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Lumber Market Reports

Northern The majority of the Northern region experienced outstanding timber harvesting conditions this winter, but there has been a shift in weather patterns the past several weeks, decreasing the flow of logs to area mills. Yet, most sawmill operators state log decks should be adequate to maintain consistent production schedules through spring breakup. To this point mill output has not significantly declined. A number of contacts indicate mills have sawn most of their whitewoods and are focusing on Oak or Ash. The marketplace is welcoming additional Red Oak, White Oak, and Ash. However, the increased volume of green lumber stalled upward price momentum for all green species except White Oak. Industrial markets are wholeheartedly welcoming greater quantities of ties, pallet lumber, and cants. Board road markets are beginning to gain traction, too. At the same time, kiln dried business is improving domestically. Better weather conditions in parts of the country are promoting higher new home construction. And, international shipments remain in record territory.

Southern The Southwestern Hardwood Club's Annual Crawfish Boil was held this past Saturday in Natchez, MS with record attendance of over 150 people. The meeting featured a roundtable discussion, which highlighted some of the challenges the industry is facing, such as log shortages, higher raw material costs, and lack of trucks and other freight equipment. But, most meeting participants focused on the positives the industry is experiencing. Markets for lumber, industrial timbers, and finished goods are solid, with expectations business will be good through the end of the year, at least.

Appalachian On average, log decks at Appalachian sawmills are in better shape today than a month or even two weeks ago. However, many mills are still quite low on logs and are either operating well below capacity or, in cases, are sawing pine logs while they work to rebuild hardwood log decks. Many concentration yards and some secondary wood products manufacturers indicate they are missing sales opportunities because of inadequate lumber or raw material supplies. Exports are brisk, but here again, contacts state bookings would be even better if more lumber was available. Most species, grades, and thicknesses of lumber are in good to strong demand, as are pallet cants, pallet lumber, and crossties.

(Source: Condensed from *Hardwood Market Report*, May 4, 2018. For more information or to subscribe to *Hardwood Market Report*, call (901) 767-9216, email: hmr@hmr.com, website: www.hmr.com)

Hardwood Lumber Prices - Green												
Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17
Ash	1210	1100	1020	1020	810	750	700	675	445	420	390	360
Basswood	790	790	790	800	440	440	450	460	225	225	225	240
Cottonwood	780	780	780	780	575	575	575	560	260	260	260	260
Cherry	1700	1490	1350	1230	1105	965	860	770	590	525	475	420
Elm	650	650	650	650	420	420	420	420	290	290	290	300
Hackberry	530	530	530	530	480	480	480	480	295	295	295	295
Hickory	960	920	880	860	630	610	580	550	450	450	425	395
Soft Maple	1200	1200	1245	1265	790	790	805	845	480	480	480	480
Red Oak	1225	1205	1115	1095	910	865	810	785	555	545	520	500
White Oak	1685	1605	1560	1605	1040	950	920	785	560	530	505	500
Walnut	3100	3050	2750	2600	1960	1750	1560	1400	1235	1060	910	765

Note: Lumber prices quoted in \$/MBF, average market prices FOB mill, truckload and greater quantities, 4/4, rough, green, random widths and lengths graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Prices for ash, basswood, northern soft grey elm, unselected soft maple, red oak and white oak from Northern Hardwoods list. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods list. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods list. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report (HMR)*, above prices are from the 1st issue of the indicated month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email hmr@hmr.com; or go to www.hmr.com.)

Hardwood Lumber Prices - Kiln Dried												
Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17
Ash	1635	1530	1490	1470	1205	1170	1130	1085	860	825	780	745
Basswood	1180	1180	1180	1180	725	725	725	725	485	485	485	525
Cottonwood	1025	1025	1025	1025	770	770	770	770	----	----	----	----
Cherry	2320	2050	2100	1850	1600	1415	1440	1270	1040	920	970	780
Elm	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hackberry	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hickory	1540	1520	1500	1490	1180	1120	1080	1040	990	940	910	840
Soft Maple	1570	1570	1660	1755	1175	1175	1215	1215	800	800	810	810
Red Oak	1715	1695	1650	1610	1370	1350	1340	1340	1030	1000	1000	980
White Oak	2250	2200	2175	2250	1615	1575	1560	1560	1110	1085	1070	1070
Walnut	4330	4300	4160	4070	2950	2725	2625	2425	1990	1820	1740	1590

Note: Kiln dried prices in \$/MBF, FOB mill, is an estimate of predominant prices for 4/4 lumber measured after kiln drying. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods list. Prices for ash, basswood, northern soft grey elm, unselected soft maple, red oak, and white oak from Northern Hardwood list. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods list. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report (HMR)*, above prices are from the 1st issue of the indicated month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email hmr@hmr.com; or go to www.hmr.com.)

Pallet Lumber - Green				
Dimension	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17
4/4 x RW	325	265	245	245
5/4 x RW	340	290	290	290
6/4 x RW	375	315	315	315
4/4 x SW	400	360	340	330
5/4 x SW	420	390	365	365
6/4 x SW	450	400	380	380

Ties (7x9) - Green				
Region	5/18	2/18	11/17	8/17
<i>Crossties</i>	----	----	----	----
Northern - 8.5'	26.25-29.25	24.5-27.75	24.5-27	24.5-27
Appalachian (South) - 8.5'	27.25-31.25	25.75-29.5	24.5-28.25	24-28.25
Appalachian (North) - 8.5'	27-30.5	25.5-28.5	24.5-28	24-28
Southern (West) - 9'	27-31.5	25-30	24.5-30	24-30
Southern (East) - 8.5'	27-31.5	24-29.50	23.5-29.25	23-29.25

Note: Pallet lumber prices quoted in \$/MBF, average market prices FOB mill, truckload and greater quantities, rough, green, random widths and lengths graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Tie prices quoted in \$/piece, average market prices FOB mill. Prices for pallet lumber from Northern Hardwood list. Prices for ties from the respective regional lists. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report (HMR)*, above prices are from the 1st issue of the indicated month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email hmr@hmr.com; or go to www.hmr.com.)

The Urban Wood Network: Bringing the Value of Urban Wood to Light

Many common urban tree removal practices in the United States view felled urban trees as costly waste. We know that trees removed from our cities and communities due to death, storm damage, or other circumstances are a resource worth saving. When processed, sold, and utilized, the U.S. could produce nearly 4 billion board feet annually to develop local urban wood economies, reduce expenses for communities, and provide a sustainable, renewable resource to beautify our homes, business and public facilities.

The Urban Wood Network is here to change that. A thriving urban wood market would mean more holistic management of urban trees, where every part of the removed tree, from trunk to twigs, can be put to its highest and best use instead of being wasted. And it would mean that artisans and consumers alike would be able to enjoy the beauty that urban wood provides for generations to come.

The Urban Wood Network (UWN) was launched in the summer of 2017 by partners from Illinois, Michigan, Missouri and Wisconsin with funding provided by the USDA Forest Service Northeastern, State and Private Forestry Landscape Scale Restoration Grant Program. UWN's

founding partners have been dedicated to building urban wood businesses since the early 2000s and have united to promote and demonstrate urban wood utilization. We are doing more than just saving trees from a waste stream, we are giving them a second life at their highest use, whether its mulch and firewood or premium end products like furniture and flooring.

URBAN WOOD NETWORK

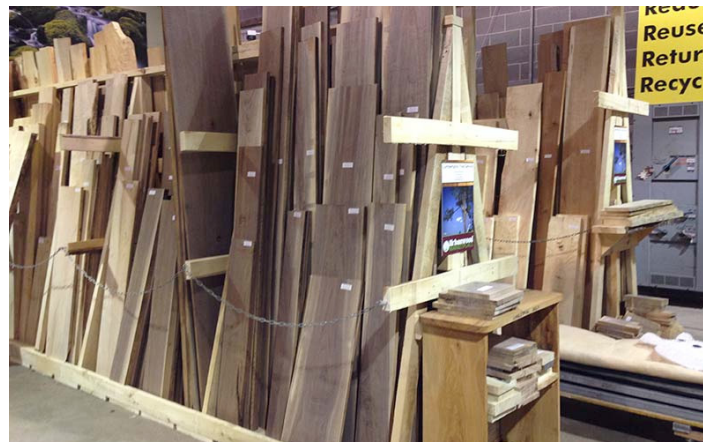
We've learned from experience that the only way to have an ultimate impact, to truly establish full circle urban forestry management, is to work cooperatively from arborist to value-added manufacturer. A cohesive supply chain is the only way to get the highest product from these trees. Now, we want to use our collective experiences to assist other entities and other states to join this developing industry. To that end, UWN has opened up membership to other state urban wood organizations as well as individual companies and entities.

Whether you are looking to expand your existing model, start a new business dedicated to urban wood, join a statewide network, or start your own, the UWN can help. Visit urbanwoodnetwork.org to explore all of our urban wood utilization resources or contact us at info@urbanwoodnetwork.org or 906-875-3720.

The Urban Wood Network is organizing a free 90-minute seminar at the International Woodworking Fair in Atlanta. "The Urban Wood Movement Is NOW! Come Join the Movement" will be held Friday, Aug. 24 at 1:00 p.m. at the Georgia World Congress Center. Attendees will learn:

- The unique source local/buy local marketing appeal of urban wood products and interesting stories they tell.
- The environmental advantages of utilizing urban wood.
- How to find local sources of urban wood.
- How to join or start a local urban wood network.

While the IWF Urban Wood Utilization seminar is being presented free of charge, attendees must register to guarantee a seat at the program. <http://www.iwfatlanta.com/Education/NBS4>



Firewood Regulations Impacting Nebraska Firewood Producers

Firewood is a potential pathway for numerous plant pests, including emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and velvet longhorn beetle. In order to minimize the threat of transporting plant pests in firewood, state and federal agencies have enacted quarantines and laws to regulate firewood movement.

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture regulates firewood under two state quarantines: the Nebraska Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine and the Nebraska Thousand Cankers Disease of Black Walnut (TCD) quarantine. It also monitors firewood being distributed in the state to ensure compliance with other federal plant pest quarantines that regulate firewood.

The Nebraska EAB quarantine is a state interior quarantine, regulating the movement of all hardwood firewood from five Nebraska counties (Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington) to non-quarantine counties. Hardwood firewood originating in these five counties, or which enters these counties, cannot leave the quarantine area unless it is certified. A similar federal quarantine is in place which prohibits the movement of firewood from other infested states to non-quarantine parts of Nebraska.

The Nebraska TCD quarantine is a state exterior quarantine, meaning hardwood firewood from infested states cannot enter Nebraska unless certified. Infested states include Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and Washington.

Hardwood firewood from areas under EAB quarantine typically are certified using either heat treatment or debarking. Heat treatment requires the firewood to be treated to a minimum of 60° C (140° F) for 60 minutes. Typically this is done in a kiln, and the temperatures monitored with probes placed throughout the firewood. Debarking requires that all bark plus an additional ½" of wood be removed from each piece of firewood. Official documentation indicating the method of certification must accompany each shipment to non-quarantine areas.

Firms desiring to ship hardwood firewood from EAB quarantine to non-quarantine areas should contact NDA to learn more about the process to become certified. Most often this includes the firm entering into a compliance agreement with NDA. A compliance agreement is a legal document that identifies the regulated article (hardwood firewood), the certification requirements and the means by which the firm agrees to meet them. The use of a compliance agreement allows firms to certify material without requiring load by load inspections.

The Nebraska TCD quarantine requires hardwood firewood from infested states to either be heat treated to a minimum of 60° C (140° F) for 60 minutes, or fumigated with methyl bromide. Certification documents must accompany each shipment.

NDA Inspectors monitor firewood being distributed in Nebraska for compliance with these quarantines. Inspectors identify the source of the firewood and check labels and shipping documents to confirm the firewood is compliant.**(cont. page 5)**
When a violation is found, or origin cannot be determined, a



Racks of firewood ready for kiln drying.



Temperature probe being installed in firewood.



Installed temperature. Several will be installed per kiln load.

Firewood Regulations (*continued*)

Withdrawal-From-Distribution is issued, and the firewood must be returned to the seller or destroyed.

Nearly every state in the country has either enacted protective laws and quarantines on firewood brought into their state, or is under a quarantine which regulates the movement of firewood out of their state. These laws and quarantines may impact Nebraska firewood producers. Producers must be aware of the applicable quarantines both for where they obtain and where they distribute their firewood.

NDA helps producers navigate these firewood laws and quarantines, to assist producers in legally distributing their firewood. Questions about firewood can be directed to Julie Van Meter, NDA State Entomologist & Program Manager, at (402) 471-2351 or Julie.vanmeter@nebraska.gov .

Nebraska Legislature to Conduct Redcedar Study

The Nebraska State Legislature approved the completion of a legislative study to investigate the impacts of eastern redcedar on the landscape and identify management strategies to address excessive spread into Nebraska's forests and grassland. Below is the official language of the bill (LR387).

PURPOSE: Eastern Redcedar (ERC) is a native tree that has always been a fixture on the Nebraska landscape, providing valuable wood products, wind and soil protection, and habitat for a variety of species of wildlife. However, the rapid spread of ERC presents an increasingly serious ecological and economic issue with substantial impacts statewide. Addressing the spread of ERC poses challenges of a magnitude that dwarf the capacity and resources of any one agency or organization.

It is important to understand the factors behind the rapid spread of ERC, including the lack of fire on the landscape (both prescribed fire and wildfire), changes in farm and grazing practices, lack of prevention management, changes in land ownership patterns, and conservation plantings. The study committee, at a minimum, shall:

- 1. Specifically identify the current threats of ERC spread;*
- 2. Quantify the potential economic loss caused by the spread of ERC;*
- 3. Quantify the loss of wildlife and critical habitat;*
- 4. Explore whether funding streams already exist in state statute for ERC control;*
- 5. Investigate liability concerns that inhibit prescribed burning; and*
- 6. Obtain public feedback on:*
 - The best use of ERC as a windbreak;*
 - Whether alternative species exist to satisfy the needs of landowners; and*
 - The cost and challenges of ERC management.*

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the members of the one hundred fifth legislature of Nebraska, second session:

- 1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.*
- 2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.*



Nebraska Forest Industry Spotlight: Between Two Trees LLC (Brady, NE)

As a kid I was making crazy things out of wood, and a few years later high school shop class became my favorite class. Making the usual projects like clipboards and book ends, then finally a glass door maple china hutch that now sits in my living room, this was originally made for my mother. Now forty five years later my heart still gets pumped up when I get to work with wood.

Six years ago; through my construction business I was able to interest one of my good clients into using “local lumber” as much as possible in a project. The only problem was that there was no local lumber available. So we worked out a deal that got me into a sawmill and after looking at all the different options out there I decided on a “Linn Lumber Mill model 1900”. Also decided to have the mill stationary where I could use an electric motor instead of a gas engine. I have been very happy with those choices for multiple reasons.



Jumping into a new adventure was not out of the ordinary for me, but; there definitely was a steep learning curve getting into the lumber making business. Setting up the mill was not a problem, then came “log handling” ... “manually” ... without hydraulics, yah! That’s a big learning curve! Still learning! But then came the magic! Getting to see the logs turn into absolutely beautiful lumber still almost takes my breath away. All the logs that I have milled have come from a 20-mile radius. First milled redcedar, then some big cottonwoods, then you get into trying all the different trees that are in the area. Always looking for new logs and at this point there really is not a shortage of logs once you figure out where to look or what local tree guys to get friendly with.

By far the biggest learning curve for me has been how to get the lumber dry and keep it straight as possible! I have tried it all, air drying takes too long so working with a limited budget I put together a kiln with dehumidifier and two or three fans in a big box, sometimes adding a heater but I found that with the heat generated and the sunshine I could get it up to 135 degrees. Still it could take up to 3 months to get some lumber dry enough. Then I got to looking at the vacuum kilns and got hooked on the possibility of drying lumber in 3 weeks instead of 3 months, and they say the lumber is better quality, wow! Being a “do-it-yourselfer” I started to collect some of the pieces, vacuum pump, fourteen foot anhydrous tank, some of the valves it has not come together just yet, but one day we’ll have a vacuum kiln!

To date I have a good selection of several different types of lumber. Got into milling some big hackberry, Siberian elm, cedar, cottonwood and blue spruce into slabs all raw edge. I have a pretty good pile of logs waiting to be milled into whatever anyone is looking for and will mill the logs you (client) have if you can get them to my mill. If it is not too far I can also come and pick up logs you have.

My sawmill and I are located south of Brady, NE, 9 miles on a little acreage that has been in my family for over 100 years. My father who is alive and well at 94 and was born here in a sod house along with 7 other siblings. My father was growing up here (1924 to 1940’s) and later he would tell the story about my grandfather having to cut the “last” cedar tree in the area to make a post to hold up the old windmill. Even when I was growing up here in the south hills there were no trees, only a couple cedars here and there. Now, right around me the cedars have taken over most of the pastures, there are also quite a few ash, hackberry, cottonwood, some black walnut, few American elm, and Siberian elm.



My short term goal is to get a volume of different dry lumber in storage so that I can go to “home shows” or similar and show and sell quality local lumber.

**For more information contact Clifford Johnson, Between Two Trees at 308-930-2543
or online at betweentwotreesllc.com**

Woody Biomass Heating Assistance Available

Fluctuating fossil fuel prices have increased national attention on heating buildings or producing power for facilities using woody biomass (woodchips or other wood waste) as a fuel. Numerous large biomass heating facilities exist in Nebraska including Chadron State College and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

However, there are a number of smaller facilities around the state who are utilizing their wood waste to provide heat for their facilities, many of which are sawmills or other wood products businesses. Small wood heating systems are being used to heat workshops, display rooms, and lumber kilns. Woody biomass opportunities are not strictly limited to the wood products industry. Schools, public facilities, greenhouse nurseries, warehouses, agricultural operations and hospitals all are targeted facilities for woody biomass heating applications.

Key factors which could lead to successful woody biomass applications include close proximity to available source of wood waste, wood fuel, or forested area and if the facilities are currently being heated using fossil fuels.

The Nebraska Forest Service is offering free technical assistance to facilities who are interested in investigating whether they can benefit from woody biomass heat or power.

If you own, operate, or are involved in a facility which might benefit from woody biomass heating and are interested in investigating this opportunity further, please contact Adam Smith, NFS at 402-472-1276 or asmith11@unl.edu.



SAVE THE DATE: Walnut Timber Management & Harvest Workshop

Nebraska's eastern hardwood forests are home to a significant walnut timber resource. While high-value timber production remains a viable management strategy, it is necessary to understand the importance of active timber management in order to capture the highest value of the walnut resource. Additionally, improving forest health and sustainability play a key role in producing high quality timber and ensuring a timber resource for the future. The Nebraska Forest Service will be hosting a Walnut Timber Management and Harvest Workshop emphasizing active timber management and opportunities to improve the health, quality and sustainability of Nebraska's walnut timber resource.

WHEN: Saturday, October 27, 2018

WHERE: Horning State Farm, 2106 Horning Road, Plattsmouth, NE 68048

WHAT: Workshop topics will include managing your walnut forest for quality, identifying value in your walnut forest, working with a forester to prepare for harvest, among others!

WHO: Target audience for this workshop includes forest landowners and natural resource professionals

Detailed agenda and registration information will be included in the September 2018 issue of Timber Talk and online in the future at <https://nfs.unl.edu/workshops>.

For more information, contact Steve Karloff, NFS, 402-472-3645 or skarloff1@unl.edu



Trading Post

The Trading Post is provided as a free marketing service for forestry industry. Only forestry-related advertisements will be accepted. Please submit written ads to the Timber Talk editor at least 15 days before scheduled Timber Talk publication dates. Ads may be edited to meet space constraints.

For Sale

Sawmill. Mighty Mite bandsaw. 20 HP electric motor, tandem axles w/ brakes on one axle, 36" x 24' log capacity, (have cut 46" beams) hydraulic operation includes winch, knees, taper, near arm, dogging arms, far arm, dogging spike, log loading arms, and electric clutch and blade lift. Includes automatic blade sharpener, setting machine, 12 used blades and 4 new blades. Excellent condition. Never been used commercially. \$17,500. Contact: Gary Fisher, Crawford, NE. Phone: 308-665-1580; email: fisher@bbcwb.net.

Walnut Lumber. All dimensions. \$3.00 per board foot. Falls City, NE. Contact: Bruce Walker at 402-245-2031.

Dehumidification Kiln. Complete dehumidification kiln with Nyle drying system. Includes insulated kiln chamber (22.5' x 8' x 8' retrofitted produce container), digital kiln controls, wet and dry bulb thermometers, internal air flow system, directional fans, hanging ceiling baffles, some powered external exhaust fans, and internal rail system for loading entire kiln packages onto rail cart and rolling the charge into the kiln. Drying package size is approx. 6' wide x 5' tall x 20' long. \$4,900. Contact Brian Schwaninger, Big Red Sawmill, 402-525-2095.

Services and Miscellaneous

Woodshop Services. Millwork made from your lumber on my planer/molder. Chris Marlowe, Butte, NE 402-775-5000. Marlowepasture@nntc.net.

Sawmill Service and Supplies. Saw hammering and welding. Precision knife and saw grinding. Contact: Tim Schram, Schram Saw and Machine, PO Box 718, 204 E. 3rd St., Ponca, NE 68770, 402-755-4294.

Used Portable Sawmills. North America's largest source of used portable sawmills and equipment. Contact: Sawmill Exchange, 800-459-2148, website: www.sawmillexchange.com.

Wanted

Wood Residue. Slab wood, cutoffs, sawdust, mulch, bales, etc. Lincoln, NE. Call Scott Hofeling at 402-432-0806 or email scott@hofelingenterprises.com.

Logs and Slabwood. Cottonwood, cedar and pine. 4-26" diameter and 90-100" lengths. Below saw grade logs acceptable. Contact: American Wood Fibers, Clarks, NE at 800-662-5459; or email: Pat Krish at pkrish@AWF.com

Cottonwood Logs. Veneer-quality cottonwood logs, 16-36" diameter, 7' and longer. Pick up service available. Contact: Barcel Mill & Lumber, Bellwood, NE 68624. Ask for Barton or Megan. Phone: 800-201-4780; email: bj@barcelmill.com.

Timber Sales

The following listings are for stands of timber or logs being offered for sale by owners or persons of delegated authority. Timber was cruised and/or marked for harvest by the Nebraska Forest Service or other professional foresters. Volumes in board feet (Doyle scale unless otherwise indicated) are estimates by the forester. If no volume is listed, the trees or logs were not marked by a forester and the listing is included only as a marketing service to the owner. Listings are prepared according to the information at the time of publication.

Ponderosa Pine Timber
100+ acres available
Previously logged 100+ years ago
Skid trails and roads in place

Contact: Mike and Kristina Ziller
Phone: 308-327-2780
mziller@gmail.com
Sheridan County, NE