Across the state, thousands of acres of forest and grassland will burn. Most of these fires will be caused by human negligence or malicious arson.

In days gone by, people often set fires to convert woodlands to pasture for cattle. Today, improper or unsafe debris burning is the leading cause of wildfire in Missouri. Most residents who burn debris never intend for their fire to get out of control, but in 2006, more than 1,500 escaped debris fires burned more than 17,000 acres of the Show-Me State.

Consider these simple alternatives to burning

- Compost twigs and small limbs to produce great organic matter for your vegetable and flower gardens.
- Chip larger branches into mulch for gardens, trees and landscaped areas.
- Use wood chippers to eliminate tree branches and other debris. Haul debris to designated dump sites in your area.
- Cut fallen limbs for use or sale as firewood.
- Build—don't burn—brush piles. They make great wildlife habitat and will naturally decay in two to five years.

If you must burn, do it safely!

- Check with your local fire department to see if open burning is permitted or if you need a burn permit.
- Prior to the burn, contact your local forestry office or rural fire department and tell them your plans—what time you plan to start burning, how long you plan to burn, and what (brush piles, leaves, etc.) you will burn.
- Check the weather. Avoid burning on dry, windy days. Pick an overcast day when winds are calm and humidity is high. Try to burn before 10:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. This is when winds are usually calmest and humidity is highest.
- Keep brush piles small (about 5 feet by 5 feet), and burn them in open fields when snow is on the ground or in the late spring after the grass has greened up.
- Avoid burning piles under overhanging tree limbs, utility lines or close to buildings.
- Cover your debris pile with a waterproof tarp. After a rain, when the surrounding vegetation is wet, remove the plastic and you'll be ready to burn. This helps reduce the chance of your fire spreading to surrounding vegetation.
- Before you burn, gather rakes, wet burlap sacks and other firefighting tools. Have a source of water close by. This will help you take quick action should your fire start to get out of control. Call the fire department immediately should a fire escape.
- Stay with your burn pile until it is completely extinguished. Drown ashes with water and stir them with a shovel or rake to make sure there are no hot embers left smoldering.
- Check your fire the next day . . . just to be sure.

Protect Your Home from Wildfire

Reduce the fuels around your home and in your yard. To do this, create a well-irrigated, open space at least 30 feet out from all sides of your house. Keep this space obstacle-free to allow fire suppression equipment room to maneuver should an emergency occur. In the areas closest to your house, keep mulch moist and ornamental shrubs pruned below 18 inches. Use non-combustible building materials for patios and decks. Stack firewood at least 30 feet away.

In your yard, plant fire resistant species—such as oak, hickory, maple, dogwood and redbud—and remove flammable plants, such as junipers, pines and cedars. Space trees and shrubs at least twice as wide as their height, and prune trees so their lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet above the ground. Keep your grass green and mowed, and move dead vegetation at least 30 feet away from your home or any other building.

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MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

April-June, 2009, Vol. 19 No. 2
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$165	$65	$140	$185	$125	3,173 Int. - MBF	7*
Red oak (group)	$165	$105	$150	$135	$135	1,586 Int. - MBF	6*
S Yellow Pine	$75	$70	$75	$80	$80	14 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$175	$160	$160	$125	$85	150 Int. - MBF	4
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$420	$420	$420	$295	$150	1 Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$165	$65	$145	$120	-	921 Int. - MBF	3
S Yellow Pine	$75	$70	$75	-	-	14 Int. - MBF	2
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$420	$420	$420	-	-	1 Int. - MBF	1

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$165	$150	$150	$130	-	1,105 Int. – MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$165	$165	$165	$135	-	6 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$175	$175	$175	-	-	5 Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$125	$90	$120	$215	$130	1,147 Int. – MBF	2*
Red oak (group)	$160	$105	$150	$135	$175	1,580 Int. – MBF	5*
White oak (group)	$160	$160	$160	$115	$165	146 Int. - MBF	3

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 14 timber sales containing 5,247 MBF located throughout the state. * **Note that several of these sales were salvage sales from the May 8th storm.**

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

This past quarter has been full of challenges for forest landowners and the forest products industry. The major challenge has been the economy and the ability to sell trees for a respectable price. Another issue was a storm event on May 8, 2009 that blew down may acres of trees in southern Missouri.

The economy has really been hurting the forest products industry. I have talked to several sawmills that have either laid off employees or simply shut the mill down for period of time. I estimate that the industry has slowed by at least 30% from last year's outputs. Several mill owners told me they were selling their number 2 and 3 common lumber for below cost. These mills also mentioned that the only good markets were railroad ties and white oak staves.

On May 8, 2009 a wind storm event that started in Kansas really caused havoc in southern Missouri. This storm spawned tornadoes, thunderstorms and extreme straight lined winds (90 mph) over a large area. The Missouri Department of Conservation estimates the damage at 204 million board feet on 113,000 acres. The three heaviest damaged counties are Reynolds (28,351 acres), Madison (17,854 acres), and Shannon (10,944 acres). Private forest landowners' forest damage is estimated at 68,102 acres, and public forest lands estimated at 45,203 acres.

The storm event has started a large effort to salvage wind thrown trees. Landowners and loggers are working together to cut trees that were uprooted and broken. The Missouri Department of Conservation in the affected area has temporarily put on hold its normal forest management activities and begun focusing on salvaging wind thrown trees. Several salvage sales have already been let out for contract. These sales are focusing first on areas that need to be cleaned up for public use and fire prevention.

One common question that I have been hearing from landowners is *"why am I getting such a low bid on my wind thrown trees?"* The short answer is that a logger's production goes down by about 30% due to the dangerous and dirty tree cutting conditions. Most of the trees have tipped over and the lower stem is in contact with the ground which causes loggers to cut the tree off higher from the root ball then normal – this cut usually dulls the saw almost every time it is made. Another hazard is trees are under pressure and can injure the log cutter when the top is cut.

My experience with cutting wind damaged trees wasn't enjoyable. I went as far as to threaten to quit my job if my dad ever decided to purchase another timber sale of wind thrown trees!

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573) 522-4115 ext 3304.

Market Indicators

Economic conditions such as lower manufacturing activity and higher unemployment have tarnished hope that building construction would revive quickly from its three year recession. The global breadth of the current downturn has reduced expectations for improved international trade and investments as well. Even lower energy prices have lost their "silver lining" status as oil, gasoline and diesel prices began to creep upwards at the end of the quarter.

According to *TimberMart South*, lumber prices, which some thought could go no lower, have gone lower. Panel prices were relatively flat, near historically low levels. Curtailments and shut downs abounded in building products. In addition, this quarter showed the effects of stresses at work on pulp and paper manufacturers that led to dramatic production cuts the middle of last quarter. Curtailments and shut downs now abound in pulp and paper products as well.

Sawtimber markets are so bad that this quarter's delivered prices look like last year's stumpage prices.

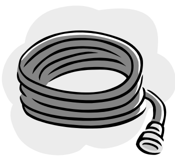
Source: TimberMart South

Drought Stress in Trees

Drought and high temperatures are a one-two punch to trees. Trees exhale moisture from their leaves in a process called transpiration. As temperatures climb, transpiration kicks into overdrive. During a drought, there isn't enough water in the soil to replenish the water lost. When this happens, trees adopt survival strategies that can stress and weaken them.

If Mother Nature doesn't provide at least an inch or two of rain each month, you can help your trees by watering. While frequent, light watering is sufficient for lawns and vegetable gardens, trees aren't carrots and their moisture needs are different.

Trees need a slow, thorough soaking at least once a month. Most water is absorbed by roots in the top 6-12 inches of soil. These water-gathering roots extend outward from the trunk in all directions at relatively the same distance as twice the height of the tree. However, you can concentrate your watering from the trunk out to the tips of the tree's branches. This critical piece of real estate is called the *dripline*.



There are several methods you can use to give your tree a drink. One is to turn your garden hose on a slow trickle and leave it in different zones within the dripline until each is soaked. Another method is to spiral a soaker hose out from the trunk. Maintain a 2-foot spacing between each successive coil, and be sure to extend the spiral out to the tips of the branches. To test if enough water is reaching the roots, push a piece of re-bar down into the soil. If you can penetrate 6-12 inches, you've probably provided adequate water.

Some trees need a little more TLC during a drought. Keep a close eye on drought-sensitive species such as magnolias, Japanese maples, dogwoods, beeches, tulip trees and birches. Also pay close attention to container plants and newly planted trees. Because they haven't had time to establish extensive root systems, they are more vulnerable to periods of high temperatures and low rainfall.

Last, don't forget to mulch. Mulch is any tree's best friend. Besides minimizing evaporation of soil moisture and limiting rainwater runoff, mulch also protects the tree from mower and weed trimmer damage. Apply 2-4 inches of organic mulch around the root zone, taking care to keep it off the trunk.

With a slow, thorough soaking at least once a month and a little bit of mulch, the only worry you'll have with your trees is deciding which ones to tie your hammock under.

How healthy are your trees?

Missouri's trees and forests have always been important to us. Once covering 70 percent of our state, trees continue to provide us with countless public and private benefits.

Whether they provide your means of living, lend beauty to your place of recreation or forge the character of your neighborhood, trees cannot be taken for granted. Just like us, they are susceptible to factors of disease, pollution and age. To continue enjoying its many benefits, forest health must be promoted.

Keeping an eye on trees and forests is a task that cannot be met by a single agency or group. In Missouri, volunteers are always known to rise to a challenge, and this time, the challenge is trees. You are invited to participate in a valuable statewide volunteer forestry project.

The *Missouri Forestkeepers Network* is an opportunity for all Missourians – urban and rural – to get involved in understanding and gaining important information about the condition of trees and forests. By joining the network, you play an essential role in the future of Missouri's trees and forests. Join us. Together, we can foster a state of forest health for generations to come. Here's how...

Forestkeepers is free to any interested citizen, family or group. It is your choice alone to determine your level of involvement.

For more information, contact:

Missouri Forestkeepers Network
Forest ReLeaf of Missouri
4207 Lindel Blvd. Suite 300
Saint Louis, MO 63108

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MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

July-Sept., 2009, Vol. 19 No. 3
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices (see Note 1, below)

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$165	$65	$140	$140	$115	3,713 Int. - MBF	8
Red oak (group)	$165	$105	$150	$135	$135	1,586 Int. - MBF	6
S Yellow Pine	$75	$70	$75	$80	$80	14 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$175	$160	$160	$125	$85	150 Int. - MBF	4
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$420	$420	$420	$295	$150	1 Int. - MBF	1

Statewide Salvage Prices (see Note 2)

	High	Low	Avg.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Pulpwood					
Mixed Hardwoods	$6	$6	$6	2 Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs					
Hickory	$100	$100	$100	1 Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$205	$35	$96	3,972 Int. - MBF	10
Oak (mixed species)	$150	$80	$135	2,129 Int. - MBF	6
Post Oak	$100	$65	$94	5 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$139	$100	$100	86 Int. - MBF	3
S Yellow Pine	$81	$81	$81	2 Int. - MBF	1
Shortleaf Pine	$25	$16	$16	14 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$200	$200	$200	8 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$136	$100	$106	6 Int. - MBF	2

Note (1): Due to the economic situation in Missouri and the rest of the country, very few timber sales were reported this quarter. We have combined this quarter's sales with last quarters and listed only the statewide results in this publication.

Note (2): Due to the storm activity this spring and summer, a high number of salvage sales were reported. We have listed the statewide salvage sale prices in this publication. If this fulfills a need, we will continue to report these kinds of sales in the future.

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 11 timber sales and over 20 salvage sales containing over 4,000 MBF located throughout the state.

Do you want your report electronically?

If you would prefer to receive this publication electronically, please send your email address to donna.baldwin@mdc.mo.gov . In your email, please include your name and mailing address so Donna can remove you from the "snail mail" list.

If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please email Donna or mail your request to: Donna Baldwin, Forestry Division, PO Box 180, Jefferson City MO 65102.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

News from Missouri

The Master Logger Certification (MLC) program is now up and running. On October 17th Greg Brinkley from Piedmont and Shannon Jarvis from Potosi became Missouri's first two Master Loggers. Both Shannon and Greg have demonstrated that they are practicing the standards of the MLC program.

The MLC program is a third party audit program that is being administrated by Missouri Forest Products Association (MFPA). There is an independent board that oversees the program and determines if a logger should be in or out of the program.

The requirements of the MLC program are many. There are seven areas of responsibilities a logger must uphold: (1) Protect Soil Productivity and Water Quality; (2) Comply with Acceptable Forest Management Practices; (3) Safety; (4) Education/Training; (5) Regulatory Compliance;(6) Employ Sound Business Practices; and (7) Document Harvest Operations Planning. All of these responsibilities are taught in the current logger training program. The MLC program verifies that the logger is doing what he has been taught. If he is not complying with the areas of responsibilities then the MLC board can remove him from the program.

To become a Master Logger, a logger must contact the MFPA and fill out the necessary forms. An interview with the program administrator will follow and if the logger passes the interview process, then auditors will be sent out to look at several past timber sales to see if the logger has been practicing the requirements of the MLC program.

In short, the MLC program is avenue for the Best of the Best loggers to showcase that they are good stewards of the forest. If they do comply with the program requirements then they will be removed from the program.

Landowners can be assured that they are getting more than a logger when they contract with a Master Logger. Landowners are receiving services from the logger. The landowner will be given the best advice on how to cut the timber and protect the resources on the woodlot.

For more information on the Master Logger Certification program visit MFPA's website at http://www.moforest.org/education/masterlogger.html .

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304

Economics 101

Recent figures on home sales and manufacturing activity suggested that economic recovery was likely to occur in fits and starts because of high unemployment, a mercurial stock market and shaky consumer demand.

"It's not going to be smooth," said Bernard Baumohl, managing director of the Economic Outlook Group, who is expecting a strong rebound. "We will be moving three steps forward and one step back. But on the whole, I expect this recovery's going to be moving upward."

Reports showed that consumer sentiment rose this week to its highest levels since the start of 2008 and that new-home sales edged up for a fifth consecutive month, but other barometers of the economy revealed uncertainties. The U.S. housing industry remains depressed, but its recovery is critical to restore household wealth and consumer confidence, strategists say.

"We expect a very sluggish recovery," said Cliff Waldman, an economist at the Manufacturers Alliance/MAPI. "It's more than just a downturn. You had a collapse in the housing market, and a near collapse in the financial system."

Factories and industrial businesses have gradually been ramping up production and hiring part-time workers in some areas as they begin rebuilding their depleted inventories. Most economists say they believe the economy has now technically pulled out of recession, and are expecting businesses to expand in the second half of the year.

Still, that recovery is likely to be jagged, marked by high unemployment and questions about whether consumer or business spending will bounce back or remain subdued.

Meanwhile, a Reuters-University of Michigan survey showed that consumer sentiment rose in September as consumers said they were growing more optimistic about the economy's progress and the employment picture heading forward. The index of sentiment rose to 73.5, from 65.7 in August.

The Commerce Department reported on Friday that sales of new homes rose 0.7 percent in August, hitting their highest level in almost a year. Sales rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 429,000, largely because home sales increased the West.

Housing prices have shown some resiliency this year although in September, the median price of a new home fell to $195,200, from $215,600 a month earlier. The Federal Housing Finance Agency housing index is forecast to have increased 0.5 per cent in July, according to a survey of economists by Bloomberg. The index increased 0.5 per cent in June and 0.6 per cent in May.

The recovery is being attributed to a record high level of affordability, an $8,000 tax credit for first-time buyers until the end of November and improving consumer confidence, said Michael Gregory, a senior economist with BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc.

Rising house prices are key for consumer spending. Studies indicate an increase in housing wealth has a larger impact on consumption than an increase in financial assets such as stocks, Derek Holt, vice-president, and Karen Cordes, financial markets economist, with Scotia Capital Inc. said in a report to clients. The U.S. Federal Reserve Board has estimated "that housing wealth was four times more powerful as a driver of gains in consumer spending than equity gains."

"What we are getting is a slow fragile recovery in U.S. housing," said Patricia Mohr, vice-president of industry and commodity research at the Bank of Nova Scotia.. However, lumber inventories are at very low levels, sawmills have closed, logging contractors have gone out of business and log inventories are low, she said. "Potentially, you could get a big rally in lumber prices early next year."

Source: New York Times, Toronto Globe and Mail

Regional Updates

Neighboring Nebraska reports that market conditions are better for producers than at the start of the second quarter. However, stable pricing and increased continuity in business resulted from supply correction. A substantial portion of the supply adjustment stemmed from sawmill production idled for the summer months. Plans called for production to resume by fall in anticipation of better business performance. However, the market has not improved; demand is flat, and there are no indications that an upturn is imminent for the near-term. In a broad view, prices are holding steady, but include moderate upward and downward movement as determined by supply/demand imbalances.

Many suppliers are encouraged by a slight improvement in shipments of green and kiln dried hardwood lumber. Cautious purchasing by domestic and international secondary manufacturers and distributors has reduced inventories, not only at that end of the supply chain but throughout the hardwood supply pipeline. Sawmill operators lowered log inventories due to limited demand for developing lumber. As a result, many logging contractors exited the business, and landowners have delayed timber sales. Therefore, hardwood timber, log, and lumber supplies have contracted. Now, buyers are replenishing inventories, increasing orders and shipments. The uptick in purchasing has pressured green lumber pricing for certain species, grades, and thicknesses, though upward movement is mostly coming from the extreme low end. On the other hand, markets are soft for crossties and other industrial timber products, with activity confined to established buyer/seller business.

Tennessee notes that there is still not any real good news to report, lumber does appear to be moving at least, even though lumber prices remain low. There have been adjustments for some log species, such as Ash, that has increased for the upper grades. Pulpwood prices remain steady, with the paper market remaining poor. Ties have continued to decrease in price as yards fill up and some meet their quotas for the railroads. Some rails have stopped taking ties for this year as things slow down for them as well. Stave logs for the few stave mills continue to be good and steady, even though slower because of the warm weather and need to control inventory for stain and degrade problems. The industry has an amazingly positive attitude and is determined to hang in there and make it through these down markets.

Timber-Mart South notes that south-wide average stumpage prices decreased for all five major timber products for the second straight quarter. Again, four out of five prices were lower than one year ago. Market activity was very slow across the South.

Source: *Nebraska Timber Talk, Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin, Timber-Mart South*

Global Climate Change

At the current rate of deforestation, around one-third of the forest in Amazonas will have been lost by 2050, releasing a colossal 3.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. One idea for combating this problem is known as “avoided deforestation” or “reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation” (REDD). At the moment REDD is not so much a plan as a collection of proposals and some working schemes. The fate of the forests in Brazil, Indonesia, the Philippines and elsewhere around the world could hang on the success of this approach. But there will need to be substantial international commitments to reduce global emissions to create demand for the carbon offsets that REDD schemes can provide. This means a lot hangs on a deal being struck in December in Copenhagen, where countries will meet to negotiate a new climate treaty. REDD is high on the agenda, and governments and the private sector were urged to start investing in such schemes. There has also been talk of wrapping up carbon offsets into “forest bonds” to interest pension funds.

REDD funds come from the rich world, where governments and companies that cannot reduce their own emissions cheaply are prepared to pay others to reduce emissions on their behalf (as “carbon offsets”). Not cutting down trees in endangered areas prevents emissions that would otherwise have occurred, which gives untouched forest huge financial value—and provides people who live in the forest

Preventing deforestation is potentially one of the simplest ways to reduce global emissions. At the moment, carbon emissions from deforestation account for some 18% of global greenhouse-gas emissions, more than all the world’s trains, cars, trucks, airplanes and ships combined. Reducing deforestation and land-degradation will be vital if temperature increases are to be kept to within safe levels (generally assumed to mean no more than about a 6° increase). Some argue it would be a quicker and cheaper way of reducing emissions than many alternatives, such as weaning the world’s vehicle fleet off fossil fuels, forcing people to cut back on energy use or switching to low-carbon forms of power generation, such as wind farms and nuclear power. All those things will be necessary too, but they will take a long time, will require new technologies and cause controversies of their own.

Paying people to not chop down trees looks easy by comparison. It does not depend on any elaborate or costly new technology and is likely to be able to garner the required political support. Achim Steiner, the head of the UN’s environment program, thinks avoided deforestation should be an easy thing to sell. As well as reducing carbon emissions, keeping forests standing also protects soil from erosion, improves the quality of water, helps regulate rainfall and ensures biodiversity. “How on earth can we not afford to make this work?” he asks.
Source: *The Economist*

Missouri's forests are at a crossroads!

Missouri's trees and forests have the potential to play a pivotal role in many of the serious challenges society is currently facing – energy demand, water quality and climate change just to name a few. At the same time, Missouri's forests are under serious threat from a number of influencers, and available resources for addressing these threats are limited. In order to determine the best path forward, the Missouri Department of Conservation is currently embarking on an effort called the Missouri Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy (FRAS). Once completed, FRAS will include a comprehensive assessment of the key threats and opportunities facing Missouri's urban and rural forest resources, a vision for desired future forest conditions, and a road map for achieving this vision. The success of this effort depends on the involvement and collaboration of people like you.

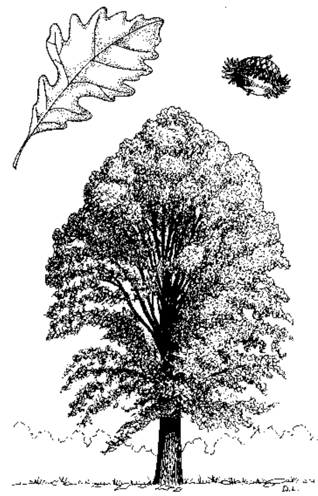
In order to fully understand the threats and opportunities facing Missouri's forest resources, it is important to first establish Desired Future Conditions (DFC's). By beginning with the end in mind, we can have a more clear vision for our goals, and a better understanding of the threats and opportunities for achieving this vision.

Early in the FRAS process, through internal deliberations and limited stakeholder collaboration we have come up with a list of 12 key Issue Themes, listed below Please remember that the word "forest" is being used in the broadest of terms to include forests and woodlands in rural settings, and individual trees and forest patches in urban settings.

- Private Forest Landowner Demographic Trends and Corresponding Land Use Changes
- Challenges and Opportunities for Private Forest Land Owners
- Climate Change
- Maintaining High Quality Soil and Water Resources
- The Role of Fire in Missouri's Forests
- Missouri's Growth, Harvest and Consumption of Forest Products
- Exotic/Invasive Plants, Animals and Diseases
- The Role of Trees in Making Cities More Livable and Sustainable
- Public Lands which Provide Multiple Benefits to the Public
- Maintaining Biologically Diversity
- Public Awareness of Forests and their Benefits and Issues
- Legal, Institutional and Economic Considerations

Please check back with MDC as this planning process continues!

Source: Missouri Department of Conservation



Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT MISSOURI

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Oct.-Dec., 2009, Vol. 19 No. 4
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$3,335	$1,335	$2,170	-	$1,930	14	Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs								
Ash	$50	$50	$50	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$50	$50	$50	-	-	1	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$90	$90	$90	-	$90	5	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$90	$80	$85	-	$105	88	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$185	$90	$125	$90	$145	327	Int. - MBF	5
Red oak (group)	$125	$50	$85	-	$130	137	Int. - MBF	3
Sycamore	$50	$50	$50	-	-	14	Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$915	$335	$610	-	$675	28	Int. - MBF	3
White oak (group)	$250	$50	$95	-	$120	427	Int. - MBF	4

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$90	$90	$90	-	-	5	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$90	$80	$85	-	$75	88	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$90	$90	$90	-	-	131	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$90	$90	$90	-	$85	77	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$90	$90	$90	-	$165	309	Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$3,335	$1,335	$2,170	-	-	14	Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs								
Ash	$50	$50	$50	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$50	$50	$50	-	-	1	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$125	$50	$75	-	$95	60	Int. - MBF	2
Sycamore	$50	$50	$50	-	-	14	Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$635	$335	$555	-	-	24	Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$250	$50	$110	-	$115	118	Int. - MBF	3

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$185	$150	$160	-	$190	102 Int. - MBF	3
Walnut, Black	$915	$915	$915	-	$775	4 Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$125	$125	$125	$90	$130	94 Int. - MBF	1

Statewide Salvage Prices*

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$60	$25	$43	-	-	2 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$60	$60	$60	-	-	1 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$60	$60	$60	-	-	1 Int. - MBF	1

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 12 timber sales containing 1,048 MBF located throughout the state. * **Most of the salvage sales were from the Southeast region.**

Editor's Note - Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

World Forestry

Whatever you may think about the Copenhagen talks on climate change, they may be remembered as a time when the world concluded that it must protect forests, and pay for them. In the Kyoto protocol of 1997, forests were a big absentee: that was partly because sovereignty-conscious nations like Brazil were unwilling, at any price, to accept limits on their freedom to fell. Skillful campaigning by pro-forest groups has successfully disseminated the idea that trees cannot be ignored in any serious deliberation on the planet's future.

Most people at the summit accepted the case that cutting down trees contributes up to 20% of global greenhouse emissions, and avoiding this loss would be a quick, cheap way of limiting heat-trapping gases. Unless forests are better protected, so their argument goes, dangerous levels of climate change look virtually inevitable.

In December six rich nations gave advocates of that view a boost when they pledged $3.5 billion as a down payment on a much larger effort to "slow, halt and eventually reverse" deforestation in poor countries. These nations—Australia, France, Japan, Norway, Britain and the United States—endorsed tree protection in terms that went beyond the immediate need to stem emissions. Keeping trees standing would protect biodiversity and help development of the right sort, they said. The money was a first installment of the $25 billion needed between now and 2015 to cut deforestation by a quarter.

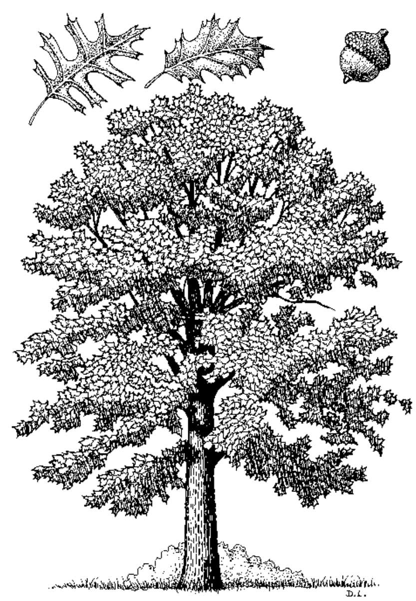
Impressive as it was, the rich nations' offer did not settle the questions that need resolving in any global forest deal. One was whether or not to include timetable and targets. The most ambitious proposals called for a 50% reduction in deforestation by 2020 and a complete halt by 2030. But poorer, forested nations were unwilling to accept those ideas until they saw what the rich world was offering.

The other question was how so much money will be spent, how it will be raised and who would receive it: national governments, regional authorities or local people, including the indigenous. Any plan that did not give local people cause to keep their trees standing would surely fail. But some have argued that doling out cash to forest-dwellers to too crude an approach; it may be better to help non-forest areas yield more crops, or to concentrate on restoring marginal land to farming. Advocates of national approaches – including entire countries, not small areas – say local efforts cause "leakage" as felling is stopped in one place but shifts to another.

The question of how much money to raise from government transfers, and how much from carbon trading, is not merely of concern to environmentalists. Some Europeans fear that throwing forests into the carbon market will depress the price; but for Congress, a healthy market in offsets may be the only thing that makes payment to protect forests palatable.

The proposal's critics insist that a superficially good deal could prove terrible because of loopholes in carbon accounting. These may come from inflated national baselines for deforestation, or allowances that permit some sorts of tree-felling to be ignored. Skeptics also say that the plan ignores some causes of deforestation, like the demand for soy, beef, palm oil, and timber which temps people to act illegally. However, in the long term, Copenhagen's decisions may do a lot more to make the forests lucrative in themselves.

Source: *The Economist*



News from Missouri

I have talked to several sawmillers this quarter and several foresters have called or emailed me about how the sawmillers are doing in their area. I have been hearing mixed reports on the sawmill business, but for the most part the news is better. It looks like the hardwood flooring lumber demand is increasing and the quotas on railroad ties are easing.

Many of the mill owners I've talked to seem to be uneasy that this is only a temporary uptake in lumber demand. The mill owners believe this demand was caused by the severe slowdown in the lumber industry. During the slowdown there was a lot of inventory in the dry kiln lumber sector of the industry and it has simply taken time to use up this inventory. Now with a shortage in lumber, some of the lumber purchasers seem willing to purchase increased amounts of lumber.

Are the worst of the problems for the forest products industry over? I simply do not know but certainly hope so. If the increase in lumber demand holds up, it looks like the worst is behind us.

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry please don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an email.

John Tuttle (573) 522-4115 ext 3304, or john.tuttle@mdc.mo.gov .

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Attention! Mail Purge in Process!!!!!!

In an effort to clean up our mailing list and reduce costs, we are completely purging our US Postal Service mailing list with this issue. ***For continued delivery of Timber Price Trends, please check appropriate box below and return to*** Donna Baldwin, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

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and state whether you prefer to receive your newsletter via US Postal Service or email.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Jan.-March, 2010, Vol. 20 No. 1
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$1,665	$1,665	$1,665	$2,170	$835	5 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Hickory	$110	$110	$110	$90	$105	14 Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$150	$50	$125	$85	$110	674 Int. - MBF	4
Oak (mixed species)	$150	$65	$90	$125	$185	165 Int. - MBF	3
Post Oak	$110	$110	$110	-	$125	84 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$165	$110	$115	$85	$135	213 Int. - MBF	2
Soft Maple	$210	$210	$210	-	-	28 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$885	$415	$510	$610	$385	11 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$110	$85	$105	$95	$125	45 Int. - MBF	2
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$290	$290	$290	-	$295	18 Int. - MBF	1

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$1,665	$1,665	$1,665	-	-	5 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$50	$50	$50	$85	$85	33 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$65	$65	$65	$90	-	84 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$165	$165	$165	$90	-	14 Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$210	$210	$210	-	-	28 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$415	$415	$415	-	-	9 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$85	$85	$85	$90	-	10 Int. - MBF	1
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$290	$290	$290	-	-	18 Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$150	$115	$130	-	$65	636 Int. - MBF	2

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Oak (mixed species)	$150	$90	$115	$160	$130	81	Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$885	$885	$885	$915	-	2	Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$110	$110	$110	-	$105	14	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$110	$110	$110	-	$170	6	Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$110	$110	$110	-	$125	84	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$110	$110	$110	-	$135	199	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$110	$110	$110	-	$115	35	Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$160	$160	$160	-	-	13	Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$189	$189	$189	-	-	4	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$189	$189	$189	-	-	33	Int. - MBF	1

Statewide Salvage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Pulpwood								
Mixed Hardwoods	$1	$1	$1	-	-	2102	Tons	3
Sawlogs								
Mixed Hardwoods	$112	$20	$52	-	-	3284	Int. - MBF	22
Oak (mixed species)	$160	$160	$160	-	-	13	Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$189	$189	$189	-	-	4	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$189	$189	$189	-	-	33	Int. - MBF	1

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 15 timber sales containing 4,591 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Assistance Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

John Tuttle, Missouri Department of Conservation

I am proud to announce a trial cost share program for installing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on private land timber sales to prevent erosion in six counties in southern Missouri. This project is being funded with a Conservation Innovation Grant via the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS).

If you live in Iron, Reynolds, Wayne, Shannon, Carter, or Ripley Counties in Missouri and if you are planning a timber sale, you should consider having your logger go with you to apply for a cost share to install BMPs on your timber sale. In addition, if you are a logger working in the counties mentioned above you should seriously consider this incentive; when I was in the logging business I would have loved to have been paid for putting in BMPs. The cost share pays loggers between $10-20/acre for installing the practices. The landowners get $5/acre for simply maintaining the practice for five years.

What is the purpose for this trial cost share? I feel that loggers have the equipment on site and have the ability to install the BMPs. Often there are no BMPs installed until the landowner notices a soil erosion issue. This practice would demonstrate that a proactive approach would almost eliminate erosion on timber sales. I also want to prove to other cost share providers that if they are sincere about making sure that BMPs are used on private land timber sales that this is a way to get the job done.

If you are interested in this trial cost share program call one of the Missouri Department of Conservation offices in the six counties mentioned and ask to talk to a Private Land Conservationist or a Forester for more details. If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573) 522-4115 ext 3304.

Seedlings On Sale!

George O. White State Forest Nursery, near Licking, offers Missouri residents a variety of seedlings for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, as well as wildlife food and cover. Seedlings are sold by the Nursery through the end of April.

Seedlings are bareroot, 1-3 years old, depending on species. Seedlings are available in single species bundles of 25 for use in Missouri. Seedling sizes vary greatly depending on species.

For areas where a variety of seedlings are needed, in smaller quantities, four special bundles are available. The Pecan Variety Bundle offers landowners four different pecan varieties. The Conservation Bundle is recommended for people who want to add a mix of trees and shrubs to their property. The Wildlife Cover Bundle will improve habitat and food sources for a number of Missouri wildlife species. The Quail Cover Bundle provides plants for quail food and cover. The contents of these special bundles are preselected by the nursery, and no substitutions can be made.

Seedling bundles range from $4 to $28. For more information, please visit the Missouri Department of Conservation's website at http://mdc.mo.gov/forest/nursery/seedling/ or call (573) 674-3229.

News from our Neighbors

Nebraska reports that the market is active for most species and grades key to the region. Business intensity is concentrated on green stocks, as resale operations and secondary manufacturers strive to restore inventories. In the meantime, sawmill production is down. Some mills remain idle. Many more are running reduced production schedules. Inadequate log supplies are often cited as the reason, but the primary culprit preventing production expansion is access to additional working capital. Today's market energy is supply-drive circumstance. Nothing has yet occurred to measurably increase demand.

From Tennessee, some better market news. Pulpwood prices are up because of the poor weather this winter. The pulp mills have been low on log inventory as we feared since last fall. There are reports of some mills paying as much as $50 per ton for hardwood pulpwood at some distance from the mill. This has had an adverse affect on the supply of hardwood sawlogs and tie logs as it has become more economical to throw the marginal logs into the pulpwood pile at the logging site. Sawmills are looking for logs especially since the winter has been tough for log supply. Tie buyers are looking for ties and the prices are steady.

In the South, strong markets of pulpwood and sawlogs have prompted increased logging activity. However, inclement weather is problematic for harvesting timber. Furthermore, the extended downturn in the wood products business has decreased the number of qualified loggers. In addition, there has been a limited volume of timber sold the past year, restricting log availability further. The result is low log decks at the mills, and green lumber production remains at historically depressed levels as a result. For many grades and thicknesses, buyer interest is outpacing supplies, pressuring higher prices. On the other hand, activity of kiln dried stocks is more controlled. End users are reluctant to purchase beyond short-term needs.

Sources: Nebraska Forest Service, Tennessee Department of Agriculture-Division of Forestry

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Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Sumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use the report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

April-June, 2010, Vol. 20 No. 2
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
Walnut, Black	$2,710	$2,710	$2,710	$1,665	-	11	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Ash	$35	$35	$35	-	-	28	Int. - MBF	1
Black Walnut	$835	$835	$835	-	-	17	Int. - MBF	1
Cottonwood	$65	$65	$65	-	-	109	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$35	$35	$35	-	-	21	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$65	$65	$65	$110	$160	13	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$165	$35	$35	$125	-	79	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$100	$50	$85	$90	$140	1,140	Int. - MBF	4
Post Oak	$165	$165	$165	$110	-	11	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$160	$160	$160	$115	$150	494	Int. - MBF	2
Shortleaf Pine	$160	$160	$160	-	-	33	Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$215	$215	$215	$210	-	263	Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$960	$960	$960	$510	-	25	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$165	$135	$150	$105	$160	421	Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Ash	$35	$35	$35	-	-	28	Int. - MBF	1
Black Walnut	$835	$835	$835	-	-	17	Int. - MBF	1
Cottonwood	$65	$65	$65	-	-	109	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$35	$35	$35	-	-	21	Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$65	$65	$65	-	-	13	Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$35	$35	$35	$50	-	78	Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$50	$50	$50	$65	-	234	Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$215	$215	$215	$210	-	263	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$135	$135	$135	$85	-	195	Int. - MBF	1

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	$2,710	$2,710	$2,710	-	-	11 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	$100	$100	$100	$115	$150	231 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$960	$960	$960	$885	-	25 Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$165	$165	$165	$110	-	- Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$95	$90	$90	-	$120	675 Int. - MBF	2
Post Oak	$165	$165	$165	$110	-	11 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$160	$160	$160	$110	$150	494 Int. - MBF	2
Shortleaf Pine	$160	$160	$160	-	-	33 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$165	$165	$165	$110	$160	226 Int. - MBF	1

Statewide Salvage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs					
Mixed Hardwoods	$70	$70	$70	250 Int. - MBF	1

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 8 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert <u>volume</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>divide</u> by 1.2. To convert <u>prices</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>multiply</u> by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 7 timber sales containing 2,914 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 522-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website *http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/* and clicking on the "Conservation Contractors" link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
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News from Missouri

John Tuttle, Missouri Department of Conservation

Matt L'Heureux from Piedmont, MO has been selected as the MDC State Logger of the Year for 2010. Matt will be honored with his award on July 24th at the Missouri Forest Products Association summer meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks.

The Missouri Department of Conservation started the Logger Award program four years ago. Each year foresters from all over the state nominate loggers that excel in their profession. There can be as many as eight Regional Awards given. One logger is selected from the Regional Award winners to become the State Logger Award winner.

This year two outstanding loggers were chosen as Regional Award recipients. Woody Haynes from Winona, MO was chosen as the Ozark Regional Logger of the Year for 2010. Steve Paes, MDC's forester for Ripley and Oregon counties, stated that Woody did "… superior work on the Little Black Conservation Area timber sale…" Steve also added that Woody recently worked on a private land timber sale and the landowner was very pleased with his work.

Matt L'Heureux from Piedmont, Mo was selected as the MDC Southeast Regional Logger of the Year, and was also selected as the MDC State Logger of the Year for 2010. Jason Jensen, MDC Forester for Wayne County, stated, "There are few contractors that I would let work on my personal property. In the future when I decide to harvest timber on my property, Matt L'Heureux will be the first contractor I call." Matt was nominated by three different foresters, who agree, that Matt is one of the best loggers they have ever worked with.

Criteria for choosing a logger for the award require evaluating several areas. Some of the criteria include: having a good working relationships with landowners and foresters, achieving minimal damage to remaining trees and resources, managing a harvest that prevents soil erosion and desirable aesthetics of the site after harvesting was completed, working safely and demonstrating proper use of equipment, maximizing the utilization of harvested trees, addressing wildlife management concerns, and demonstrating proper use of forest management techniques. In order to be considered, loggers must complete the *Professional Timber Harvester's Training Program* sponsored by the Missouri Forest Products Association and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Both Woody Haynes and Matt L'Heureux received a Protective Kit from Crader Distributing Company, Marble Hill, Missouri. They are the exclusive distributor of STIHL Outdoor Power Equipment in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Southern Illinois, and the proud sponsor of Missouri's Logger Award program.

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry, contact John Tuttle at (573) 522-4115 ext 3304.

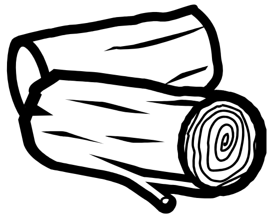
Around the Neighborhood

Bloomberg reports that lumber prices plunged to an eight-month low after a report showed that new-home sales in the U.S. fell at a record pace in May, dimming prospects for building materials.

"Home sales are down 33 percent, so you have an overall economy issue," said Dewey Strickler, the president of Ag Watch Market Advisors in Nashville, Tennessee. "For grains or any other commodities to rise, you have to have strong consumer demand, and we don't really have that." Lumber has declined 21 percent this year, partly on sluggish demand for building materials.

TimberMart South, however, reported south-wide average stumpage prices for the five major timber products all continued to increase, three of them for the fourth straight quarter, and all five were above prices one year ago. Pine and hardwood pulpwood stumpage prices showed strongest gains, up 24 and 42 percent respectively for the quarter, and up even more from one year ago. Sawtimber stumpage prices increased this quarter but markets still remained weak. Meanwhile, Mixed Hardwood stumpage prices increased, generally following the pine sawtimber trend for the past few quarters.

Source: Bloomberg, TimberMart South



DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD!

Most of us wouldn't pick up hitchhikers along the road, but many of us unwittingly take them camping with us. Tree-killing pests such as emerald ash borers, Asian longhorned beetles and gypsy moths can hide in the wood we bring for campfires. It's easy to reduce the spread of these hitchhiking pests.

Missouri has always had its share of forest pests. Historically, these native insects and diseases posed little threat to our healthy forests because for thousands of years our native trees and other plants have evolved alongside them. Whenever a native pest developed a new method to attack, our forests responded by evolving new defense mechanisms. Non-native pests throw off this natural balance by bringing with them new methods of attack unfamiliar to our native trees and plants. Because our forests have not had time to evolve adequate defenses, they can become easy prey for exotic invaders. Take for instance the emerald ash borer. This metallic green beetle probably entered southeast Michigan as an unwanted hitchhiker in wooden packing materials used to ship goods from its native home in China and eastern Asia. The wormlike larvae of this tiny but destructive insect tunnel through native ash trees, eventually killing each tree they infest. To date, emerald ash borers have killed more than 25 million ash trees in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. These tree-killing pests turned up in southeast Missouri in July 2008.

Don't bring firewood—use local wood

One way to keep emerald ash borers and other destructive pests from spreading is to avoid transporting firewood from one site to another. The best policy is to obtain firewood from a local source. If you have firewood that you didn't get locally, burn all of it as soon as possible. This will kill any pests that could be hiding in the wood.

Watch for exotic pests

Another thing we can do to keep Missouri's forests healthy is to watch out for exotic hitchhikers. Keep in mind that Missouri has its share of native pests, so finding a bug tunneling through your firewood isn't necessarily cause for alarm. Learning to separate the benign native bugs from the destructive exotic bugs is key to early detection of a potential problem. The following are a few of Missouri's least wanted visitors:

Emerald Ash Borer *Asian Longhorned Beetle* *Gypsy Moth* *Sirex Wood Wasp*

If you find one of these pests, let us know! Early detection is useful only when the problem is contained and eradicated. To help with this effort contact the Missouri Departments of Conservation or Agriculture should you find a suspect insect. Collect a sample by trapping the insect in a zippered plastic bag. Place the bag in the freezer for several days to kill the insect then mail the sample in a sturdy container (35mm film canisters work well) to one of the addresses shown on page 7. Be sure to include your contact information and the date and location where you captured the sample.

Source: MDC

FOREST HEALTH ALERT
White Oaks Turning Brown in Late Spring

Problem: Leaves on entire crowns of white oak trees turn brown in late Spring. In some cases, whole hillsides appear brown. Individual leaves turn brown starting at the margins, and sometimes curl up and turn black.

Tree Species: White oak (*Quercus alba*) primarily, and some other white oak group species.

Description: Leaves may be damaged by multiple causes, but the main cause in May 2010 appears to be high populations of a **jumping oak gall** wasp (*Neuroterus* sp.) These very tiny, stingless wasps cause pinhead-size galls (abnormal plant growths) to form on the undersides of leaves. Each round, button-like gall contains one wasp larva. Most galls drop from leaves in early summer. Brown pockmarks remain where galls had been attached. Brown, scorch-like areas appear on leaves where many galls are present. In more severe cases, leaves turn black, curl up and drop early from trees.

Fallen galls are sometimes observed to "jump" due to vigorous movements of larvae within, much like moth larvae of "Mexican jumping beans." This behavior allows galls to fall deeper into grass and leaf litter where they are sheltered throughout the coming winter. Long periods of snow cover may provide further insulation from severe cold during winter. That snow cover, plus consistent cold temperatures (no winter warm-ups followed by severe freezes), may allow higher survival of overwintering gall wasps and help explain outbreaks like that of 2010.


White oak leaves damaged by jumping oak galls
(photo: S. Madison)

These wasps have one generation per year. Damage to trees occurs only in the spring, although the effects will be visible throughout the summer. Outbreaks typically last for one or two years and then fade away as natural controls reduce gall wasp numbers again.

In years with cool wet springs, fungal diseases can be abundant on trees, and may also cause leaf browning. **Anthracnose** is common on white oak foliage in those conditions and has been observed on white oak leaf samples in 2010. However, it appears to be secondary to jumping oak galls for causing damage.
Botryosphaeria twig canker causes leaves on infected small branches to wilt and turn brown, which results in "flagging" in the canopy during the summer. Typically, twig bark shrivels and turns brown where the canker occurs, near the junction with healthy tissue.

Recommendations: Galls and fungi that affect oak leaves rarely have a significant impact on tree health. Nearly all trees will recover, even if all leaves are brown. Controls are not warranted. By the time the damage is observed, any opportunity to treat has already passed for that year, and populations are likely to decline naturally. However, severe leaf damage stresses trees, particularly if most leaves on a tree are killed which results in a second flush of leaves emerging in summer. The best tactic is using good tree care practices that reduce stress (mulching, watering during drought, avoiding wounds due to lawnmowers and trimmers). Raking and removing or burning fallen leaves may help to reduce overwintering fungi or gall insects.

Further Information on the Web

http://ppdl.org/dd/id/jumping_oak_leaf_gall-oak.html
http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews/2006/5-24/oakantrhacnose.html
http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/450/450-726/450-726.html

Source: Forest Health Program, Missouri Department of Conservation – May 28, 2010

Missouri Department of Conservation

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Route 8 Box 8118, Doniphan 63935 .... 573/996-2557
EMINENCE OFFICE
HCR 1 Box 177K, Eminence 65466 .... 573/226-3616
HOUSTON OFFICE
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ROLLA OFFICE
125655 State Route Y, Rolla 65401 .... 573/368-2225
SALEM OFFICE
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BRANSON OFFICE
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CASSVILLE OFFICE
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JOPLIN OFFICE
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LEBANON FORESTRY OFFICE
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NEOSHO OFFICE
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ST. LOUIS 636/441-4554
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MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

July-Sept., 2010, Vol. 20 No. 3
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
White oak (group)	$1,665	$835	$1,250	-	-	24 Int. - MBF	2
Sawlogs							
Ash	$255	$140	$150	$35	-	9 Int. - MBF	3
Basswood	$260	$140	$180	-	-	23 Int. - MBF	3
Cottonwood	$260	$260	$260	$65	-	- Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$190	$100	$135	$35	-	1 Int. - MBF	2
Hackberry	$190	$190	$190	-	-	3 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$190	$100	$155	-	-	- Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$260	$50	$100	$65	-	54 Int. - MBF	7
Mixed Hardwoods	$290	$40	$255	$35	-	749 Int. - MBF	6
Oak (mixed species)	$260	$125	$145	$90	$90	391 Int. - MBF	6
Post Oak	$165	$125	$150	$165	-	43 Int. - MBF	4
Red oak (group)	$315	$140	$185	$160	-	2,386 Int. - MBF	12
Shortleaf Pine	$100	$100	$100	$160	-	3 Int. - MBF	1
Soft Maple	$260	$140	$230	$215	-	11 Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$585	$585	$585	$910	-	- Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$260	$85	$165	$150	-	140 Int. - MBF	7
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	$335	$335	$335	-	-	54 Int. - MBF	1

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
White oak (group)	$835	$835	$835	-	-	12 Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Ash	$255	$140	$150	$35	-	9 Int. - MBF	2
Basswood	$260	$140	$155	-	-	6 Int. - MBF	2
Cottonwood	$260	$260	$260	$65	-	- Int. - MBF	1
Hickory	$260	$140	$150	$65	-	7 Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$85	$85	$85	$35	-	36 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$260	$140	$145	$50	-	8 Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs (continued)								
Red oak (group)	$315	$140	$210	-	-	99	Int. - MBF	3
Soft Maple	$260	$140	$230	$215	-	11	Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$260	$85	$110	$135	-	47	Int. - MBF	3
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$335	$335	$335	-	-	54	Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
White oak (group)	$1,665	$1,665	$1,665	-	-	12	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Ash	$190	$190	$190	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Basswood	$190	$190	$190	-	-	17	Int. - MBF	1
Elm	$190	$100	$135	-	-	1	Int. - MBF	2
Hackberry	$190	$190	$190	-	-	3	Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	$190	$100	$155	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	$190	$100	$160	-	-	4	Int. - MBF	2
Oak (mixed species)	$190	$180	$180	$275	-	102	Int. - MBF	2
Post Oak	$125	$125	$125	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$190	$165	$170	-	-	38	Int. - MBF	2
Walnut, Black	$585	$585	$585	-	-	-	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$190	$190	$190	-	-	4	Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$140	$50	$85	-	-	43	Int. - MBF	3
Mixed Hardwoods	$290	$40	$260	$165	-	713	Int. - MBF	5
Oak (mixed species)	$140	$125	$135	$90	$90	281	Int. - MBF	2
Post Oak	$165	$140	$150	$165	-	42	Int. - MBF	3
Red oak (group)	$220	$155	$185	$160	-	2,249	Int. - MBF	7
Shortleaf Pine	$100	$100	$100	$160	-	3	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$220	$155	$195	$165	-	89	Int. - MBF	3

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert <u>volume</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>divide</u> by 1.2. To convert <u>prices</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>multiply</u> by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 14 timber sales containing 3,987 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com*.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert <u>volume</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>divide</u> by 1.2. To convert <u>prices</u> from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, <u>multiply</u> by 1.2.

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

News from Our Neighbors

Timber-Mart South reports that south-wide average pulpwood prices slipped from last quarter's spike. Drier weather conditions helped moderate stumpage prices in the 2nd Quarter but prices for all five major timber products remained well above those in the same period of 2009. Pine sawtimber stumpage prices were nearly flat compared to last quarter, and pine chip-n-saw prices weakened slightly. Both remained about 10 percent above prices a year ago. South-wide average pine pulpwood dropped more than one dollar per ton this quarter but was more than two dollars per ton above 2nd Quarter 2009. Hardwood Stumpage Prices South-wide mixed hardwood stumpage prices were slightly stronger than last quarter on increasing demand for industrial timber products. Hardwood pulpwood followed the same trend as pine quarter over- quarter, but was more than three dollars per ton above the same period last year.

Meanwhile, Tennesee reports that caution is the word for this quarter: GNP numbers are down, housing is anemic and unemployment continues to be nearly 10 percent. The hardwood lumber markets picked up significantly the first months of this year, but have now slowed. Evidently all the concern about the rise in the market being caused by inventory levels and supply chain were correct. Railroad ties are an exception; they are in short supply in almost every location. The housing market continues to be poor, for a number of reasons; primarily the high rate of unemployment and concerns about the economy in general. The elections will be interesting this November and we should know the results by the time for the fourth quarter bulletin.

The international markets were strong the first of the year and there have been increases in volumes for both Red Oak and Ash, but now China has slowed. The domestic use of US hardwoods has grown in China as that economy expands for more of the population. Europe is slow as well because of a weak economy and the devalued euro. Reporting in the August 2010 "Wood and Wood Products" magazine on page 78 stated that SFI had announced that 79 members of the US House of Representatives had signed a letter to the US

Source: Timber Mart South, Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin

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Forest Economics

Forest economics is plagued by valuation problems, partly because forests provide so many benefits. A UN-backed project in 2005, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, identified 24 main ecosystem services, most of which are found in forests: from preventing natural hazards, such as landslides, to providing the eco- in ecotourism. Yet most relate to forests' role in the carbon and water cycles and in safeguarding biodiversity. And almost none is priced on markets. Forests are usually valued solely for their main commercial resource, timber, which is why they are sometimes over logged or cleared.

This leads to a profusion of damaging outcomes such as forest fires and lost ecotourism revenue that happen because those responsible are not obliged to pick up the tab. Forest fires in Indonesia alone in 1998 are estimated to have cost over $5 billion in timber alone. According to another UN-backed effort, The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), "negative externalities" from forest loss and degradation cost between $2 trillion and $4.5 trillion a year.

To tackle both problems, it may help to come up with a better evaluation of what forests are worth. That could open up new markets for their bounties through payment for ecosystem services (PES), in the jargon. Or the valuation alone may be sufficient to give pause to the manager, or the taxman. TEEB's experts are now putting price tags on forests and other natural boons, typically by calculating the opportunity cost of cutting them down and selling them off.

A draft TEEB report on the Amazon rainforest exemplifies its approach. It estimates the forest's contribution to the livelihood of poor forest-dwellers, of whom there are at least 10m in Brazil alone, at between $500m and $1 billion a year. That is based on the estimated market value of the fish and thatch they take to subsist, and the gums, oils and other goods they harvest for cash. On a regional scale, TEEB estimates that the rainforest's role in avoiding siltation in hydro-power reservoirs is worth anything from $60m to $600m a year.

Source: The Economist Magazine

MDC Publishes Plan for Elk Restoration

The Missouri Department of Conservation published a draft elk-restoration plan that addresses concerns about property damage, veterinary diseases and traffic safety. The Conservation Department posted the 39-page draft plan and a video summarizing the document on its website. The plan calls for releasing up to 150 elk into a 346-square-mile area of Shannon, Carter and Reynolds counties early in 2011. All released elk will undergo stringent health testing and quarantines and will be fitted with radio collars to permit tracking their movements.

Part of the cost of restoring elk to Missouri will be borne by partners, including the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Arkansas and other eastern states that have restored elk report significant economic benefits from elk hunting and related tourism. While pursuing the Conservation Commission's directive to develop an elk-restoration proposal, the Conservation Department sought comments from a wide range of stakeholders. These included the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, the Missouri Cattlemen's Association, the Ozarks Property Rights Congress, the Missouri Forest Products Association, soil and water conservation districts and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

The agency also held three public open-house forums in towns bordering the proposed restoration area to gather local comments on elk restoration and sought comments through Missouri Conservationist magazine, commercial news media, the Conservation Department website and Facebook page and personal contacts with landowners. The Conservation Department also provided comment cards to visitors at the Missouri State Fair.

More than 300 people attended the public forums, and 137 filled out comment cards. Eighty-three percent of those comments favored elk restoration. Of the 2,309 comments received between July 16 and Sept. 30 by mail, phone, e-mail, Internet and personal contacts, 80 percent favored elk restoration. Seventy-five percent of comments received from people in the proposed elk-restoration zone were in favor of the idea.

Elk are native to the Show-Me State but were extirpated in the 19th century by a combination of unregulated hunting and habitat destruction. At its meeting July 16, the Conservation Commission directed to Conservation Department staff to develop a proposal for reintroducing elk to Missouri. It requested the plan for consideration at its meeting Oct. 15.

The Conservation Department developed such a plan in 2001. However, the Conservation Commission tabled the matter because of concerns about adequate habitat and chronic wasting disease (CWD). Habitat management by the Conservation Department and other large Ozarks landholders have resulted in improved elk habitat in the past 15 years. During the same time, advances in knowledge about CWD and development of a live-animal test for CWD in elk have alleviated veterinary health concerns.

Resource Scientist Lonnie Hansen said the Conservation Department was very mindful of potential elk problems when developing the draft plan. "We know that elk restoration is a popular idea statewide and in the proposed restoration zone," said Hansen. "Lots of Missourians are eager for the wildlife watching and hunting opportunities that other eastern states are enjoying as a result of restoring elk. However, we understand that farmers, livestock producers and others have concerns about elk restoration. We think this plan does an excellent job of addressing those concerns."

The Conservation Department worked with the Missouri Department of Agriculture to develop veterinary health protocols for free-ranging elk that are more stringent than any that apply to livestock or farmed elk brought into Missouri. This protocol begins with accepting elk only from herds with histories of health surveillance and no evidence of health issues.

Elk brought from other states will undergo rigorous testing for CWD, brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, anaplasmosis, bovine viral diarrhea, blue tongue, epizootic hemorrhagic disease, Johne's disease and vesicular stomatitis. They will be quarantined in their state of origin and again in Missouri before being released into the proposed restoration zone. All released elk will carry radio-tracking collars that transmit a "mortality" signal if they stop moving for an extended time. This will permit the Conservation Department to recover all elk that die and examine them to determine the cause of death.

To minimize the potential for elk conflicts, the Conservation Department selected a restoration zone with large public landholdings and public access. Forty-nine percent of land in the zone is owned by the Conservation Department, the USDA Forest Service or the National Park Service. Another 30 percent is owned by the L-A-D Foundation (Pioneer Forest) and The Nature Conservancy. All these landowners support elk restoration and permit hunting on their land.

Other factors that contributed to selecting the 346-square-mile elk restoration zone are:

• Low road density – The proposed restoration zone has 1.2 miles per road per square mile, compared to 2.1 miles per square mile in Arkansas' elk-restoration zone. Arkansas records one or two elk-vehicle accidents per year.

• Suitable habitat – Savanna and glade habitat already exists in the restoration zone, and work to restore open, grassy areas continues.

• Strong landowner support – The Conservation Department will work with willing landowners to improve the attractiveness of their property to elk.

• Defined geography – The elk-restoration zone is bounded by roads, posted property lines and other identifiable landscape features, making it easy to know when elk are outside the restoration zone and remove them from areas where they are not wanted.

• Minimal agricultural activity – Ninety-three percent of the proposed elk-restoration zone is forested. Cropland makes up .1 percent (222 acres) of the zone. Cattle grazing is very limited.

"Missouri has lots of places where elk would do very well, but the potential for conflicts is just too great outside the area we have chosen," said Hansen. "We will remove elk where they are not wanted, and we will use hunting to keep the population at a size that is sustainable in the restoration area."

Master Logger Certification Program

The Missouri Forest Products Association (MFPA) wants to help the state's best loggers showcase their high standards for safety, forest sustainability and ethical business practices and help them gain a competitive edge.

MFPA represents timber harvesters, sawmills and businesses that turn Missouri trees into everything from pulpwood and pallets to wood floors and furniture veneer. Together with the Department of Conservation they have developed the voluntary *Master Logger Certification Program.*

Brandon O'Neal, MFPA's Master Logger Project Administrator, said the certification program bridges the gap between loggers' knowledge of best management practices and the application of those practices.

"Missouri has had professional timber harvester training for years," said O'Neal. "We have a lot of timber harvesters with the knowledge necessary to do the job right. The majority of them are implementing what they learned. However, landowners contracting with loggers had no way of knowing how careful the logger would be about preventing damage to the land or the forest, whether they made the best use of trees they cut and whether they had a record of ethical business dealings. Master Logger certification takes the guesswork out of choosing a logger."

The master-logger certification process is detailed and rigorous. First, applicants must complete the five-day Professional Timber Harvester Education Program. Next, program administrators visit one of the applicant's logging sites to explain performance standards. The applicant provides a list of five past and current harvest sites, along with three professional references. The MFPA's Master Logger administrator checks references to ensure the applicant's compliance with business and natural resource laws. At least two field verifiers – carefully selected to avoid bias – visit the applicant's logging sites to ensure compliance with best management practices (BMPs) taught in the Professional Timber Harvester Education course.

If their work passes these tests, applicants sign a code of ethics, and their applications goes to the nine-member Master Logger certifying board. These members represent various forest stakeholders and areas of expertise. To maintain confidentiality and impartiality, application forms show only applicant identification numbers. Certifying board members do not know applicants' identities.

Certifying Board members can request additional field verification if necessary. Certification requires a unanimous vote of all nine members.

Master Loggers must be recertified every two years. Failure to follow specified safety, environmental, forest management or business practices can result in decertification.

"In the past, many landowners assumed loggers were harvesting without regard to the environment or landowner's best interests," said Conservation Department Field Programs Supervisor John Tuttle Tuttle. "This program will take away a logger's certification if he does not live up to the standards. Landowners can be assured they are working with the best of the best.

Tuttle said a Master Logger Certificate also is a valuable marketing tool for loggers. "Demand for 'green-certified' products is growing fast, especially in the housing industry," he said. "Builders get credit under the LEED green building rating system if they buy wood products from sources that follow forestry best management practices. This program is extremely important to keep Missouri forest products competitive in the world market."

According to Tuttle, Master Loggers have a competitive advantage in a tough economy. Being certified as a Master Logger reduces their liability costs, too.

Information about the Master Logger Certification Program is available by calling 573-634-3252 or at moforest.org/education/masterlogger.html

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MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Oct.-Dec., 2010, Vol. 20 No. 4
Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
White oak (group)	$835	$835	$835	$1,250	-	11	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Hickory	$75	$70	$70	$100	$90	38	Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$135	$85	$130	$255	$85	701	Int. - MBF	4
Oak (mixed species)	$85	$85	$85	$145	$125	426	Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$75	$75	$75	$150	-	20	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$190	$135	$190	$185	$85	151	Int. - MBF	4
S Yellow Pine	$70	$70	$70	-	-	2	Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$935	$935	$935	$585	$610	2	Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$180	$155	$170	$165	$95	87	Int. - MBF	3
Pulpwood								
Mixed Hardwoods	$5	$5	$5	-	-	50	Cords	1
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$290	$265	$275	$335	-	69	Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.		# of Rpts.
Veneer								
White oak (group)	$835	$835	$835	$835	-	11	Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs								
Mixed Hardwoods	$135	$85	$130	$85	$85	473	Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$190	$135	$190	$210	$90	69	Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	$155	$155	$155	$110	$90	26	Int. - MBF	1
Pulpwood								
Mixed Hardwoods	$5	$5	$5	-	-	50	Cords	1
Stave Logs								
White oak (group)	$290	$265	$275	$335	-	69	Int. - MBF	2

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	$100	$100	$100	-	-	14 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	$935	$935	$935	-	$915	2 Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Hickory	$75	$70	$70	$85	-	38 Int. - MBF	2
Mixed Hardwoods	$135	$135	$135	$260	-	213 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$85	$85	$85	$135	$125	426 Int. - MBF	1
Post Oak	$75	$75	$75	$150	-	20 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	$190	$185	$190	$185	-	82 Int. - MBF	2
S Yellow Pine	$70	$70	$70	-	-	2 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$180	$180	$180	$195	-	61 Int. - MBF	2

Salvage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Pulpwood					
Mixed Hardwoods	$1	$1	$1	3367 Tons	1
Sawlogs					
Hickory	$71	$71	$71	32 Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	$100	$100	$100	153 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	$150	$25	$60	205 Int. - MBF	3
Post Oak	$74	$74	$74	16 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)	$190	$190	$190	65 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	$179	$179	$179	48 Int. - MBF	1

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed "# of Rpts." to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. ("# of Rpts." refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 10 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 12 timber sales containing 1,864 MBF located throughout the state. Salvage prices are from 3 additional sales.

Editor's Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: *www.missouriforesters.com* or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website http://mdc.mo.gov/landwater-care/conservation-contractors and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Consulting forestry assistance under Available Contractors.

Not so long ago we published a "Forest Products Newsletter" which was later renamed the "Wood Products Bulletin". This effort was discontinued several years ago. You will probably notice a slight change in format to this issue of the "Missouri Timber Price Trends". We have added several articles that we feel provide some of the most up to date information that might be valuable to our industry today. It is an effort to get information out to our industry and combine the original efforts of the "Forest Products Newsletter" with the "Missouri Timber Price Trends". Hope you like the changes and find the articles informative. Please let us know what you think.

Tom Treiman and Jason Jensen, Editors

Note: A "sale" often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the "# of Rpts." (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼" MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2

Cost Share Available For Implementing BMP's

Loggers and landowners can both benefit from a Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) pilot cost share incentive program called the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG). According to MDC Forest Management Chief, John Tuttle, the grants are focused on encouraging timber harvesters to implement BMPs on private land timber sales in the 15 county area including Reynolds, Iron, Shannon, Ripley, Carter, Wayne, Oregon, Howell, Texas, Madison, Bollinger, Dent, Crawford, Washington, and Butler counties.

The grant is designed to be a partnership between loggers and landowners as they do business together. If approved, the cost share would directly pay loggers $10 to $20 per acre to implement the BMPs and landowners would receive $5 per acre.

"The concept behind splitting the incentive is that the logger has the responsibility for establishing erosion prevention measures on timber sales and the equipment to implement the BMPs, and the landowner owns the property and is responsible for maintenance of the BMPs for a reasonable period of time," Tuttle said.

BMPs were developed as a guide for loggers and landowners to combine safe logging practices with steps that will avoid damage to water quality and soil erosion associated with timber harvesting. By taking steps to learn the BMPs and implement them, MDC hopes the CIG will encourage loggers and landowners to work together in maintaining the best possible forest health and productivity.

To participate, Tuttle says loggers should sign up for the cost share program at their local MDC office. He said they must be a professional trained logger or attend a Best Management Practices training class with the Department of Conservation.

Regional Prices

TimberMart South reports that moderate weather and a mediocre timber market combined to make a unimpressive 3rd Quarter of 2010. Prices declined slightly compared to the previous quarter for four of five major timber products. All five were up from weaker prices a year ago. The south-wide average mixed hardwood sawtimber price increased slightly this quarter, bucking the overall timber price trend. Prices were supported by industrial timber demand and exports. Hardwood pulpwood prices continued to slide this quarter, with a double-digit percent decline in 7 out of 11 states. The south-wide average had hit a record high of more than $12 per ton in the 1st Quarter.

The US Census Bureau provides one explanation of the continuing doldrums in wood markets. Total US privately-owned housing starts continued to disappoint those hoping for a rebound. Through August, US starts were 412 thousand units year-to-date, about 8 percent above the same period in 2009 according to the US Census. However, new residential sales in August were at a seasonally adjusted rate nearly 30 percent below August 2009. Inventories of houses for sale and the estimated number of months to sell a new or existing home have not improved.

Foreclosures continue to be in the news, representing a large percentage of houses sold. US new construction remains severely constrained by both slack demand and difficult financing.

Source: TimberMart South, US Census Bureau

Renewable Energy

Utilities hoping to capitalize on a 2008 renewable energy mandate are eyeing the Missouri Ozarks for plants that would burn wood waste to generate electricity.

A proposal by ProEnergy Services of Sedalia to build a 20-megawatt woody biomass plant in Salem has divided a community that already relies heavily on the dense forests to put food on the table and money in the bank. City elected leaders unanimously rejected the proposal on Monday after nearly one year of courtship by the utility.

Project supporters say the wood-energy plant would help the economy and use logging byproducts that otherwise would go to waste. Opponents say the plant would kill off existing wood products companies while generating more pollution than supporters realize.

ProEnergy officials say they plan to seek out other interested Ozark communities.

Source: Fox4 News

Industry Training

The Wood Science & Technology Program, Division of Forestry & Natural Resources at West Virginia University recently completed a WERC funded project (Award number 05-DG-309) titled, **An Interactive Web-based Training Resource Kit for Primary Processors to Improve Lumber Utilization and Grading Efficiency and Maximize Profits from Appalachian Hardwoods in Small-Scale Sawmills.** The primary goal of this project was to develop an inter-active web-based training resource kit for trimsaw/edger operators and lumber graders that focus on improving lumber utilization and maximizing product value. The training tool can be viewed and downloaded at http://www.wdscapps.caf.wvu.edu/lumberrtk/. For additional information, contact Jingxin Wang at 304-293-7601.

US and Canadian log and lumber exports to China up over 150 percent in 2010, reports the WRQ

The value of softwood logs and lumber exported from North America to China reached over 1.6 billion dollars in 2010, which was 150 percent higher than the previous year and more than ten times as much as in 2006, reports the Wood Resource Quarterly.

Jan 06, 2011 – Seattle, USA. China has come to the rescue for many sawmills and timberland owners in the US and Canada the past year. The value of softwood logs and lumber shipped from North America to China is estimated to reach over 1.6 billion US dollars in 2010, which is up dramatically from just a few years ago. In 2008, total exports were valued at 350 million dollars, while they were only 125 million dollars five years ago.

The increased demand for both wood raw-material and processed forest products in China has, to a large degree, benefited the forest industry in British Columbia and the states of Washington and Oregon in the US. It is interesting to note that the two countries have chosen different paths over the past few years. In Canada, sawmills historically shipped over 90 percent of their exports to US markets, but this changed as demand for lumber fell when the housing bubble burst in 2008. In the 3Q/10, less than 70 percent of exported lumber was destined for the US market. On the other hand, lumber shipments to China have gone up seven-fold the past three years and are expected to reach almost four million m3 in 2010, reports the Wood Resource Quarterly. This makes Canada the largest softwood lumber supplier to China, having surpassed Russia in the 4Q/10.

Another factor that has had an impact on the higher Canadian lumber exports to China is the abundant supply of low-cost beetle-killed timber in British Columbia. Sawmills in the Interior of the province have increased their production levels lately, ending up almost 20 percent higher in the 3Q/10 as compared to the same quarter in 2009. Much of the additional volume has been low-grade lumber targeted for the construction market in China. An estimated 16 percent of the BC lumber production in 2010 was exported to China.

While Canada has drastically raised lumber shipments to China in recent years, the US has instead expanded exportation of logs to Chinese sawmills and plywood manufacturers. In 2007, the US exported less than 100,000 m3; in 2010 an estimated 2.4 million m3 was exported. The US is now the third largest softwood log supplier to China, after Russia and New Zealand. The strong export market has caused sawlog prices in the US Northwest to go up more than in any other region of North America the past year, according to the Wood Resource Quarterly.

Global timber market reporting is included in the 52-page publication Wood Resource Quarterly. The report, established in 1988 and with subscribers in over 25 countries, tracks sawlog, pulpwood, lumber and pellet prices and market developments in most key regions around the world.

Source: PRLog Press Release- Jan. 06, 2011

BCAP: New and (Maybe) Improved

USDA made significant changes to the Biomass Crop Assistance Program in its final rule, many involving woody biomass utilization, but the jury is still out on how the changes will be implemented.

Critics of USDA's Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), a federal program designed to jump-start the use of biomass for bioenergy production, caught the attention of USDA officials when they questioned whether certain woody biomass should be included as eligible material in the program.

Their criticism proved to be true when, after the original Notice of Funding Availability in April 2009, some woody biomass suppliers sold their materials to eligible biomass-based heat, power, fuel or chemical producers allowing them to receive matching BCAP payments, rather than selling to their traditional customers. In most cases, that led to higher prices for customers who weren't eligible to participate in BCAP, such as particleboard makers, and therefore distorted established markets. This caused a suspension of the program so the federal agency could make necessary modifications.

Anna Dirkswager, biomass program coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division, said that particular loophole definitely affected Minnesota, which has 16.7 million acres of forestland. "With a strong forest products industry in Minnesota, there were a lot of folks upset with round wood or whole trees being chipped and going to combined-heat-and-power facilities, because those materials were eligible," she says. "In some areas where we have collapsed markets, we would like to see those trees cut, the forests managed and that material indeed being used as biomass," she says.

Though initial BCAP rules many not have been crafted as meticulously as they could have been, the USDA has altered them with the intent to safeguard materials already being used. At the same time, the door has been left open for qualification of residuals with no local higher value market while endorsing responsible forest management/thinning practices.

USDA has not yet determined who will decide whether there is a local, higher-value market for some wood material. The job may be handed to foresters or Farm Service Agency personnel. While FSA agents know their way around corn and soybean fields, there are concerns that they may not have enough knowledge about wood markets to make these determinations. Dirkswager says she doesn't think the majority of FSA agents have a particularly good understanding of wood markets, but she is hopeful that FSA will work with her and other state officials, and the forest products industry, to determine certain program details such as what constitutes an acceptable Forest Stewardship Plan.

Making a Plan

The 2008 Farm Bill defines a Forest Stewardship Plan as a site-specific plan that addresses one or more resource concerns on land where forestry-related conservation activities or practices will be planned and applied.

The plan must be prepared by a forester with a bachelor's degree in forest management or an equivalent curriculum. It must include, but is not limited to, landowner and plan preparer information; legal descriptions or directions to the site; the number of acres covered; general property description; interaction with surrounding properties; known/threatened/endangered wildlife present; and soil information as well as in-depth descriptions of stand species, class, health, quality, growth rate, hazardous fuels and timber production potential.

Developing a Forest Stewardship Plan may sound time consuming, but Fred Schatzki, a registered forester for American Forest Management Inc., says once approved, funded and scheduled, it only takes him about two weeks from beginning the fieldwork to preparing the completed plan. The cost will depend on the tract size and the ownership objectives. "As a rule of thumb, it's safe to say that rates run about $8 to $12 per acre with a minimum fee of $600," Schatski says.

He says he expects his workload to increase moderately when the BCAP is fully implemented. "My expectation is we'll still be managing the same base resource, but we'll be looking at capitalizing on harvest residues that currently have no good market," he says.

The verdict is still out, however, on what constitutes an acceptable plan, as well as what defines a higher value market. "We're trying to be proactive here in Minnesota and work with FSA to suggest how it might define these and several other program definitions that haven't yet been defined," Dirkswager says. "For higher value markets, is it going to be from the logger's home area of residence, or is it a procurement radii? Wood chips are eligible only without an existing higher value market and when a result of an ecosystem restoration service, but we don't know what ecosystem restoration will be defined as. We've got a variety of things we would like to suggest, but it is difficult to have a go-to

person to make these suggestions to."
Once a Forest Stewardship Plan has been established, it's important to note that eligible woody material must be directly harvested or collected from the land, meaning it cannot be collected or harvested after transport and delivery, nor collected or harvested by separating from that of a higher value material in order to be used for heat, power, biobased products or biofuels. If the material comes from outside of a BCAP project area, it must be a byproduct of preventive treatments to reduce hazardous fuels, to reduce or contain disease or insect infestation, or for ecosystem restoration.
Tom Kimmerer, senior scientist at Moore Ventures and a BCAP specialist, gives the following example: A logging contractor runs a flail de-barker in the woods, which strips off bark and chips the wood for pulp. The bark can be delivered to a biomass facility and it will be eligible for matching payments. However, if there is an established market in the area for bark, such as bark mulch, the bark may not be eligible; that's up to the discretion of the local FSA office. If that same logging contractor delivers whole trees to a paper mill, which strips the bark off and chips the wood for pulp, the bark can be delivered to a biomass facility but will not be eligible for matching payments.

Along with the changes made to the woody biomass eligible materials, there were also modifications to the annual payment component of BCAP that were not implemented with the original NOFA.

More Changes

Annual payments are now paid on a tiered model based on the end-use of the material, a component that favors cellulosic ethanol and advanced biofuels over biopower or bioheat. Upon sale of the crop, if used for heat, power or biobased products, payment is reduced by 40 percent, compared to a 1 percent reduction for cellulosic ethanol and 10 percent for advanced biofuels. "These payments [for biopower/bioheat] are still significant, but one reason for incentivizing advanced biofuels may be because under the [renewable fuel standard 2] there's an aggressive congressional mandate for advanced biofuels and so far, we're well short," says Gregory Lynch, managing partner with Michael Best & Friedrich LLP. "The [U.S.] EPA has been lowering that over the past couple of years by a fairly significant amount, and I think this is one of the policy tools USDA is using to try to promote that."
Related-party transactions, if in accordance with USDA definitions, are also allowed, meaning that a group or party can be both the eligible material owner and the biomass conversion facility, which would include closed-loop bioenergy production models. Additionally, several new feedstocks were added to the eligible materials list, including algae, jatropha, energy cane and pongamia.

While the industry waits for clarification of the new rules, an old concern is still swirling that BCAP funding demands will be much higher than anticipated, and that some eligible participants may miss out. "If ecosystem restoration is considered a thinning or something that's restoring forest health and quality, that's a great opportunity to subsidize work we'd normally have a hard time paying for," Dirkswager says. "But given that $430 million is allocated for fiscal 2011 and only $130 million of that pot is available for the matching payment portion nationwide, we have concerns over how much of that money will actually reach Minnesota. Many of the necessary program pieces that must come together to receive funding are not yet in place and I fear that we'll get ready and it'll be gone. If we did actually get matching payments funds, there are good opportunities to subsidize forest management work."

A significant majority of the $243 million in matching payments already distributed or committed under the original NOFA went to woody resources. "[Foresters] are all curious about how it will ultimately shake out," Schatzski adds. "Last year's experience indicated that there was significantly more demand for BCAP funding than was originally thought."

Now is a unique time for BCAP, as in the past 18 months there's been a lot of stopping and starting, Lynch says. "But the next 30 to 60 days is really the time that companies, especially wood producers or pulp and paper companies should seriously start looking at planning how they can take advantage of BCAP."

In order to ensure that all program participants are in compliance with the modified or new rules, everyone must apply, even those who had previously qualified and were already receiving matching collection, harvest and storage payments.

Though the necessary federal notices have yet to be issued, Lynch says some additional clarification can be expected soon. "Sometime later this month USDA plans to issue additional guidance in what they'll look for in establishing BCAP designated project areas, and they're looking at doing a fairly aggressive education program for industry participants," he says. "The first tentative meetings will be held in early January, and USDA will give presentations on interpreting the new BCAP rules, as well as providing guidance to interested parties on how to certify project areas."

BCAP's past trial-and-error period and collaboration with experienced and relevant state agencies could result in a well-crafted, successful program. Dirkswager says her department has already been working with Minnesota's FSA on BCAP-related issues. "The [USDA] was able to work with us in being able to get some of the systematic hurdles resolved, but I think the creation of the final rules was a polite way of writing off the forest products industry," she adds. "But perhaps a necessary one, with the market diversion it was creating."

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Missouri: Conservation in 2010

Looking back on 2010, historians are likely to describe a year when economic challenges spurred conservation innovations and a new leadership team launched ambitious initiatives. It was also a year when the Show-Me State's world-class fishing repeatedly made national news.

As 2010 began, revenue from Missouri's one-eighth of 1-percent conservation sales tax was in its fourth consecutive year of decline. Sales-tax income fell from $103.3 million in Fiscal Year '07 to $93.9 million in FY '10, and projected sales-tax income for the current fiscal year was projected to be $92.7 million. To adapt to falling revenues, MDC moved to cut its workforce by 10 percent, close 13 offices and adjust some programs.

In March, MDC announced plans to distribute nearly $6 million in grants to help seven schools reduce energy costs, create jobs and provide incentives for better forest management. The Fuels for Schools grant program was a cooperative effort with the USDA Forest Service and was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It helped participating schools install boiler systems that use woody biomass to heat and cool their facilities. Besides cutting schools' fuel bills, the program helps reduce dependence on fossil fuels, supports local employment and supports the state's forest industry. It also benefits conservation by giving landowners a financial incentive to conduct timber-stand improvements harvests and other management practices that enhance forest productivity and wildlife habitat.

2011 Professional Timber Harvester Courses

Registration has begun for the 2011 Professional Timber Harvester courses. Courses will initially be offered in five locations including: Eminence, Sullivan, Houston, Fredericktown, and Fayette. For more information or to register contact Tammy Homfeldt, Communications and Education Manager with MFPA at 573-634-3252 or visit their website at
http://www.moforest.org

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

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