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## NEBRASKA'S FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

# TIMBER TALK

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## LUMBER MARKET REPORTS

### Northern

This summer, the Northern region has experienced above normal rainfall that has disrupted logging in certain areas. Some of those areas are beginning to dry out, though log decks and green lumber production have not increased significantly to this point. Logging activity and, therefore, log procurement are further complicated by curtailed production and shutdowns by regional paper plants. Of course, the most obvious impact on sawmill production this year has been the COVID-19 pandemic. Eastern US hardwood sawmill output dropped to historical low points this spring and summer. Kiln dried inventories have been limited if not reduced for a number of items because far less green lumber was produced and processed for drying. Yet, there are no severe shortages of lumber in most species, grades, and thicknesses, because the pandemic continues to restrict manufacturing activity and demand for hardwood products throughout the world. As rarely happens, there is not a perfect balance between supply and demand. Most grade lumber pricing has stabilized from supply contraction earlier this year. Hard Maple is one example of prices moving from a downward bias to steady or firm. Slightly higher interest and lower availability are credited for the shift. But, there are other specific items experiencing weak demand and price pressures, including certain grades and thicknesses of Basswood and low grade lumber in most species.

### Southern

May 2020 was the lowest recorded level of estimated Eastern US hardwood sawmill production since HMR began tracking production data. June and July posted monthly gains, but very small gains. Year to date sawmill production is 17.1% below the same period in 2019. Lower output and slightly better domestic demand have eased price pressures and could cause shortages of certain kiln dried items later this year, most notably #1C&Btr Red Oak and FAS White Oak. There are other issues that could keep mill output down. Finding and keeping qualified laborers is an ongoing problem. Financial constraints stemming from reduced business in China and broader competitive market pressures could hold back a rebound in production, as well. However, there are no indications of severe or chronic supply shortages of any particular item to this point.

### Appalachian

This May, Eastern US hardwood sawmill production dropped to the lowest level ever recorded in HMR's data series (1960 to current). Production was higher in June and July but remained below 5.0 billion board foot on an annualized basis. This large contraction, combined with gradually improving demand, brought overall hardwood supply and demand into closer balance. Now, the vast majority of grade lumber items is still readily available, but, in most cases, supplies are no longer overwhelming markets or businesses carrying those inventories. The result has been a more stable

pricing environment for grade lumber. Supply circumstances are much different for industrial lumber. Pallet industry consumption is trending up, but pallet cants and lumber remain plentiful. Similarly, crossties and switch ties are abundant relative to buyers' inventory needs. Finally, weakness in the oil industry and cancellations of proposed pipeline projects are heavily impacting sales of board road and mat timbers.

(Source: Condensed from *Hardwood Market Report*, August 7, 2020. For more information or to subscribe to *Hardwood Market Report*, call (901) 767-9216, email: [hmr@hmr.com](mailto:hmr@hmr.com), website: [www.hmr.com](http://www.hmr.com))

## Hardwood Lumber Prices - Kiled

Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19
Ash	775	775	805	885	460	475	500	535	290	320	330	340
Basswood	755	780	795	795	410	420	420	430	205	275	215	225
Cottonwood	780	780	780	780	575	575	575	575	260	260	260	260
Cherry	925	980	1010	1050	480	500	515	555	290	290	310	320
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	755	785	800	800	500	515	530	530	400	415	400	400
Soft Maple	1245	1305	1235	1235	790	830	820	790	450	470	460	460
Red Oak	855	855	780	760	555	555	530	540	415	445	485	495
White Oak	1725	1725	1700	1700	810	875	885	895	480	510	540	550
Walnut	2265	2240	2175	2175	1175	1175	1175	1175	465	465	465	465

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 first issue of the identified month. To subscribe to HMR, call 901-767-9126; email [hmr@hmr.com](mailto:hmr@hmr.com); or go to [www.hmr.com](http://www.hmr.com).)

## Hardwood Lumber Prices - Kiln Dried

Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19
Ash	1200	775	805	885	460	475	500	535	290	320	330	340
Basswood	1165	780	795	795	410	420	420	430	205	275	215	225
Cottonwood	1025	780	780	780	575	575	575	575	260	260	260	260
Cherry	1550	1495	1470	1565	985	970	910	975	620	575	560	580
Elm	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Hackberry	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Hickory	1400	1425	1425	1450	1035	1000	1040	1040	900	860	860	900
Soft Maple	1810	1810	1715	1690	1145	1165	1170	1150	765	790	800	800
Red Oak	1275	1250	1160	1200	995	995	900	870	775	790	780	790
White Oak	2445	2375	2350	2350	1290	1330	1330	1330	945	995	1010	1010
Walnut	3650	3650	3575	3575	2030	2050	2050	2100	1080	1130	1165	1215

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](mailto:hmr@hmr.com); or go to [www.hmr.com](http://www.hmr.com).)

### Pallet Lumber - Green

Dimension	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19
4/4 x RW	335	355	405	405
5/4 x RW	370	390	420	420
6/4 x RW	405	415	445	445
4/4 x SW	380	400	440	440
5/4 x SW	400	420	450	450
6/4 x SW	440	450	480	480

### Ties (7x9) - Green

Region	8/20	6/20	2/20	11/19
Crossties	----	----	----	----
Northern - 8.5'	27.9 - 31.5	27.9 - 31.5	27.9 - 31.5	27.9 - 31.5
Appalachian (South) - 8.5'	29.5 - 34.5	29.5 - 34.5	30.5 - 36	30.5 - 35.5
Appalachian (North) - 8.5'	28.5 - 32.5	30 - 34.5	30.25 - 34.25	30.25 - 34.25
Southern (West) - 9'	31.5 - 35.5	31.5 - 35.5	31.5 - 37	31.5 - 37
Southern (East) - 8.5'	31 - 35	31 - 35.5	31 - 37	31.5 - 37

## FOREST NEWS

### Western Forestry Utilization Success Stories

Members of the Western Forest Utilization Network worked with the Council of Western State Foresters to develop a series of wood utilization success stories from across the western US, including from Nebraska. [This publication highlights the innovative work being done across the west and provides examples of wood utilization opportunities which may be applicable here in Nebraska.](#)

### Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Washington and Seward Counties

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), confirmed emerald ash borer (EAB) [in a trap in Seward county and a tree in Washington county](#). This is the first detection of EAB in both counties. EAB, an invasive beetle that attacks and kills ash trees, was first found in Omaha in 2016 and the most recent discovery was earlier this year in Kearney



## Husker project exploring red cedar use in construction gets Nebraska Environmental Trust grant

A University of Nebraska–Lincoln project to explore the use of eastern red cedar in construction has received a \$28,412 grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. [Husker researchers plan to explore the potential use of eastern red cedar as a local “mass-timber” construction system.](#) They will use the funding to develop a demonstration building that resolves concerns about the environmental impact of eastern red cedar in Nebraska.

## Transforming manure and cedar mulch from "waste" to "worth"

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) has partnered with the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) to develop on-farm research sites to explore soil health on agricultural land. The grant was written to develop 6 research sites across the state, partnering with Nebraska’s Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) and local producers. The demonstration sites will be utilizing manure and cedar mulch as soil amendments. [The sites will further document agronomic, soil health, environmental and economic benefits of using the amendments.](#)

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### 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

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

Total – 7,414 bf

#### Forester/Date

Karloff 11/2019 (Re-advertisement)

#### Seller Information

Rick Young 1885

Blue Sage Parkway

Elkhorn, NE 68022

Ph: (402) 670-8820

Location: Washington County

#### Timber Information

Individual is doing construction on property and needs to remove about 6 black walnuts. About 1,600 board feet total with the 2 largest trees (24 & 23 DIB) being veneer potential.

Not looking to be paid, just would like trees removed.

#### Seller Information

Marny Stricklin

1113 Camp Gifford Road

Bellevue, Nebraska

Ph: (402) 250-0253

Location: Sarpy 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. 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 hydraulic bar saw. Markers for 6½, 7, 8 and 10ft posts. Several bunks and banding equipment included. 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. City of Nebraska City has approx. 60 semi loads of single grind mulch \$200/ semi load or \$50/dump truck load. Shipping not included. Arrangements will be made to load. Contact: Marty Stovall 402-873-5515 or email [mstovall@nebraskacity.com](mailto: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](mailto:fisher@bbcwb.net).

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

#### Services 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bj@barcelmill.com).



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