



NEBRASKA'S FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

TIMBER TALK

LUMBER MARKET REPORTS

Northern

It is a Presidential election year, and with it comes all the distractions that accompany an election year - namely debating and division. The current President has been impeached and is on trial to see if he will remain in office. These circumstances are enough to erode US consumer confidence and affect consumer spending. But overall, that has not been the case. Whether US citizens have become numb to sensationalized media, or whether the before-mentioned events don't impact their daily lives, consumer confidence is up, and they are still active. The US economy is relatively strong, with low-interest rates and a solid housing market that, in 2019, extended the longest growth streak since the US Census Bureau began tracking housing starts in 1959. Unfortunately, US hardwood manufacturers are not fully benefitting from the good housing market. HMR's hardwood lumber consumption numbers show both the US cabinet and solid wood flooring industries consumed less lumber in 2019 than in 2018. Both of these market sectors are facing stiff competition from imported goods and non-wood products. So despite a vibrant economy and housing industry, any gains in grade hardwood sales and prices have been mostly supply driven rather than demand driven. That is not true for industrial products. In 2018 and 2019, tie-treaters and wooden pallet and container manufacturers needed additional supplies and readily accepted increased production of ties and pallet material.

Southern

Markets for hardwood products are widely mixed. The primary reason for the variance in business is that activity is currently supply driven rather than demand driven. Cutbacks in total Red Oak production have positively impacted interest in #1C&Btr Red Oak, both green and kiln-dried. But by avoiding Red Oak or grade lumber production of Red Oak by sawing more industrial products, supplies of other items have risen. Mill output of Ash, Poplar, and Mixed Species has increased and continues to outpace buyers' needs. Even certain industrial products are meeting, if not exceeding, volumes necessary for buyers to maintain desired inventories, including pallet cants. For crossties, RTA data show inventories have risen four consecutive months and were 1.3% higher in December 2019 than December 2018.

Appalachian

The mood was fairly upbeat at the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association Convention and Exposition, which concluded on Wednesday. Many participants reported improving business conditions in early 2020 compared to 2019. That said, most agreed the improvement resulted from months of reduced production and contracted supplies rather than a substantive increase in demand. To that end, efforts made by sawmills and yards to lower grade lumber production have been successful. Prices are

stabilizing for many key species that had been hard hit by the downturn in exports to China and are firming for some selective items. Along with other issues discussed by convention goers, domestic hardwood promotion and US trade policy were among the most popular topics.

(Source: Condensed from Hardwood Market Report, February 7, 2020. 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			
	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19
Ash	805	885	980	1075	500	535	625	695	330	340	400	420
Basswood	795	795	795	810	420	430	430	440	215	225	225	225
Cottonwood	780	780	780	780	575	575	575	575	260	260	260	260
Cherry	1010	1050	1110	1235	515	555	590	725	310	320	335	385
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	800	850	865	530	530	545	560	400	400	415	425
Soft Maple	1235	1235	1180	1140	820	790	760	760	460	460	460	470
Red Oak	780	760	825	960	530	540	560	635	485	495	515	535
White Oak	1700	1700	1725	1745	885	895	970	1000	540	550	550	560
Walnut	2175	2175	2315	2510	1175	1175	1300	1545	465	465	510	720

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 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			
	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/10
Ash	1225	1300	1400	1490	830	860	935	1035	620	675	720	775
Basswood	1200	1200	1200	1220	720	720	730	740	485	485	485	485
Cottonwood	1025	1025	1025	1025	760	760	760	760	----	----	----	----
Cherry	1470	1565	1800	1950	910	975	1140	1275	560	580	680	760
Elm	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hackberry	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hickory	1425	1450	1460	1460	1000	1040	1080	1060	860	900	940	935
Soft Maple	1715	1690	1630	1565	1170	1150	1105	1140	800	800	800	800
Red Oak	1160	1200	1355	1490	900	870	935	1010	780	790	805	895
White Oak	2350	2350	2350	2350	1330	1330	1510	1550	1010	1010	1025	1075
Walnut	3575	3575	3725	3825	2050	2100	2375	2550	1165	1215	1450	1625

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

Pallet Lumber - Green

Dimension	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19
4/4 x RW	405	405	405	405
5/4 x RW	420	420	420	420
6/4 x RW	445	445	445	445
4/4 x SW	440	440	440	440
5/4 x SW	450	450	450	450

Ties (7x9) - Green

Region	2/20	11/19	8/19	5/19
Crossties	----	----	----	----
Northern - 8.5'	27.9-31.5	27.9-31.5	27.9-31.5	27.75-30.5
Appalachian (South) - 8.5'	30.5-36	30.5-35.5	30.5-35.5	30-35
Appalachian (North) - 8.5'	30-34.5	30.25-34.25	30.25-34.25	30-34
Southern (West) - 9'	31.5-37	31.5-37	31.5-37	31-36

6/4 x SW

480

480

480

480

Southern (East) - 8.5'

31-37

31.5-37

31.5-37

31-36

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.)

Urban Lumber Production

Communities across Nebraska are increasing the management of their community forests in anticipation of emerald ash borer. The removal of community trees, whether related to emerald ash borer or other tree management needs, leads to the inevitable question, “what happens to the wood?”

While some wood waste is converted into products like compost or mulch, the production of urban lumber represents an opportunity for entrepreneurs, artisans, and businesses to create valuable products for sale or for the creation of finished wood products.

A new publication outlines the opportunities and challenges of producing lumber products from urban trees. Click the link below to view the publication on our website.

[URBAN LUMBER PRODUCTION](#)

Nebraska Forest Service Available Positions

Forest Products Utilization Team Leader (Lincoln, NE)

The Forest Products Utilization Team is tasked with providing assistance with identifying and developing utilization opportunities for Nebraska’s tree and forest resources. This position will coordinate and assist with team efforts including supporting stakeholders with wood product development, business assistance, new product demonstration, and education. The Team Leader will also lead partnership development and collaborate with businesses, organizations, and University partners to evaluate wood product opportunities, identify funding options, and develop and coordinate related projects. The position will also be responsible for the supervision and development of Forest Products team staff including hiring, conducting annual reviews, developing annual work plans and professional development plans.

This position will serve on the Forestry and Fire Bureau Management Team responsible for identifying objectives used to guide the activities of the various programs within the Forestry and Fire Bureau towards the achievement of Nebraska Forest Service goals.

[APPLY](#)

Forester – Forest Management/Rural Forestry (Chadron, Ainsworth, and O’Neill)

NFS is seeking enthusiastic, qualified applicants to join our team of dedicated staff working towards improving the health, resiliency, and sustainability of Nebraska’s trees and forests. Providing direct, technical assistance to stakeholders, the Forester (focused on providing forest management technical

assistance) will play a key role in providing the resources necessary for clients to achieve their tree and forest goals.

This position will coordinate and deliver forestry program activities for the NFS in their surrounding areas. The employee is required to work with many different groups including landowners, agencies, nonprofits, volunteers, professionals, and youth. Some overnight travel and public speaking are necessary. Positions will be based in Ainsworth, Chadron, and O'Neill, Nebraska.

[APPLY](#)

Forest Industry Spotlight Ash Wood Showcase

On February 7th over 20 woodworkers showcased their talents in the Reactor Gallery at Turbine Flats. Connecting the event to Lincoln's First Friday Artwalk helped draw in over 200 people. Attendees included representatives from Lincoln Parks and Recreation, local wood products businesses, environmental non-profit organizations, and community members.

The urban ash wood showcase aimed to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities associated with an uptick in tree removals due to emerald ash borer.



Lincoln is home to over 14,000 ash trees on public property – golf courses, parks, and city streets – with double the number estimated to be present on private property. Emerald ash borer was detected in Omaha in 2016 and in Lincoln in 2018. By 2030 we can expect 90% of Lincoln's ash tree population to be removed or killed off due to the beetle. The large quantity of wood that will need to be disposed of demands multifaceted solutions. The majority of a tree's biomass is solely suitable for firewood, mulch, and woodchips however about 10% of any given tree can be used to make products like were seen at the First Friday Showcase.

Both business and individual involvement in the November 2018 urban wood conversations demonstrated the enthusiasm and capacity present in the Lincoln community for ash wood utilization. The key to developing a thriving wood utilization network is connecting the members. Other states have had success in connecting arborists with sawmills and woodworkers with commercial outlets to grow their networks. Using "Urban Wood Network" branding, consumers can seek out locally sourced and crafted finished wood products. The February urban ash wood showcase was another step towards developing an urban wood use network in Nebraska.



Special thanks go out to all who made this event possible. This includes Lincoln Parks and Recreation, The Urban Wood Network, The U.S. Forest Service, and all of the individuals who shared their time and talents to create unique ash wood products.

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, 19 trees (along farm lane) Veneer 3 – 250 bf Lumber 1 – 320 bf Lumber 2 – 382 bf Lumber 3 – 2,272 bf <u>Total – 3,224 bf</u>	Rasmussen 2/2020	Scott Beckman 52003 837 Rd #8 Elgin, NE 68636 Ph: (402) 843-2334 Location: Antelope County
Black Walnut, 48 trees Veneer 3 – 1,675 bf Lumber 1 – 1,420 bf Lumber 2 – 2,840 bf Lumber 3 – 3,585 bf <u>Total – 9,518 bf</u>	Rasmussen Smith 2/2020	James Albrecht 1009 S Main Emerson, NE 68733 Ph: (712) 898-5035 Email: doca49@hotmail.com Location: Thurston County
Black Walnut, 31 trees Lumber 1 – 74 bf	Karloff 2/2020	Willard Witte 1809 County Road 8

Lumber 2 – 1,207 bf

Lumber 3 – 2,084 bf

Total – 3,365 bf

Yutan, NE 68073

Ph: (402) 443-8279

Location: Saunders 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 24 ft 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.

SERVICES AND MISC.

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 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: patkrish@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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