

MCES Timber Price Report

Extension Agricultural Economics Department
Extension Forestry Department

April 1988

MCES TIMBER PRICE REPORT

1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

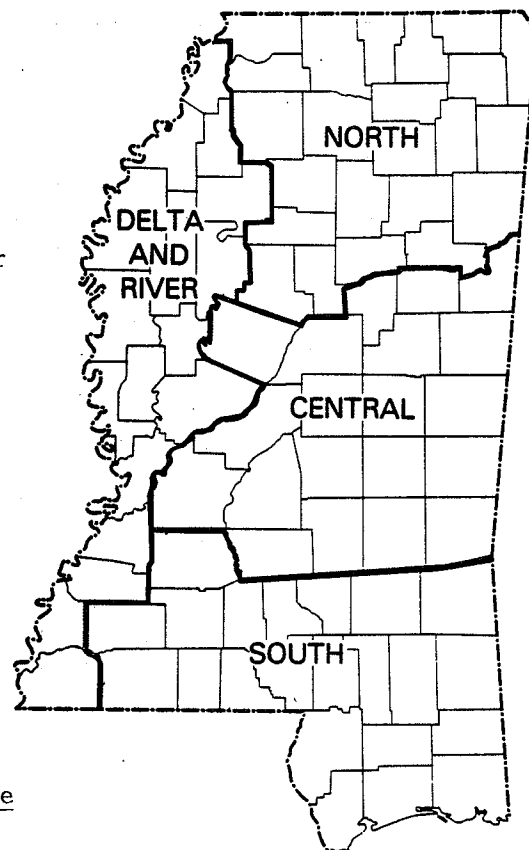
The MCES Timber Price Report is a monthly survey of stumpage and delivered timber prices in Mississippi. It is developed through the cooperation of public and private members of the forestry sector with MCES to provide an accurate picture of timber market activity. Mississippi is divided into four market regions that reflect distinct timber markets within the state (see map) and average prices for common forest products are listed. These values are compiled by polling cooperators from forest industry, public agencies, consulting foresters and landowners.

2. HOW TO USE THIS REPORT.

This report is intended to give a profile of timber prices in Mississippi.

Values given are offered as a guide to help individuals assess the fair-market value of their timber. The average price for a region should NOT be applied as the exact value for a particular timber tract. The best way for private landowners to obtain the highest price for a particular tract is to use competitive bidding. These prices, however, do reflect current timber market activity in each region.

Certain factors may cause a particular tract of timber to be valued higher or lower. For example, a tract that has a high timber volume per acre and can be logged during wet weather may bring a price per unit higher than the average reported here. On the other hand, a tract with less volume at great distance from the buyer's mill may bring less. Additional factors that affect timber values are timber quality, tract size, type of product to be made from the timber, access to the tract and many others. These values are a good price reference for landowners who wish to market timber, but individuals are advised to have their timber evaluated by a professional forester before making a timber sale.



3. TIMBER MARKET COMMENTS

Sawtimber

Weather conditions have generally been favorable for continuous harvesting. Since several days of early rain in March it has been very dry throughout most of the state. Mills reported an abundance of logs available.

Hardwood mills reported that markets were holding strong and they were very busy keeping up with incoming supplies of logs. Delivered and standing hardwood prices averaged slightly above those reported in March for all areas of the state. Reported delivered oak prices ranged from \$200-\$310 in the Delta and River and delivered ash prices ranged from \$250-\$300.

Delivered and standing pine sawtimber prices remained strong and in line with February and March reports. Delivered pine sawtimber prices averaged \$256 MBF in the southeast and \$216 in the southwest. Recently, the market for short and narrow pine lumber has declined, however. Decreased prices were also reported for plywood and finished poles. These price decreases did not seem to influence current sawtimber stumpage prices. Several mills continue to report problems moving chips and bark.

Pulpwood

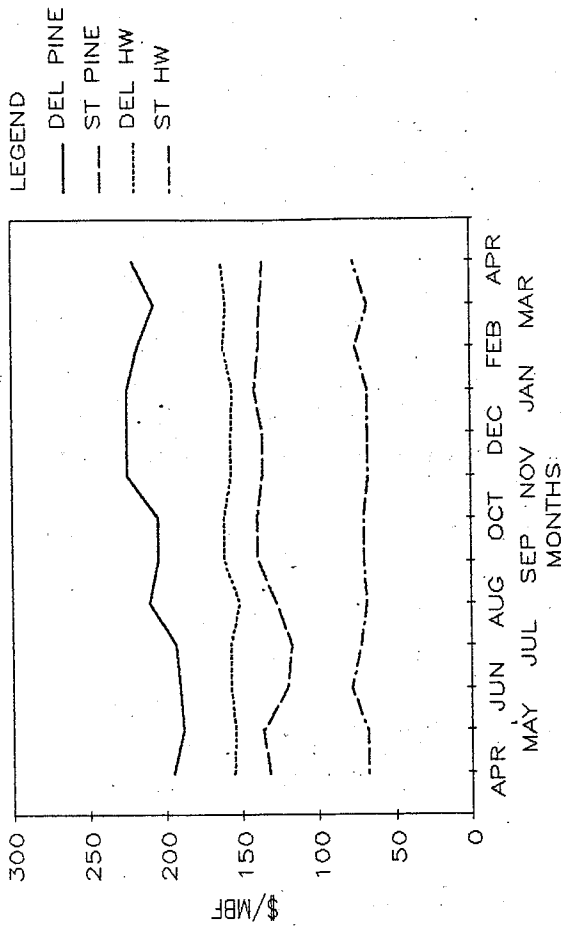
Although pulpwood prices remained steady, several mills were not currently buying. Markets for both pine and hardwood are poor in many areas because of oversupply of pulpwood due to good harvesting conditions.

Other Comments

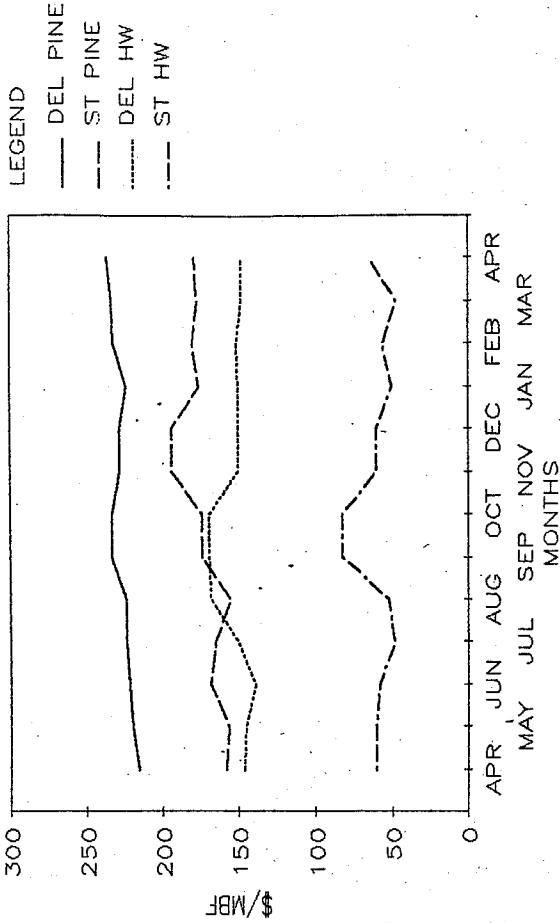
Charts plotting monthly sawtimber prices for the previous year are presented in this issue. Prices in all areas were up compared to last April. Delivered hardwood prices were up \$2-\$7 MBF comparing April 1988 to April 1987. Standing hardwood prices were up from \$5-\$11 MBF. Delivered pine sawtimber prices were up from \$3-\$25 MBF, and standing pine sawtimber was \$3-\$21 MBF higher.

Southern pine beetle activity apparently has not increased appreciably in the south. The March report related increased activity in the north.

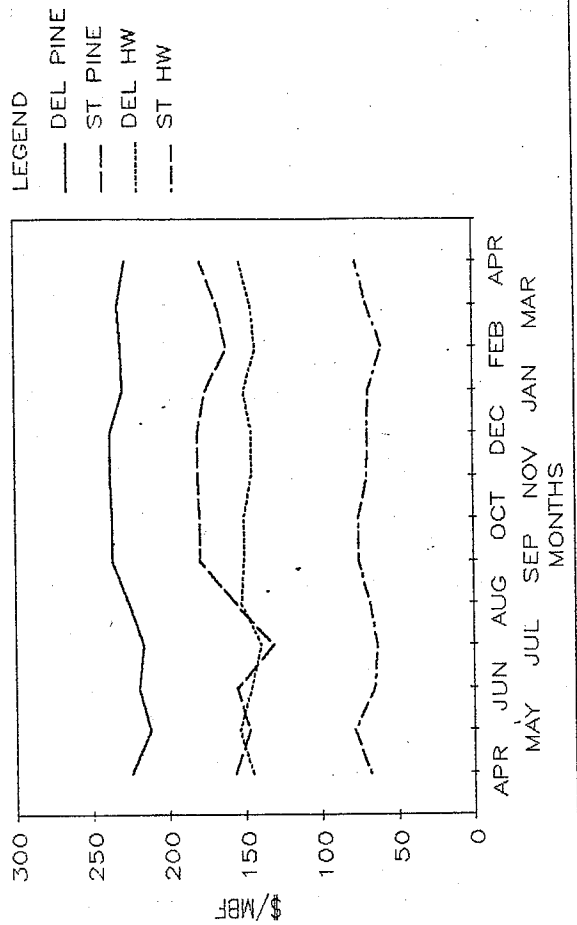
DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER
PRICES FOR APR 1987 - APR 1988
NORTH



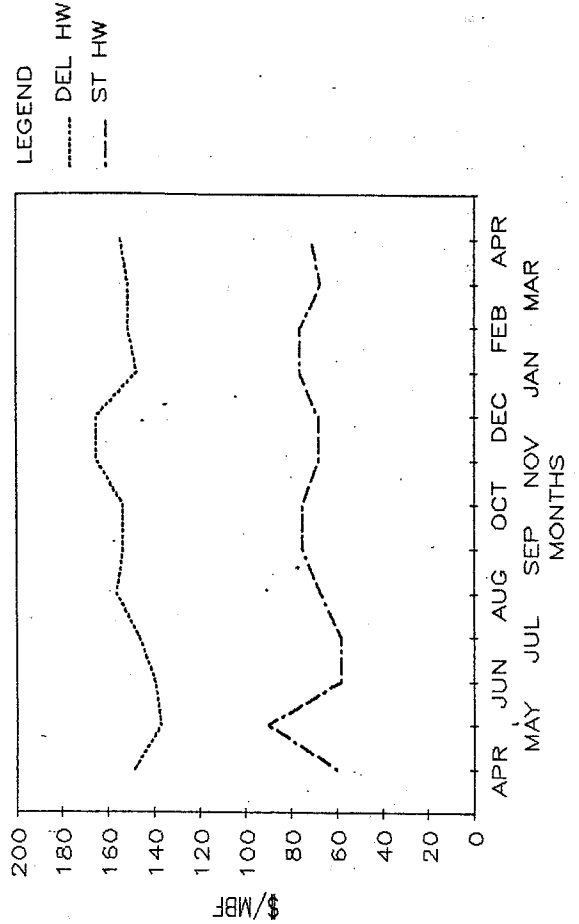
DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER
PRICES FOR APR 1987 - APR 1988
SOUTH



DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER
PRICES FOR APR 1987 - APR 1988
CENTRAL



DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER
PRICES FOR APR 1987 - APR 1988
DELTA AND RIVER



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STANDING TIMBER

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	114-150	135	160-195	178	140-200	179	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	-	27*	28.30	-	-	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber ²	60-100	76	64-100	76**	61-80	65	40-125	71
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	150-210	181
Soft hardwood sawtimber ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	40-90	64
Rare hardwood sawtimber ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine pulpwood	8-12	10.00	5-12	8.50	12-14	12.75	-	-
Hardwood pulpwood	4-5	4.25	2-8	4.25	4-10	7.25	7-8	7.50

DELIVERED PRICES⁵

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	-	220*	220-235	227	180-280	236**	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	-	-	55	58-68	61.75	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	36-42/ton	37.50	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber ²	150-180	162	130-160	152**	140-155	148	120-200	154
Oak sawtimber	-	-	-	250*	-	-	200-310	249
Other hardwood sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	155-310	**
Pine pulpwood	33-40	36	30-37	32	32-37	34.75	31-42	40.75
Hardwood pulpwood	28-35	32	26-32	28	24-30	27.25	26-33	30

¹Prices reported are for timber market transactions during the previous 60-day period, sawtimber prices in \$/MBF Doyle, chip-n-saw and pulpwood prices in \$/cord.

²"Mixed Hardwoods" are mostly: Beech, Cottonwood, Willow, Elm, Gums, Locust, Hackberry, Magnolia Pecan, Hickory, Sycamore, Tupelo and Birch.

³"Soft Hardwoods" are mostly: Cottonwood, Willow, Poplar and Gum.

⁴"Rare Hardwoods" are mostly: Walnut, Cherry, Royal Paulownia, Persimmon, some species and grades of Cypress, certain prime grades of Cherrybark and White Oaks.

⁵Delivered prices are values given at the sawmill or pulpwood yard gate.

*Only one price reported.

**See Timber Market comments.

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