



NEBRASKA'S FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

TIMBER TALK

LUMBER MARKET REPORTS

Northern

A number of area sawmill operators report low log decks. Green lumber production has slipped. The decline is not unusual for this time of year, but the lower mill output has helped ease negative price pressures for green Ash, Red Oak, #1 White Oak, and Hard Maple. The change in production has pushed prices up for certain species such as Soft Maple. At the same time, concentration yards and secondary manufacturers state on hand supplies of most species, grades, and thicknesses are at least sufficient to bridge sawmill production gaps that might occur from the fall into winter. The only exception is soft Maple. It seems the marketplace cannot get enough of this species. Furthermore there has been little indication end users are willing to make a major shift from Soft Maple to more readily available whitewoods, such as Hard Maple - even though Soft Maple prices have risen above Hard Maple. This is not a new phenomenon. Recent history shows US secondary manufacturers are reluctant to switch species. There are cost associated with major changeovers between Soft Maple and Hard Maple, including additional machine tooling, work in process and SKUs, at least temporarily. However, companies will eventually make a change if prices vary enough to justify the move.

Southern

Rain in much of the region slowed logging activity. However, most area mills had enough logs to run uninterrupted schedules, and many are well situated with log inventories for the interim. Supplies of green lumber are, at least, sufficient to satisfy demand. Reported prices for key items remain under pressure, especially green #3A&Btr Red Oak. Markets for industrial timber products are good, led by the railway tie industry. Sales companies are attempting to work down kiln dried inventories. Domestic business is mixed, though most contacts report decent domestic sales. International business is even more varied.

Appalachian

Eastern US hardwood sawmill production is down 8.9% year to date. However, the downturn in grade lumber output is much more substantial. Industrial lumber and heart dimension products have increased as a percentage of total production and represent as much or more than 60% of developing supplies. Grade lumber output is down potentially 12 to 15% on the year; in the case of Red Oak, mills are funneling far more #1 C&Btr lumber than normal to Oak strip flooring customers. At the same time, the shift by mills to produce more crossties and other heavy industrial timbers is having some bearing on the volume of #2A&3A Oak lumber coming onto the market. Crossties are offering higher returns than #2A, 3A lumber, as well as for #1C in most species. The performance of domestic markets is little changed from recent weeks. Chinese New Year comes early in 2020 - arriving January 25th. Some exporters report a small uptick in Chinese shipments scheduled for delivery prior to Chinese New Year. However, highly competitive prices are necessary to obtain that business.

(Source: Condensed from Hardwood Market Report, November 8, 2019. 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 | | | |
|------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| | 11/19 | 8/19 | 5/19 | 2/19 | 11/19 | 8/19 | 5/19 | 2/19 | 11/19 | 8/19 | 5/19 | 2/19 |
| Ash | 885 | 980 | 1075 | 1090 | 535 | 625 | 695 | 695 | 340 | 400 | 420 | 420 |
| Basswood | 795 | 795 | 810 | 810 | 430 | 430 | 440 | 445 | 225 | 225 | 225 | 225 |
| Cottonwood | 780 | 780 | 780 | 780 | 575 | 575 | 575 | 575 | 260 | 260 | 260 | 260 |
| Cherry | 1050 | 1110 | 1235 | 1330 | 555 | 590 | 725 | 800 | 320 | 335 | 385 | 420 |
| Elm | 670 | 670 | 670 | 670 | 420 | 420 | 420 | 420 | 290 | 290 | 290 | 290 |
| Hackberry | 530 | 530 | 530 | 530 | 480 | 480 | 480 | 480 | 295 | 295 | 295 | 295 |
| Hickory | 800 | 850 | 865 | 865 | 530 | 545 | 560 | 560 | 400 | 415 | 425 | 415 |
| Soft Maple | 1235 | 1180 | 1140 | 1100 | 790 | 760 | 760 | 760 | 460 | 460 | 470 | 470 |
| Red Oak | 760 | 825 | 960 | 980 | 540 | 560 | 635 | 680 | 495 | 515 | 535 | 545 |
| White Oak | 1700 | 1725 | 1745 | 1685 | 895 | 970 | 1000 | 1000 | 550 | 550 | 560 | 560 |
| Walnut | 2175 | 2315 | 2510 | 2800 | 1175 | 1300 | 1545 | 1775 | 465 | 510 | 720 | 1050 |

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), the above prices are from the first issue of the identified 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 | | | |
|------------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| | 2/19 | 11/18 | 8/18 | 5/18 | 2/19 | 11/18 | 8/18 | 5/18 | 2/19 | 11/18 | 8/18 | 5/18 |
| Ash | 1300 | 1400 | 1490 | 1510 | 860 | 935 | 1035 | 1095 | 675 | 720 | 775 | 790 |
| Basswood | 1200 | 1200 | 1220 | 1220 | 720 | 730 | 740 | 740 | 485 | 485 | 485 | 485 |
| Cottonwood | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 1025 | 760 | 760 | 760 | 760 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Cherry | 1565 | 1800 | 1950 | 1950 | 975 | 1140 | 1275 | 1250 | 580 | 680 | 760 | 835 |
| Elm | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Hackberry | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Hickory | 1450 | 1460 | 1460 | 1475 | 1040 | 1080 | 1060 | 1095 | 900 | 940 | 935 | 930 |
| Soft Maple | 1690 | 1630 | 1565 | 1520 | 1150 | 1105 | 1140 | 1155 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| Red Oak | 1200 | 1355 | 1490 | 1505 | 870 | 935 | 1010 | 1030 | 790 | 805 | 895 | 910 |
| White Oak | 2350 | 2350 | 2350 | 2300 | 1330 | 1510 | 1550 | 1030 | 1010 | 1025 | 1075 | 910 |
| Walnut | 3575 | 3725 | 3825 | 3980 | 2100 | 2375 | 2550 | 2725 | 1215 | 1450 | 1625 | 1765 |

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 the Northern Hardwood list. Prices for ties from the respective regional lists. (Source: Hardwood Market Report (HMR), the above prices are from the first issue of the identified month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email hmr@hmr.com; or go to www.hmr.com.)

Ties (7x9) - Green

| Region | 11/19 | 8/19 | 5/19 | 2/19 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Crossties | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Northern - 8.5' | 27.9-31.5 | 27.9-31.5 | 27.75-30.5 | 27.5-29.75 |
| Appalachian (South) - 8.5' | 30.5-35.5 | 30.5-35.5 | 30-35 | 30-34.5 |
| Appalachian (North) - 8.5' | 30.25-34.25 | 30.25-34.25 | 30-34 | 30-34 |
| Southern (West) - 9' | 31.5-37 | 31.5-37 | 31-36 | 30-34 |
| Southern (East) - 8.5' | 31.5-37 | 31.5-37 | 31-36 | 30-34 |

Pallet Lumber - Green

| Dimension | 11/19 | 8/19 | 5/19 | 2/19 |
|-----------|-------|------|------|------|
| 4/4 x RW | 405 | 405 | 405 | 395 |
| 5/4 x RW | 420 | 420 | 420 | 410 |
| 6/4 x RW | 445 | 445 | 445 | 435 |
| 4/4 x SW | 440 | 440 | 440 | 430 |
| 5/4 x SW | 450 | 450 | 450 | 440 |
| 6/4 x SW | 480 | 480 | 480 | 470 |

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 first issue of the identified month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email hmr@hmr.com; or go to www.hmr.com.)

NFS Hosting Ash Wood Showcase

We are pleased to share that the Nebraska Forest Service is organizing an “Ash Wood Showcase” in an effort to highlight the need and opportunities for urban wood utilization. We are counting on talented individuals, such as yourself, to help highlight the diversity of products that can be made with ash wood. We are seeking interested parties to create a unique item with ash wood provided by the Nebraska Forest Service. These items will be showcased in a First Friday event on February 7, 2020, at Turbine Flats, 2124 Y St., Lincoln, NE 68503.

The lumber the Nebraska Forest Service has available for use is 4/4 (approximately 1” thick), and 8/4 (approximately 2” thick), ~8 foot lengths, variable widths, majority have live and/or irregular edges, and all lumber is planed.

Please schedule a time to pick up your lumber with Heather Nobert at hnobert2@unl.edu or (402) 472-2941 or Kendall Weyers at kweyers2@unl.edu or (402) 472-6693.

By participating in the Ash Wood Showcase, you agree to the following:

As a participant in the Ash Wood Showcase, I will create an original item with the ash wood provided by the Nebraska Forest Service. I agree to loan the item to the Nebraska Forest Service for show on February 7, 2020, at Turbine Flats as a part of First Friday. If possible, I will attend the event.

I understand that ash wood is under quarantine by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and the lumber provided by the Nebraska Forest Service shall not leave the quarantine zone, which includes the following counties: Washington, Dodge, Douglas, Saunders, Sarpy, Cass, Lancaster, and Otoe.



I will arrange to transport both the lumber and finished product. Lumber can be picked up from the Nebraska Forest Service's Prairie Pines Property. Prairie Pines is located on the northeast corner of 112th St. and Adams St. in Lincoln.



Upcoming Combined Heat and Biochar Webinar

In the process of making biochar from biomass, thermal energy is produced that can be used for heating and cooling. Systems that take advantage of both the biochar and the energy are called Combined Heat and Biochar or CHAB.

The Nebraska Forest Service is hosting industry experts, Tom Miles of TR Miles Consulting and Kelpie Wilson of Wilson Biochar Associates to present the basics of CHAB systems, available technologies, appropriate applications, and the economics of combined heat and biochar.



[More Information](#)

In the News

Gering High School, Nebraska Forest Service partner to teach kids new trade

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.

| Timber Information | Forester/Date | Seller Information |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Black Walnut, 33 trees Veneer 2 – 435 bf Veneer 3 – 473 bf Lumber 1 – 996 bf Lumber 2 – 2,992 bf Lumber 3 – 2,518 bf <u>Total – 7,414 bf</u> | Karloff 11/2019 | Rick Young 1885 Blue Sage Parkway Elkhorn, NE 68022 Ph: (402) 670-8820 Location: Washington County |
| Black Walnut, 58 trees Veneer 3 – 428 bf Lumber 1 – 1,593 bf Lumber 2 – 3,184 bf Lumber 3 – 3,281 bf <u>Total – 8,486 bf</u> Bur Oak, 3 trees - 1,620 bf Green Ash, 3 trees - 490 bf Hackberry, 1 tree - 440 bf | Karloff 11/2019 | David Feurer 62484 732 Road Johnson, NE 68378 Ph: (402) 335-0730 Location: Johnson County |

TRADING POST

The Trading Post is provided as a free marketing service for the 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

Post Peeler - Morbark PS8 Post Peeler. It comes with 2 engines, 1 diesel and 1 electric. 8ft in-feed table with short return system. 33 ft of dead rolls with markers for trimming with a hydraulic bar saw. Markers for 6½, 7, 8 and 10ft posts. Several bunks and banding equipment included. A 24ft triple axle trailer for hauling also included. In excellent condition. Video available. Call John Hahn. 308-430-0630(c); 308-638-7531(h) Hay Springs, Nebraska.

Mulch - The city of Nebraska City has approx. 60 semi loads of single grind mulch \$200/ semi load or \$50/dump truckload. Shipping not included. Arrangements will be made to load. Contact: Marty Stovall 402-873-5515 or email mstovall@nebraskacity.com.

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.

Biochar Production Unit. Biochar production unit mounted on a 24ft gooseneck trailer. Burns 8 - 10 cubic yards of biomass per day producing up to 2 yards of high-grade biochar and 1 Million BTU/hr of hot air. \$50,000. Contact High Plains Biochar for more information 307-761-5508.

Service and Miscellaneous

Portable Sawmilling Service - Offering portable sawmilling service, turning your logs into valuable lumber. Contact: Doug Patton, D&S Sawmill Services, Palmyra, NE. Phone: 402-269-4866 or Email: dssawmillservices@gmail.com.

Woodshop Services - Millwork made from your lumber on my planer/molder. Chris Marlowe, Butte, NE, Phone: 402-775-5000. Email: 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.



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