



## PRESS RELEASE

## Timber Mart - South

Center for Forest Business, Warnell School of Forest Resources • The University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602-2152

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2005

### For Immediate Release

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Contact: Tom Harris, (706) 542-2832

Writer: Sara Baldwin, (706) 542-4760

### SE Timber Prices Moderate In Fourth Quarter 2005 & New Logging Rate Report

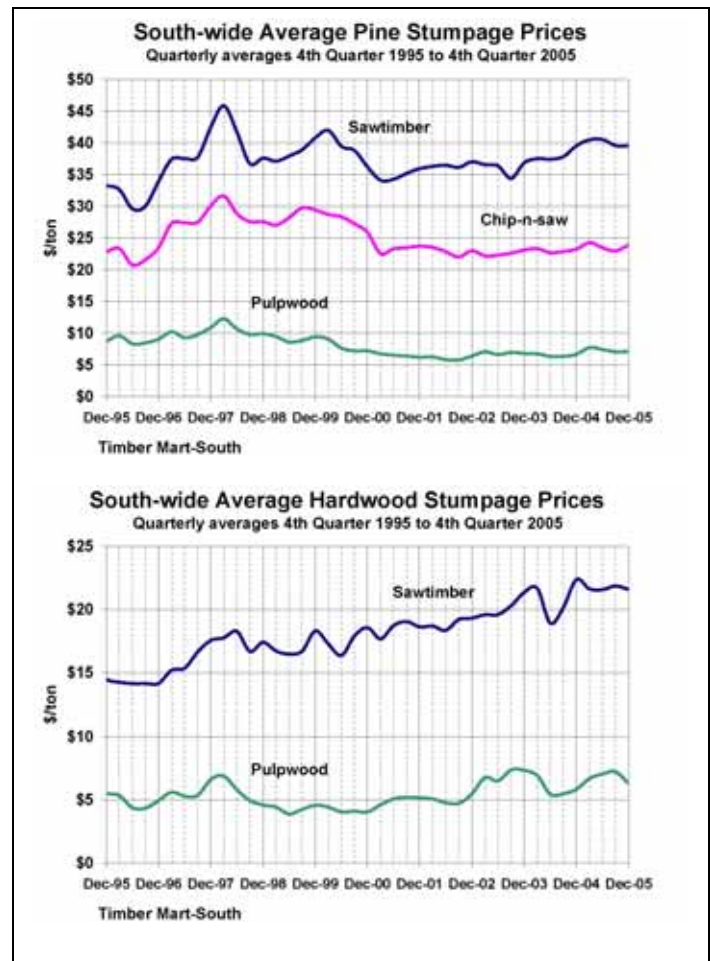
Compared to the previous quarter, south-wide average prices for three of the five major products were nearly unchanged in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2005. Hardwood pulpwood took a significant drop and pine chip-n-saw moved higher. When compared to prices in the same period one year ago, only hardwood sawtimber showed a decline in average price.

| South-wide Average Stumpage Prices \$/ton |             |         |        |          |           |
|---|-------------|---------|--------|----------|-----------|
|   | one quarter |         |        | year ago |           |
|   | 4Q 05       | 3Q 05   | %Δ     | 4Q 04    | %Δ        |
| Pine Sawtimber                            | \$39.53     | \$39.57 | -0.1%  | \$39.54  | No change |
| Pine Chip-n-saw                           | \$23.90     | \$22.95 | +4.1%  | \$23.24  | +2.8%     |
| Pine Pulpwood                             | \$7.10      | \$7.06  | +0.6%  | \$6.66   | +6.6%     |
| Hardwood Sawtimber                        | \$21.58     | \$21.85 | -1.2%  | \$22.36  | -3.5%     |
| Hardwood Pulpwood                         | \$6.28      | \$7.22  | -13.0% | \$5.83   | +7.7%     |

Timber markets remained strong during the quarter. However, there were wide variations in conditions even though record level southern lumber and panel production maintained an overall momentum and pulp production remained steady. Shock and dislocation continued due to Katrina/Rita salvage, high fuel prices, and dramatically different precipitation across the region. Georgia was the only southeastern state to have normal rainfall for the quarter.

#### Pine Stumpage Prices

Average pine sawtimber stumpage prices have backed away from \$40 per ton this quarter after a long climb over most of the past five years. Pine chip-n-saw stumpage prices strengthened slightly along with pine pulpwood, however neither has regained their strength of 1996 to 1999.

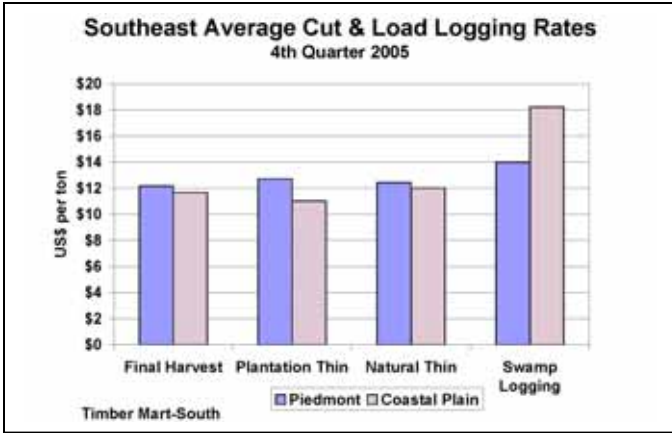


#### Hardwood Stumpage Prices

Mixed hardwood sawtimber appears to have broken its long-term upward trend, at least temporarily. The south-wide average price remained below \$22 per ton all year. Hardwood pulpwood took a downward correction this quarter, while remaining above prices one year ago. Reports from Arkansas and Texas specifically mentioned that dry logging conditions depressed hardwood stumpage markets.

#### Logging Rates

Timber Mart-South surveyed Southeast average Cut & Load rates in US dollars per ton for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2005. For all harvest types except for swamp logging rates, Piedmont rates averaged higher than the Coastal Plain region.



For more information, please contact TMS at 706-542-4756 or visit our web site at [www.TimberMart-South.com](http://www.TimberMart-South.com)

*Timber Mart-South is a 29-year-old price reporting service publishing quarterly reports used by private companies, consultants, landowners, and others to assess market prices in the Southern U.S. The University of Georgia, Warnell School of Forest Resources is under contract with the Frank W. Norris Foundation to compile and publish Timber Mart-South quarterly reports.*