



Forest Management Specialists, Inc.

Rural and Urban Forestry Consulting

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FOCUS

In anticipation of the upcoming wet season, most timber mills begin to build their winter inventory in August. This is their attempt to even out the wood flow and avoid shortages that may be caused by the inability of their wood suppliers to access the forest during wet weather. The good news to landowners is this may result in higher prices for standing timber that can be harvested during wet weather. If you are contemplating a timber sale, this is the time to contact Forest Management Specialists, Inc. to assess the quality of your timber, determine the harvesting conditions on-site, and draft a marketing plan.

TIMBER MARKET UPDATE

Pine pulpwood: The bad news is that this product still has relatively low prices but the good news is that it is moving better than it was 3 months ago as area mills have eased their restrictive quotas.

Pine chip-n-saw & saw timber: Not much movement in the price paid for this product. Prices paid for softwood lumber in China have fallen this quarter. However, most experts predict that the overall prices paid for this finished product will slowly continue to increase. Hopefully, the prices paid for standing timber will soon reflect this optimistic outlook.

Hardwood pulpwood: Prices paid for this product in the heart of the Tennessee Valley continue to be low. However, standing timber sales in northeast Alabama, southeast Tennessee, northwest Georgia, and central to south Alabama indicate relatively good prices paid for this product. Prices in east Mississippi and west Alabama are also improving.

Hardwood blended saw timber: These products continue to be in high demand. Even hickory and poplar tracts have brought good prices recently. Tracts that can be harvested in wet weather are still bringing a premium.

Hardwood high quality/specialty: The past six timber sales that we have coordinated have brought much higher than anticipated prices for high quality hardwood, especially white oak. Prices for ash and cypress have improved recently and specialty products like cherry and black walnut remain high.

FOCUS INDUSTRY

RockTenn's mill in Stevenson, AL has been in operation since 1974. It operates two paper machines, one of which is among the youngest in the US. The fiber used includes hardwood chips, round wood and OCC (recycled). Approximately 50% of this mix is recycled. The RockTenn mill is capable of producing around 2,400 tons of paper per day and uses roughly 1.2 million tons of round wood per year.



RockTenn Stevenson, AL



Association of Consulting Foresters of America

Contact Us

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“Forest Management Specialists, Inc. is proud to be associated with the Association of Consulting Foresters of America (ACF). We chose to become a member of the ACF because of their high standards for education, experience, and ethical behavior.”

Billy Rye

TIME FOR:

Timber sales: Thanks to the wet weather this summer, the inventories of most area mills are lower than usual. This may provide a favorable market for most forest products this fall, especially hardwood sawtimber.

Chemical Site Preparation/Release: August and September are the months to spray for your pine plantations. If you spray before the trees are planted (recommended) it is referred to as site preparation. If you spray after the trees are planted it is referred to as a chemical release. If you haven't arranged for your site prep/chemical release spraying, contact FMS ASAP!

Pine thinnings: Thanks to the reduced quotas at area mills, it may now be possible to conduct thinning on your pine plantation.

WILD HOG CONTROL

Don't forget that Forest Management Specialists, Inc. has been contacted by someone who traps and hunts wild hogs for a fee. If your wildlife habitat has been damaged by wild hogs and you would like to contract with a vendor for their control, please contact us at info@fmsforestry.com.

ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING FORESTERS

The Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF) is the only national organization for consulting foresters. It was founded in 1948 by and for practicing foresters who work on this great nation's 430 million acres of privately held lands. Membership in the association is limited to professional foresters who serve the general public in all woodland-related interests. The mission of the ACF is to advance the practice of professional consulting forestry; to establish and maintain high ethical standards for its members; to improve the competency of and provide a forum for its members; and to promote and encourage stewardship of the forest resource. Members of the ACF cannot purchase standing timber. If you hire a consulting forester, make sure he/she is a member of the ACF.