HARDWOODS

Northern. Poor weather and ground conditions along with a declining number of qualified loggers are hindering log inventory rebuilding process for area mills. Significant losses in sawmill production have occurred this spring. The underlying cause of long supply shortages and lost sawmill production is market driven, not a consequence of weather. Because businesses retracted, many sawmills are uncertain about how much and how assertive efforts should be in pursuing timber and logs.

Southern. Log decks are playing a role in the supply side of the market place. Wet weather conditions and flooding have affected log inventories, though tight cash flow and lower volumes of timber entering the market have had a far greater impact on log supplies. Demand remains weak for many species key to the Southern region. Business is challenging and conditions could be even more competitive if log supplies increase and idle production is brought back online. Reduced demand for 4/4 #2A and 3A Red Oak has affected the overall hardwood business drastically.

Appalachian. Area sawmills continue to operate with low log inventories. Wet weather and flooding are partially to blame, although timber and gate log prices are too high for current lumber prices. Planned and weather related cutbacks in sawmill production have erased supply side pressures for many lumber items. Business is challenging for species key to Appalachian manufacturers, though heart dimension products — 7x9 crossties, mat timbers, and board road material — continue to provide mills and resellers with consistent outlets for a significant portion of sawmill output.

(Source: Condensed from Hardwood Market Report, May 24, 2008. For more information or to subscribe to Hardwood Market Report, call 901-767-9216, email: hmr@hmr.com, website: www.hmr.com)
### Hardwood Lumber Price Trends—Green

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>FAS</th>
<th>#1C</th>
<th>#2A</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>600 600 600 625</td>
<td>440 440 430 430</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basswood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hickory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft Maple (UNSD)</td>
<td>1170 1130 1130 1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Oak</td>
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<tr>
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<td>940 940 940 645</td>
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Note: Hardwood prices quoted in dollars per 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, elm, soft maple, red oak and white oak from Northern Hardwoods listings. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods listings. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods listings. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report Lumber News Letter*, last issue of month indicated. To subscribe to Hardwood Market Report call (901) 767-9126, email: hmr@hmr.com, website: www.hmr.com.)

### Hardwood Lumber Price Trends—Kiln Dried

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
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<td>Cherry</td>
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<td>Elm (soft grey)</td>
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<td>— — — —</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hackberry</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Kiln dried prices in dollars per MBF; FOB mill, is an estimate of predominant prices for lumber inspected and graded before kiln drying. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods listings. Prices for ash, basswood, elm, soft maple, red oak, and white oak from Northern Hardwoods listings. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods listings. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report Lumber News Letter*, last issue of month indicated. To subscribe to Hardwood Market Report call (901) 767-9126, website: www.hmr.com.)
### Softwood Lumber Price Trends

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<th>Common 1</th>
<th>Dimension 1</th>
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<td>436 534 465 402</td>
<td>267 276 266 200</td>
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*Rocky Mountain Ponderosa Pine
1Selects = D and Btr Selects, Stained Select, Mld and Btr.
2Shop = 4/4 Factory Select - #2 Shop.
3Common = #2 and Btr Common.
4Dimension, Timbers and studs = Std and Btr, #2 and BTR Dimension and Timbers.

Note: Average Softwood prices quoted per MBF rounded to nearest dollar, FOB mill, KD. This information is presented to indicate trends in the softwood lumber market. Actual prices may vary significantly from prices quoted.


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### Experts: Price For Sawdust Has Doubled

With the number of sawdust consumers continuing to increase as new markets are created, and the amount of material supplied by sawmills on the decline due to a slowing economy, the price for material has reached new highs.

According to a report published in Smallwood News, those in need of sawdust material are paying approximately $1,200 per truckload, in large part because the amount of lumber being processed nationwide is down by nearly 50 million board feet per day from where it was two years ago.

Barry Wynsma of the Bonners Ferry Ranger District in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests said he has seen the change in the marketplace first hand.

“It’s been quite an eye opener out here,” says Wynsma. “I know of some paper mills paying $50 per ton; prior to that it would have cost half that amount.”

According to Wynsma, the reason is simple. “The sawmills aren’t making the sawdust that the pellet and paper companies need,” he said.

An even bigger eye opener, perhaps, is how the market demand has caused a shift in the industry. “Even with the depressed timber market, I’ve heard of people chipping up saw logs because they’re making better money,” says Wynsma.

In some parts of the country, the demand has also forced those in need to search elsewhere for chipped material. Said one paper company representative, “There’s a trend that some emphasis is being shifted toward acquiring raw material from what could be called non-traditional sources.”

Wynsma is in the planning stages of a biomass Stewardship project expected to launch this summer. Though not expected to offer an abundance of chipped material, Wynsma knows there will be a strong demand for the bi-product from the thinning efforts. “I really wouldn’t be surprised to see paper mills working with us direct on some of the projects in the future,” says Wynsma.

The paper company representative said he is optimistic that a change in the timber industry is on the horizon; Wynsma isn’t so sure. “I am seeing indicators that it’s going to last for a while,” admitted Wynsma. “With the sawmills shutting down, or operating at a slower rate, people are screaming for that secondary material.”

For more information, visit the Smallwood Website at http://www.smallwoodnews.com or email Barry Wynsma, Bonners Ferry Rangers District at bwynsma@fs.fed.us


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### One Man With A Wood-Mizer

Dave Arnold is trying to build a business cutting street and yard trees. Dave Arnold seems to have found his niche in the wood business. Operating under the company name of CityWood, he “recycles” trees. He takes logs from city-grown and yard trees and saws them into lumber with his Wood-Mizer portable sawmill. He lives in the southern part of Wisconsin, just outside Madison. He maintains a family cabin near Eagle River in the northern part of the state – a serious logging country. His neighbors there think he is nuts.

On the other hand, his brand of environmentalism fits right into the Madison scene: The State Capitol, home of the University of Wisconsin, surrounded by farm country with few forests. The Madison phone book has no listings for either “Logging” or “Pulp Contractors.” There is only one sawmill that advertises in the Yellow Pages and it refuses to accept any logs from yard-grown trees. As it happens, these are just the trees Arnold is looking for.

Whereas most logging is done deep in the woods away from the public eye, CityWood is a highly visible operation. Arnold recently sawed some trees that were removed from the State Capitol lawn. This resulted in an article in the local paper and appearances in other media.

Recovering lumber from trees, like these, is an appealing idea and Arnold makes the most of it. He explains to lumber customers – and anyone else who is interested – how it is possible to count the rings in these old trees and relate them to historical and personal family events. What a great idea, he points out, to have a mantle piece or even furniture made out of wood that was growing during the Civil War. In some cases, the buyers of this lumber have had plaques made explaining the origins of the wood in objects in their homes or offices.
There are, of course, good reasons most sawmills won’t accept street trees and yard-grown logs. These are probably the first things readers of this magazine think of when they realize what Arnold does. They are why his northern neighbors think he is nuts.

Well, he is not nuts and he is not oblivious to the problems. He says he explains to the owners of the trees that the logs are probably not veneer logs and that the open grain and large knots that result from growing in the open do not produce the highest-grade lumber.

Then, there is the metal. When he is custom-sawing, owners will always swear up and down that there is no metal in their logs, but inevitable there is. Arnold’s solution to this common dilemma is to saw the logs by the hour, along with an agreement before he starts that if a foreign object damages a blade, the log owner just bought the blade and the time involved fitting a new one. He inspects the logs before starting and cuts out any obvious problem areas. He doesn’t own a metal detector, but one is on his list of things to buy. Over the years, he has learned a few things most of us wouldn’t think of. For example, he knows the farther a tree is growing from buildings, the less chance it will contain metal or other foreign objects.

At this point, CityWood is pretty much a part-time hobby and Arnold is not really clear where he plans to take it in the future. His day job is Fire Chief for a five-county area, but he is in his mid-40’s and faces mandatory retirement at 55.

He has been in business for only about two years and lives in town, but has rented space from a farmer for his operation. Since buying the mill, he has acquired a skid-steer loader, a flat bed trailer with a winch for pulling logs up onto it and a skidding arch he uses to pull logs off people’s lawns. Last year he installed a small Nyle dehumidification kiln. He bought all his equipment, including the mill, used.

As of now, he operates the mill as a family business. He says his two teenage sons love to use their muscles so he is able to just “push buttons” while they do all the lifting. He has no plans to expand in the near future, though he is always looking at ways to improve.

The lumber he produces for sale – just like the custom-sawn material – is from a wide variety of species and varying lengths, thicknesses, and widths. He acquires lumber either by sawing salvaged logs that he trucks to his yard or by cutting on shares. When he has enough, a small classified ad is all he needs to sell it. Unlike custom-sawing, he assumes the risk of damage to the saw from metal and other obstacles embedded in the logs.

The kiln operation is a new feature that allows him to add value to the lumber he is going to sell, but he is beginning to realize that he is going to have to get some sort of protected shed with a roof and sides to store the dried lumber. And so it goes.

The conventional wisdom is to take your wood as far as you can, and this is probably good advice, especially for a small operation. But it often leads you into areas you would rather not be in. Each piece of the process leads logically into the next. Why not plane the kiln-dried boards? Make moldings, produce flooring, install the flooring? It all makes good sense, in a way, but it is also fraught with potential hazards. Arnold is considering all of the options mentioned above and perhaps even more.

Because of his prominent position in the regional fire department and because of publicity in the local media, Arnold is well known and people call him when their trees are being removed. He also has a relationship with several tree service companies. The trick, he says, “is to get the tree service companies to leave the trunks in log lengths and for him to get there as soon as possible after they are cut. Time is money for the tree service guys, and rather than wait around for him to show up, they will usually buck the logs into firewood lengths and try to sell them for what they can. Firewood is actually his only competition. He pays nothing for tree service logs. Most people are glad just to have them gone.

It is hard to get Arnold to talk about the economics of all this. He would much rather talk about environmental issues. He is alert to landfill capacity, cost, and other pressing issues relating to urban waste management. He feels he is providing a community service by recycling trees that would normally be hauled away to be burned or buried. He talks of forming a non-profit operation where people could donate their trees to the co-op and gain a tax advantage for their contribution.

Arnold emphasizes the benefits of people buying local lumber from local producers rather than lumber “wrapped in plastic” in big box stores. He sees flooring made out of a variety of local woods as more interesting than more common, bland, commercial strip flooring. This is not a new idea in the area. The Sustainable Wood Co-op went broke several years ago while stressing these concepts. On the other hand, consulting forester Jim Birkemeier, owner of Timbergreen Forestry of Spring Green, Wisconsin, make his living following this philosophy.

Arnold is familiar with both these operations. He keeps up on issues affecting wood usage by attending meetings and seminars and by belonging to groups interested in sustainable forestry. There is a good deal of idealism in his approach, which might appear nuts to professional loggers in the north, but seems to be just the right fit for the area he serves. He talks the talk and, possibly more important, he walks the walk.

(Source: The Northern Logger & Timber Processor, July 2007)

Food for Thought

With the general elections coming up this fall, the following quotes might help keep things in perspective.

A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debt he proposed to pay off with your money. — G. Gordon Liddy

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. — George Bernard Shaw

Foreign Aid might be defined as a transfer from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries. — Douglas Casey (1992)

Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys. — P.J. O’Rourke

Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else. — Frederic Bastiat
Updated Information Regarding Mosquito Repellents – May 7, 2008

Repellents are an important tool to assist people in protecting themselves from mosquito-borne diseases.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends the use of products containing active ingredients which have been registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use as repellents applied to skin and clothing. EPA registration of repellent active ingredients indicates the materials have been reviewed and approved for efficacy and human safety when applied according to the instructions on the label.

Repellents for use on skin and clothing:

CDC evaluation of information contained in peer-reviewed scientific literature and data available from EPA has identified several EPA registered products that provide repellent activity sufficient to help people avoid the bites of disease carrying mosquitoes. Products containing these active ingredients typically provide reasonably long-lasting protection:

- **DEET** (Chemical Name: N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,N-diethyl-3-methyl-benzamide)
- **Picaridin** (KBR 3023, Chemical Name: 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperidinocarboxylic acid 1-methylpropyl ester)
- **Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus* or PMD** (Chemical Name: para-Menthan-3,8-diol) the synthesized version of oil of lemon eucalyptus
- **IR3535** (Chemical Name: 3-[N-Butyl-N-acetyl]-amino-propionic acid, ethyl ester)

EPA characterizes the active ingredients DEET and Picaridin as “conventional repellents” and Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, PMD, and IR3535 as “biopesticide repellents”, which are derived from natural materials. For more information on repellent active ingredients see http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/mosquitoes/ai_insectrp.htm.

Published data indicate that repellent efficacy and duration of protection vary considerably among products and among mosquito species and are markedly affected by ambient temperature, amount of perspiration, exposure to water, abrasive removal, and other factors.

In general, higher concentrations of active ingredient provide longer duration of protection, regardless of the active ingredient, although concentrations above ~50% do not offer a marked increase in protection time. Products with <10% active ingredient may offer only limited protection, often from 1-2 hours. Products that offer sustained release or controlled release (micro-encapsulated) formulations, even with lower active ingredient concentrations, may provide longer protection times. Regardless of what product you use, if you start to get mosquito bites reapply the repellent according to the label instructions or remove yourself from the area with biting insects if possible.

These recommendations are for domestic use in the United States where EPA-registered products are readily available. See CDC Travelers’ Health website for additional recommendations concerning protection from insects when traveling outside the United States.

Repellents for use on clothing:

Certain products containing permethrin are recommended for use on clothing, shoes, bed nets, and camping gear, and are registered with EPA for this use. Permethrin is highly effective as an insecticide and as a repellent. Permethrin-treated clothing repels and kills ticks, mosquitoes, and other arthropods and retains this effect after repeated laundering. The permethrin insecticide should be reapplied following the label instructions. Some commercial products are available pretreated with permethrin.

**EPA recommends the following precautions when using insect repellents:**

- Apply repellents only to exposed skin and/or clothing (as directed on the product label.) Do not use repellents under clothing.
- Never use repellents over cuts, wounds or irritated skin.
- Do not apply to eyes or mouth, and apply sparingly around ears. When using sprays, do not spray directly on face—spray on hands first and then apply to face.

(Continued on age 7)
Tim Kabes’ interest in sawmills began at a young age. He recalls his grandfather and others owning sawmills in Northeast Nebraska. So, when he became serious about purchasing a mill, he posted an ad in the Midwest Messenger. It wasn’t long before he was looking at mills in Tilden, Wakefield, Tekamah, and traveling as far as Minnesota to look at parts.

Tim finally settled on an intact circular saw he found in Hartington, NE. The saw is an American Brand manufactured in Hackettstown, N.J. The mill’s 50 hp 3-phase electric motor powers a Heacock drive with a 56 inch circular blade. The five dog head carriage has the capability of cutting 36” diameter logs up to 40’ long.

Tim is quite the fabricator. The carriage and husk of the mill originally sat on a wood frame, but Tim has converted it to all steel. He has also retrofitted an International combine cab with controls, so he is protected from debris and sound. Tim is now in the process of building a stationary sharpener for his saw. It’s basically a 4-inch grinder that pivots on a swivel arm and is set at the proper angle to the blade. This will allow him to rotate the blade to the stone versus moving a sharpener to each individual tooth.

Tim is employed full time by Stanton County Public Power as a lineman and he finds a lot of logs while trimming trees from power lines. He uses the rough cut lumber for his own building projects around his mill. He also custom cuts almost any species, but has a preference for cutting cedar.

Tim is also in the timber reclamation business, and has recycled many power poles which he cuts into 6”x6” timbers that work well for building pole barns and buildings. He also salvages bridge planks that he cuts into 2”x 6” dimension wood.

Tim Kabes may be contacted at: 305 11th, Stanton, NE 68779. Phone: (402) 439-5267. Email: toolman@conpoint.com.

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The Trading Post

For Sale


Wanted

Logs, Cottonwood, cedar and pine. 4” to 26” diameter, 90”-100” lengths. Below saw grade logs acceptable. Contact: American Wood Fibers, Clarks, NE at (800) 967-4789; email: mvanskike@AWF.com

Hardwood Cross Ties and Switch Ties. Size 7” x 9” – 8” only. Mixed Hardwood Timbers. All sizes. Logs, C4S, Veneer and C1S, C2S; and C3S logs. Must be able to load 40’ containers. Cherry, Walnut, Red Oak, White Oak, Ash, Hard Maple and Poplar logs. Timbers for Log Homes, Car Decking. Oak or mixed hardwoods. 3”x6”x10’.

Switch Ties. Oak and mixed hardwood, 7” x 9” – 15”, 16”, 21”, 22”, 23”. White Pine Plank. #2C, 5 T/LS per month, Rough, green, 1 1/8” x 7 3/8” or 2 1/2” x 9 3/8”; up to 1/3 – 8’; bal. 10’-16’ lengths. 6 1/4” x 12” - 10 to 16’. 4” x 12” rough KD. Walnut Sawlogs. Woods run, #1, #2, #3 grades. Log Inspector to inspect logs before shipment. Cross Tie Buyers.

Updated Information Regarding Mosquito Repellents (continued from page 5)

• Do not allow children to handle the product. When using on children, apply to your own hands first and then put it on the child. You may not want to apply to children’s hands.
• Use just enough repellent to cover exposed skin and/or clothing. Heavy application and saturation are generally unnecessary for effectiveness. If biting insects do not respond to a thin film of repellent, then apply a bit more.
• After returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water or bathe. This is particularly important when repellents are used repeatedly in a day or on consecutive days. Also, wash treated clothing before wearing it again. (This precaution may vary with different repellents—check the product label.)
• If you or your child get a rash or other bad reaction from an insect repellent, stop using the repellent, wash the repellent off with mild soap and water, and call a local poison control center for further guidance. If you go to a doctor because of the repellent, take the repellent with you to show the doctor.

Note that the label for products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus specifies that they should not to be used on children under the age of three years. Other than those listed above, EPA does not recommend any additional precautions for using registered repellents on children or on pregnant or lactating women. For additional information regarding the use of repellent on children, please see CDC’s Frequently Asked Questions about Repellent Use. [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect_repellent.htm]

DEET-based repellents applied according to label instructions may be used along with a separate sunscreen. No data are available at this time regarding the use of other active repellent ingredients in combination with a sunscreen.


*Note: This recommendation refers to EPA-registered repellent products containing the active ingredient oil of lemon eucalyptus (or PMD). “Pure” oil of lemon eucalyptus (e.g. essential oil) has not received similar, validated testing for safety and efficacy, is not registered with EPA as an insect repellent, and is not covered by this CDC recommendation.

References:


Thavara U et al. Laboratory and field evaluations of the insect repellents 3535 (ethyl butyletylaminopropionate) and DEET against mosquito vectors in Thailiand. J of Am Mosq Cont Assoc. 2001, 17(3):190-195

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/westnile, or call CDC at 800-CDC-INFO (English and Spanish) or 888-232-6348 (TTY).
You know you’re from Nebraska if....

you have gone from “heat” to “A/C” in the same day and back again.