



NEBRASKA'S FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

TIMBER TALK

LUMBER MARKET REPORTS

Northern

Weather these past few weeks has been typically fall-like in terms of cooler and wetter conditions. But it is still a couple of months away before cold temperatures set the hard, frozen base needed for optimal winter logging conditions. Until then, logging contractors could have difficulty accessing purchased timber. Most surveyed sawmill operators state that log decks are either steady or down. But, even mill owners that have decent log piles have been unable to ramp up production due to labor constraints. In fact, labor problems are impacting productivity up and down the supply chain. The US Department of Labor reports the number of unemployed seeking work is 7.7 million, and those aged 16 and older not in the workforce total over 100 million. Nonfarm employment has risen 17.4 million from the low point in April 2020 but is 5 million people below the pre pandemic level in February of last year. Supply strains caused by lack of labor are evident in prolonged lumber and industrial timber product shortages and record high lumber prices for many species. During winter months is when hardwood production in this region typically increases, though logging contractors and sawmill operators are uncertain how much more mill output will rise this winter because of labor issues. At the same time, solid residential construction activity is driving steady demand for hardwood lumber and finished goods.

Southern

Information shows a wide mix of log inventories at area mills. Some sawmill operators report decent log decks, while others state that log supplies are well below normal levels for this time of year. Wet weather conditions in parts of the region have restrained timber harvesting for much of this year. Shortages of pulpwood have compounded log supply problems for area mills by prompting many logging contractors to focus harvests on pine and pulpwood. The fact is that sawmill output did not grow in October as it normally does. Shortages of green Poplar, Ash, upper grade White Oak, and #2A&3A Oak are still the norm. Supplies of kiln dried lumber are satisfying short term demand, though there are concerns about kiln dried inventories longer term.

Appalachian

Worker shortages continue to plague all sectors of the hardwood supply chain. In some areas – particularly where softwoods also grow – there are not enough loggers to work all the hardwood tracts

sawmills would like to harvest. Meanwhile, virtually all surveyed sawmills, concentration yards, distribution yards, and secondary manufacturers say they need more workers. The same is true for companies that provide products and services to the hardwood industry, particularly trucking firms. Amid these circumstances, companies are struggling to get products to customers in a timely manner, whether logs, lumber, components, or finished goods. Among the notable trends in hardwood markets is continued strong demand for whitewoods. While many end users are substituting Soft Maple for Hard Maple to lower costs, both species are selling well. Demand for Birch is good from established end users and also from Maple users seeking relief from comparatively higher costs. Beech is also moving well to many of the same markets as Maple and Birch. Disruptions in Beech and Birch imports from Europe and Asia are further bolstering demand for domestic whitewoods.

(Source: Condensed from Hardwood Market Report, November 5, 2021. 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			
	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21
Ash	1275	1170	1070	930	795	730	665	540	515	465	400	305
Basswood	1085	1030	885	830	615	575	465	425	320	290	215	205
Cottonwood	780	780	780	780	575	575	575	575	260	260	260	260
Cherry	1390	1530	1450	1120	785	880	830	615	435	505	470	360
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	1160	1080	975	875	870	800	700	615	755	690	600	430
Soft Maple	1845	1665	1600	1365	1140	1075	1100	890	610	580	660	470
Red Oak	1305	1325	1285	1090	920	920	855	705	700	700	620	495
White Oak	2720	2595	2415	2045	1250	1250	1125	935	780	780	680	545
Walnut	4000	3935	3025	3025	2450	2375	1715	1715	1410	1295	850	590

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; or go to www.hmr.com.

Hardwood Lumber Prices - Kiln Dried

Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21
Ash	1825	1770	1625	1350	1200	1180	1090	870	865	850	740	580
Basswood	1660	1555	1375	1250	980	885	800	735	560	530	495	465
Cottonwood	1075	1025	1025	1025	800	760	760	760	----	----	----	----
Cherry	2250	2375	2290	1860	1415	1490	1415	1130	845	890	850	850
Elm	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hackberry	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Hickory	1875	1825	1630	1525	1515	1460	1250	1160	1310	1250	1090	985
Soft Maple	2850	2665	2425	1990	1635	1570	1435	1210	1015	965	865	780
Red Oak	1950	2120	1985	1655	1530	1550	1430	1230	1170	1170	1075	875
White Oak	4500	4380	3595	3110	2115	2115	1835	1515	1375	1375	1075	1035
Walnut	6135	6030	5190	4385	4590	3810	3290	2610	3295	2290	2025	1545

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	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21
4/4 x RW	450	430	400	365
5/4 x RW	475	455	435	400
6/4 x RW	500	480	460	425
4/4 x SW	495	475	445	410
5/4 x SW	505	485	465	430
6/4 x SW	535	515	495	460

Ties (7x9) - Green

Region	11/21	8/21	5/21	2/21
Crossties	----	----	----	----
Northern - 8.5'	32-36	30.25-35	28.4-32	27.9-31.5
Appalachian (South) - 8.5'	36.25-41.25	33.25-38	29.75-33.75	27.75-32.75
Appalachian (North) - 8.5'	35.5-40.5	32.5-37.75	28.25-32.25	27.5-31.5
Southern (West) - 9'	36-41	34-39	33-37	31.5-35.5
Southern (East) - 8.5'	35.5-41	33-38	31.5-36	30.25-34.5

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 WOOD NETWORK - NEBRASKA CHAPTER

The Nebraska Chapter has now launched and is looking forward to working with the national network and fellow chapters to share resources and strategies that will propel the urban wood economy from coast to coast.

Our chapter aims to leverage the power of sustainable, fair, and modern consumption standards to create an industry that is unique to our local economy and landscape.

With the advancement of an MOU with the Urban Wood Network, the Nebraska Forest Service (NFS) and Carson+Co Global (CCG), are excited to formalize efforts underway for several years to establish a thriving urban wood industry in Nebraska. Like many areas, Nebraska's urban wood utilization gained momentum with the expansion of the Emerald Ash Borer into the state. We recognized that communities must be able to effectively and sustainably manage the influx of urban wood generated from felled or removed ash trees in addition to other urban trees when they must be removed.

During November 2018 Urban Wood Workshops – co-hosted by the Lincoln Parks and Recreation, NFS, and CCG – we heard loud and clear attendees' call to form a state urban wood network to foster a statewide vision alongside the national network through which urban wood utilization could be coordinated. NFS and CCG are honored to collaborate alongside dedicated, strategic partners in Nebraska to answer that call and bolster the holistic management of Nebraska's urban trees, where every part of the tree is put to its highest, best use.

Development of the Urban Wood Network Nebraska Chapter strengthens our ability to connect members throughout the supply chain and make resources for urban wood utilization more readily available to ultimately reduce urban wood waste. We appreciate the opportunity to join the Urban Wood Network where our collective energies can be channeled for even greater, long-lasting impact.

Information about membership and opportunities for engagement with the Urban Wood Network will be provided soon.

US BIOCHAR INITIATIVE "BUSINESS OF BIOCHAR" ONLINE SYMPOSIUM

For more than a decade, scientists, environmentalists and a growing number of public policymakers have considered biochar an intriguing technology with the potential to utilize biomass waste streams and improve soil fertility. More recently, innovators and early adopters have come to consider biochar as a viable, profitable and effective environmental instrument for sequestering carbon, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and providing a wide array of uses including: remediating pollution in soil and water; incorporating biochar into construction materials for buildings and roads; and, producing clean, renewable energy among other uses. Biochar is on the verge of an explosive expansion based upon its many beneficial applications, but especially due to its ability to remove carbon from the atmosphere. Biochar's debut on carbon removal markets has been a game changer since it was first accepted as a removal product in 2019.

On December 7 through 9, 2021, the International Biochar Initiative (IBI) in collaboration with the U.S. Biochar Initiative will host a symposium focused on the Business of Biochar. The purpose of this event is to share information concerning the opportunities for growth, investment and the business development prospects for biochar.

Participants will receive new information on what the growth of this game-changing technology can mean for global markets and the environment. Speakers will provide up-to-date assessments on the potential of carbon markets and policy advancements that are contributing to a healthy growth forecast, and they will identify the impediments to growth that may prevent the development of the industry unless these barriers are removed or changed. In addition, representatives of carbon marketplaces, carbon removal buyers and investors will discuss the rapidly evolving carbon removal markets and how and why demand for biochar-based credits is exploding. Finally, in an adaptation of a popular television program, startup biochar entrepreneurs will have a chance to present short video presentations to pitch their enterprise as a target for investment.

For more information and to register, visit <https://ttc.swoogo.com/businessofbiochar21>.

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

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.

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

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.



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