



PRESS RELEASETimber Mart - South

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Pine Sawtimber Up, Pine Pulpwood at Record Lows

South-wide, average stumpage prices decreased for four out of five major timber products in the 2nd Quarter. (See Table 1.) Only pine sawtimber stumpage increased over last quarter and still remains higher than the same quarter a year ago.

Pulpwood prices, both pine and hardwood, decreased again. While still holding a premium over hardwood, in real terms, net of inflation, the south-wide average pine pulpwood price is the lowest since TMS started in 1976.

	Prices \$/ton			year ago	
	2Q 02	1Q 02	2Q 01	up/dn	prcnt
Pine Sawtimber	36.47	\$36.31	\$34.28	+\$2.19	+6.4%
Pine Chip-n-saw	22.84	\$23.50	\$23.31	-\$0.47	-2.0%
Pine Pulpwood	5.83	\$6.24	\$6.53	-\$0.70	-10.7%
Hardwood Sawtimber	18.34	\$18.68	\$18.70	-\$0.36	-1.9%
Hardwood Pulpwood	4.75	\$5.06	\$5.07	-\$0.32	-6.3%

AR, TX & LA

"Too much growing and too little consumed," said one reporter, summarizing the state of pine pulpwood markets in Texas. The judgment applies to most southeastern U.S. markets. Average pine sawtimber stumpage, though, increased over 10 percent in Texas. Arkansas pine sawtimber prices also increased this quarter, although less dramatically. Both Arkansas and Louisiana pine chip-n-saw prices increased, counter to the south-wide trend but bringing them closer to the south-wide average. Louisiana average pine sawtimber stumpage fell back to slightly above the south-wide average.

Reporters in all three states said that hardwood markets were moving, but stumpage prices were generally lower than last quarter.

MS & AL

Mississippi pine sawtimber and chip-n-saw markets remained strong but one reporter said prices dropped towards the end of the quarter. Alabama pine markets weakened with one reporter saying timber prices were following the stock market. Hardwood prices generally averaged lower in both states, though in northern markets, mixed hardwood sawtimber prices increased slightly over last quarter.

GA & FL

Prices for most timber products took a downward turn in both Georgia and Florida this quarter. In contrast, hardwood pulpwood remained in demand along the Gulf Coast in both states, with prices up from last quarter. More than one reporter said that higher quantities of hardwood pulpwood included in lump-sum tracts both increased likelihood the tract would sell and accelerated harvest.

NC, SC, TN & VA

Average pine sawtimber stumpage prices increased in all four states and hardwood sawtimber markets were reported moving well. Pine pulpwood and chip-n-saw markets were slow. According to one reporters, first thinnings of pine plantations were difficult to negotiate due to tight quotas.

Charts posted on www.TimberMart-South.com show five-year trends in pine and hardwood stumpage prices. For a chart showing twenty-five years of real pine pulpwood stumpage prices, please contact TMS at 706-542-4756.

Timber Mart-South is a 25-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 Norris Foundation to compile and publish Timber Mart-South quarterly reports.