SPRING 2025

CU IN THE WOODS

Clemson Extension Forestry and Wildlife Newsletter

Warm Season Wildlife Food Plots for White-Tailed Deer

By Marion Barnes

Are you thinking about planting a warm-season wildlife food plot for deer? Warm-season wildlife food plots can benefit both game and non-game wildlife species when properly planned and established. Food plots can be used to "fill in the gap" when the availability and nutrition of native plant species are poor, which is often the case during hot, dry summer weather. For deer, additional nutrition is required for lactating does and bucks developing antlers in the spring and summer. Food plots can also attract wildlife for hunting or viewing. Below are a few components of successful wildlife food plot management.

Alyce clover and aeschynomene mix. Photo credit:Marion Barnes, Clemson Extension.

Soil sampling

One of the first steps in a successful wildlife food plot establishment is taking a soil sample. A soil sample will provide information on the pH of the soil and existing nutrient levels. This information can be used to determine lime and fertilizer rates. It's important to take a representative sample of the plot, taking into consideration, soil type(s) and fertilization history. Use a soil probe to collect the sample consisting of 15 to 20 soil cores from the plot. Soil samples can be submitted to the local Clemson Extension office for shipping to the soil lab at Clemson for analysis. Results will be mailed or e-mailed to you. Contact your County Extension if you have questions concerning your sample results.

Liming & soil pH

Proper liming will help ensure your food plots grow and produce to their fullest potential. Soil pH is often overlooked but it is an essential aspect of wildlife food plot production. Soil pH indicates the acidity or alkalinity of the soil. Many soils in the Coastal Plains region of South Carolina are acidic by nature. When soils are acidic, many nutrients are less available to the plant. Proper soil pH improves nodulation, which is important for nitrogen fixation in legumes like aeschynomene, Alyce clover, cowpeas, and soybeans. The optimal soil pH range for most crops grown in wildlife food plots is 6.0 to 6.5. Proper use of lime is perhaps the single most important management practice in wildlife food plot production.

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In This Edition

Events and More

Upcoming Events
Find out about all of our upcoming events by visiting our events page: https://www.eventbrite.com/o/clemson-extension-forestry-amp-wildlife-75733679603

Looking for more forestry and wildlife information?
Check out our blog page for past articles and other great forestry and wildlife information- blogs.clemson.edu/fnr

warm season wildlife food plots for white-tailed deer cont.

Fertilization
Fertilizer supplies nutrients your soils may be lacking and that are necessary for optimal plant growth. Well-fertilized food plots produce healthier plants and produce more forage. A study conducted by the Mississippi State University Deer Lab many years ago determined that deer were more likely to feed in a fertilized plot than in an adjacent, unfertilized plot. It makes sense that healthy, fast-growing forages would be more nutritious and palatable, therefore more attractive to deer.

Plant species and variety selection
Species like aeschynomene, Alyce clover, soybeans, cowpeas, buckwheat, corn, and grain sorghum are often planted in warm-season food plots. Plant seed of species or varieties you know to be adapted and productive to your area and suitable for your soil types and growing conditions. Deer density, browsing pressure, length of forage production, and ease of establishment should be considered when selecting a food plot species or plant variety. Do you have the correct equipment necessary for stand establishment? All these are important considerations when establishing food plots.

Seeding rates
Many food plot managers think that more is better regarding seeding rates. Too few plants indeed make for a thin stand, which can lead to weed encroachment and reduced forage production, but too many plants can also be problematic. Seeding rates are based on the optimal amount of space a plant needs to grow to its fullest potential and contribute to a productive stand. Some plants may outcompete others and end up shading out less vigorously growing plants. Excessive seeding rates also waste money.

Seedbed preparation & seeding depths
Planting or covering small seed too deep is a common cause for food plot failure. No matter whether you choose conventional or no-till establishment of your food plot, seedbed preparation, and seeding depths are critical components. Generally, most small-seeded forages commonly used in food plots should not be planted deeper than one-fourth to one-half inch deep depending on the species for optimum germination. Larger seeded species like cowpeas, soybeans, and grain sorghum can be planted deeper, but all species should be planted in moist soils at recommended planting depths. Seeding depth can also be an issue with premixed blends that contain both large and small seed in the bag. Proper seeding depth enhances germination rates and seedling survival—plant at optimum seeding depths and with adequate soil moisture.

Evaluating your results
It's been stated that you can't manage what you can't measure. Determining the utilization of the forages you grow in your plots is just as important as other components of food plot production. In the case of deer, exclusion cages can be placed in plots to monitor plant growth rates, nutrition, consumption, and yield if desired. After investing all the time, labor, and resources in establishing food plots it's important to evaluate the results and record what works and what does not.

County Forestry Associations

Abbeville County Forest Landowners Association
Contact: Stephen Pohlman

Aiken County Forestry Association
Contact: Janet Steele

Anderson Forestry & Wildlife Association
Contact: Carolyn Dawson

Calhoun-Orangeburg Forest Landowners Association
Contact: Janet Steele

Darlington/Florence Landowners Association
Contact: TJ Savereno

Edgefield County Forestry Association
Contact: Stephen Pohlman

Greenville Forestry & Wildlife Society
Contact: Carolyn Dawson

Greenwood County Forestry Association
Contact: Stephen Pohlman

Kershaw County Forest Landowner Association
Contact: Robert Carter

Laurens County Forest Landowners Association
Contact: Jeff Fellers

Lexington County Forestry Association
Contact: Janet Steele

Lowcountry Landowners Association
(Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper)
Contact: Mike Windhorn

McCormick County Forestry Association
Contact: Stephen Pohlman

Newberry County Forestry Association
Contact: Jeff Fellers

Salkehatchie Forestry Association
(Allendale, Bamburg and Barnwell)
Contact: Mike Windhorn

Saluda County Forestry Association
Contact: Stephen Pohlman

Tri-county Forestry Association
(Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester)
Contact: Mike Windhorn

Williamsburg County Forest Landowners Association
Contact: Tancey Belken

Consider Planting Loblolly Pine at Lower Densities

By Robert Carter

Most forest landowners will harvest timber at some time to generate revenue. There are three primary wood products that can be harvested during the life of a stand: pulpwood, chip-n-saw, and sawtimber. Pulpwood has the smallest diameter trees and the lowest monetary value. Larger diameter trees produce sawtimber for lumber and sometimes poles. Sawtimber and poles have the highest monetary value. Medium diameter trees produce chip-n-saw that can be used for both pulpwood and sawtimber. Several factors, including site characteristics, economics, and landowner goals in the management plan, influence the forest products produced over the life of the stand. When establishing or regenerating a forest, determining the planting density or spacing of trees is essential for future profits from the forest.

A managed pine stand. Photo credit:Jaime Pohlman, Clemson Extension.

For southern pine stands, density has often been as high as 680 TPA (trees per acre) or 8' X 8' spacing. At this density, the hope is to do a first thinning of all pulpwood, a second thinning of chip-n-saw, and a final harvest of sawtimber with a possible third harvest of poles. Poles will require 40 or more years. However, the prevailing economics should be considered so that the profit at final harvest or first thinning exceeds the money invested in planting. If the demand and price for pulpwood are low, it may be better to plant at lower densities. Lower-density pine planting can allow landowners to harvest chip-n-saw at the first thinning instead of pulpwood. This will result in greater revenue at the first thinning, a final harvest of sawtimber for the landowner, and a more attractive harvest to potential loggers. A registered forester can help you understand your area's forest product markets and advise on planting densities.

Lower density planting also offers other advantages. Due to the fewer number of thinnings, the likelihood of soil compaction and residual tree damage is reduced because heavy equipment enters the forest less often. The trees are more vigorous with higher growth rates due to lower competition from surrounding trees. The more vigorous trees will be more resistant to insects and diseases. The wider spacing can also provide for wildlife forage and the possibility of mixed pine hardwood stands. Spacings of 14' or more between rows reduce road and trail building because machinery can move between the rows. A table with spacing and TPA can be found at Pine Stand Thinning – Clemson Extension Forestry and Wildlife.

Regardless of the spacing strategy implemented, landowners need to plant seedlings with superior genetics and growth rates. There are now loblolly seedlings with genetics that will produce high-quality wood even when grown at wide spacings. Ask a registered forester for assistance finding the best seedlings that suit your site quality and spacing choice. Mass control pollinated (MCP) seedlings typically have the best genetics, although open-pollinated (OP) seedlings are a viable option.

Spacing Considerations

Spacing for pulpwood and biomass production

Planting just to harvest biomass or pulpwood would require densities of 680 TPA or higher and higher planting costs. The competition between trees caused by the dense planting will eventually lead to growth stagnation due to light competition and poor root and crown development. The final harvest is typically when growth begins to stagnate. This strategy will produce lower profits in a shorter period of time (often 12 years).

Spacing for two thinnings and a final sawtimber harvest

The first thinning would be pulpwood while the second thinning would primarily be chip-n-saw. This would require an optimal planting density of 570 TPA but could be as high as 680 TPA. This could produce three cash flow opportunities, but pulpwood prices may not be profitable.

Spacing for one chip-n-saw thinning and final harvest

Another approach is to plant at wider spacing to lower planting costs and skip the first thinning for pulpwood. The first thinning would be for chip-n-saw, followed by a final harvest of sawtimber. This option offers some flexibility to adjust to the market. If pulpwood prices increase, you could do a first thin for pulpwood at an earlier age, but the chip-n-saw option is still an option at a later age. A spacing of 8' X 12' (454 TPA) or 10' X 10' (436 TPA) may delay diameter growth stagnation, lowering the chances of wind or ice damage, and providing trees with greater diameter and height at first thinning. The wider spacing can also provide enough sunlight for wildlife forage and wildflowers for pollinators.

Spacing for final harvest only at age 25-30

All thinning can be skipped with just a final harvest for

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consider planting loblolly pine at lower densities cont.

sawtimber. Planting density should be 175 to 303 TPA. A 12' X 12' planting spacing can yield nearly twice the sawtimber volume as 8' X 12' spacing when harvested at age 25. This may be a good option for parcels less than 20 acres to provide an economically attractive product (sawtimber) to wood buyers or in areas with poor pulpwood markets. Due to the wide spacing, this strategy could also provide forage for wildlife and wildflowers for pollinators.

References:

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Cartner, T. 2018. "Are You Dense? Science-based Loblolly Pine Planting Density Recommendations." https://www.forestryandland.com/post/are-you-dense-science-based-loblolly-pine-planting-density-recommendations

Hiesel, P. and J. Steele. 2022. Pine Stand Thinning. Clemson Cooperative Extension, Clemson, SC. Pine Stand Thinning – Clemson Extension Forestry and Wildlife.

VanderSchaaf, C.T. 2023. Loblolly pine planting densities for landowners in areas with poor pulpwood markets: some considerations. Journal of Forestry 121: 383-390.

Wayne Bowman, James W. Garner, John Scrivani, James Starr, and Tim Tigner. 2005. Virginia Department of Forestry. Forestry Topics FT0003. Facts About Low-Density Plantings of Loblolly Pine: Advantages of Planting Fewer Trees Per Acre.

Forestry Herbicide Series- Imazapyr

By Jeff Fellers

Imazapyr is a common herbicide used in forestry primarily for pine management. It is a non-selective systemic herbicide that targets grasses, broadleaf weeds, vines, brambles, shrubs, and trees (especially hardwoods). There are several plants that are resistant to imazapyr. They include elms, woody legumes, wax myrtle, croton, blackberry, buckeye, eastern Baccharis, and pine. Hence, we like to use it in pine management.

Imazapyr is in the chemical family Imidazolinone. It is an amino acid synthesis inhibitor. It inhibits the enzyme acetohydroxy acid synthase (AHAS), which is also known as acetolactate synthase (ALS). By inhibiting ALS, the plant does not have the enzymes needed for protein synthesis and cell growth. Plant death is usually slow with ALS inhibitors. Since only plants have ALS, imazapyr has very low toxicity to animals, insects and fish.

When using Imazapyr, one does have to be careful to prevent contact with non-target plants. Imazapyr can be absorbed through foliage and/or roots. Imazapyr can persist in the soil from one to five months. It typically does not leach from the soil and is slowly degraded by microbial metabolism.

While Imazapyr does have soil activity and can act as a pre-emergent, it is typically more effective to use the foliar application when the plants are actively growing, especially in a pine management application. When using the foliar application, a surfactant is recommended to increase the uptake of the herbicide. It is also commonly used in hack and squirt and stump applications for selective control to reduce damage to crop trees. Keep in mind that imazapyr can damage hardwoods if sprayed on the ground where the tree's roots could absorb the herbicide.

Some common brands that are used in forestry applications include Arsenal AC, Chopper Gen 2, Polaris AC Complete, Polaris SP, Imazapyr 4SL, and Rotary 2SL. Some of these products contain different amounts of imazapyr and are used in different applications, like site preparation or understory treatment. BE SURE TO ALWAYS READ THE LABEL.

Before you use imazapyr, I highly recommend that you speak with your local Extension Agent. Identifying the weeds you want to control, the crop trees you wish to protect, and any sensitive areas that do not need to be sprayed is essential. Since imazapyr is soil active and remains in the soil for months, it is important to use it properly to avoid damage to non-target plants.

It's all fun and games until...

By Susan Lunt, Michelle Altman, Julia Lunt, Adarsh Shidhaye

Bites Burns Blood: First Aid For Skin Issues Resulting From Being Outdoors discusses first aid basics to address skin-related injuries resulting from being outdoors. Whether you find yourself outdoors for your job, livelihood, as a weekend warrior, for recreational or mental well-being, or as a spectator, you may end up with an injury resulting from a bite or burn or an injury creating a bloody situation. The content in this publication serves individuals seeking to gain knowledge on simple home remedies and guidance, and when to seek a professional medical provider to treat wounds. The document categorizes injuries into bites, burns, or blood; shares an overview of the category and self-treatment "DO's and DON'Ts"; informs on complications and prevention; indicates when to seek professional medical help and/or call 911; and lists suggested first aid supplies. The bites section covers bugs, snakes, animals (including aquatic), human bites, and rashes. The burns portion provides information on burns from sun, fire, steam/hot liquid, chemical, electrical, and cold. The blood segment encompasses cuts, scrapes, punctures, and lacerations.

Insect sting. Photo credit: isengard-stock.adobe.com

For the full article: https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/bites-burns-blood-first-aid-for-skin-issues-resulting-from-being-outdoors/

It's Goatsucker Season Y'all

By Robert Carter

If you live in the country, or sometimes in the city, around May, you'll start to hear these strange sounds at night. As a kid, I remember hearing the voices of the night as I was camping or fishing at night. The creatures move silently in the night and periodically call, but they are silent during the day. They are sometimes called goatsuckers or nightjars. Many people also call them whip-poor-wills, but there are three species in South Carolina. These members of the Caprimulgidae family have a large head, small beak, and wide gaping mouth. They tend to forage for insects in open areas where goats were grazing. As far back as Aristotle, people believed these mysterious night flying creatures were sucking milk from goats. Some people even believed that this caused the goats to go blind. I understand the suspicion. They prowl around at night, making haunting sounds, but disappear during the day. The sounds can sometimes scare or jar you at night. This is the source of the name nightjar. If you ever find one during the day and observe its disproportionately large head, eyes, and mouth, you might be frightened and think you have found an agent of the devil.

Now we know that wide, gaping mouths are for catching insects. Their large eyes provide excellent vision so they can see the flying insects, while modified bristle-like feathers around their mouths help them detect insects by touch. Although they vary in size, all goatsuckers have cryptic patterns of brown, gray, black, and occasionally white plumage. They lay eggs on the ground on some leaves, but they don't really make a nest. I have been startled by them when I scared them off the nest during their daytime slumber. Their tiny feet make walking on the ground cumbersome, but the feet are useful for roosting on tree branches, which is the norm outside of breeding season. They are the only birds that regularly sit lengthwise on a branch, so they appear to be part of the branch. They have really mastered visual camouflage.

The three species in SC arrive by May and migrate south by September. The whip-poor-will spends winter in Central and South America and the Gulf Coast, while the chuck-will's-widow winters in Central America, Mexico, and Florida. Nighthawks have a really long migration, flying from Canada to the southern regions of South America. During fall migration, large numbers of nighthawks can be seen emerging from their daytime nap at sunset. I call this the most exciting ten minutes of fall migration.

Adult common nighthawk sitting on a limb. Photo credit: Time Lenz, allaboutbirds.org.

The nighthawk can be observed in urban areas as they forage for insects above areas with bright lights. The lights attract confused insects, which make for easy pickings. Outside of cities, they forage over open fields, low-density forests, or near water. They are crepuscular, which means they are most active at sunset and sunrise. Nighthawks are sometimes active during the day and can be observed

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it's goatsucker season y'all cont.

at Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge. They can be recognized by their nasal call, forked tail, narrow pointed wings with a white stripe, and white throat. They swirl in circles, catching insects reminiscent of a bat. They are sometimes called bullbats due to this behavior and the swooshing sound they produce as they dive to impress a mate or scare off an intruder. Nighthawks naturally nest on sandy or rocky ground, but in urban areas have adapted to nesting on rooftops covered with gravel. As gravel tops have been replaced by other materials, the number of urban nighthawks has declined.

An adult Eastern whip-poor-will is resting on the ground. Photo credit: Dominick French, allaboutbirds.org.

Whip-poor-wills are nocturnal and known for their rapid song that sounds like "whip poor will." The three-syllable song has no break between the phrases. They have rounded wing tips with no white markings on the wings. However, you are not likely to see a whip-poor-will because they are crepuscular and sometimes feed all night at full moon. They hunt insects in open areas or forests with an open understory. Sometimes they hunt by sitting on a branch or the ground, grabbing an insect, and returning to the perch. They nest on the ground in open hardwood or mixed pine hardwood forests. Whip-poor-wills synchronize reproduction with the full moon when it is easier to catch insects by sight. Eggs will hatch about a week before a full moon. While humans are using the Farmer's Almanac to time fishing, hunting, and planting, the whip-poor-will innately follows the phases of the moon. If you live in the Lowcountry, you are less likely to hear a whip-poor-will, but you may occasionally walk up on one during the winter.

An adult chuck-will's-widow perched on a stick. Photo credit: Kathy Doddridge, allaboutbirds.org.

Chuck-will's-widow is about the size of a crow with rounded wing tips and some white stripes on the tail. Its incessant song has a pause between each phrase, and "chuck" is difficult to hear. The pause helps differentiate it from the whip-poor-will song. They also make crocking calls that will scare most people unaware of the source. Chuck-will's-widow are crepuscular but will feed all night at full moon. They feed on insects and sometimes small bats and birds by flying low over open areas or launching themselves from a branch or the ground. They nest in open pine or hardwood forest near clearings and lay up to four eggs on the ground. You are more likely to hear chuck-will's-widow in the Low Country, while the Upstate is likely to support all three Nightjars.

All of the Carolina Goatsuckers have declining populations. They all need access to open habitats with numerous insects, which have become less common. To improve habitat for these mysterious birds, pine and hardwood forests should be thinned and the midstory density reduced with prescribed fire. This will also benefit many of the grassland birds that are declining, as well as turkey and deer.

For more information, see these links:
https://www.sibleyguides.com/2015/03/why-are-they-called-goatsuckers/

https://www.nwf.org/Magazines/National-Wildlife/1998/Goatsuckers-Get-Some-Respect

https://science.jrank.org/pages/3073/Goatsuckers.html#google_vignette

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern_Whip-poor-will/overview

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Chuck-wills-widow/overview

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Common_Nighthawk/overview

Meet our new agent!

Mike Windhorn is our new Forest and Natural Resources Agent in the Dorchester office. Mr. Windhorn comes to us with a Bachelor's Degree in Forest Management from Clemson University.. Originally from Blythewood, SC, he has many years of experience in land management, wood procurement, forest certification, forest product sales, and environmental education. Mike is excited to join the Clemson Extension team and is ready to assist local landowners.

Mike's office is located in St. George. He can be reached at mswindh@clemson.edu or 843-563-0135 ext. 2.

Invasive Species Spotlight- Tree-of-Heaven

By Jeff Fellers

Take just a short drive down the road or interstate, and I bet you will have a good chance of seeing tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). Over the last few years, I have really started to notice this tree along the sides of roads. I have also made numerous landowner visits where I have seen it on their property. It can be found throughout much of the continental U.S., as indicated by Figure 1. While it is native to Eastern China, it was introduced to the U.S. in 1784 from Europe as a unique, fast-growing ornamental. It can grow on a wide range of soil and site conditions, while tolerating poor growing conditions.

Figure 1. Map showing documented cases of tree-of-heaven. Image from Virginia Tech Dendrology Webpage.

Tree-of-heaven is a rapidly growing tree that has the capability to form dense stands. It is also allelopathic, which means it creates a biochemical that can suppress the germination, growth, and survival of other plant species.

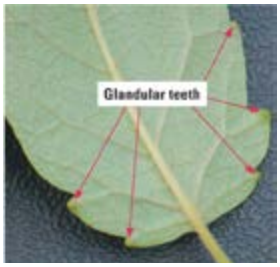

Figure 2. Circular Glands under the lobes of the leaflets. Image from Ohio State Fact Sheet F-65 Controlling Non-Native Invasive Plants in Ohio Forests: Ailanthus.

The tree can reach 80 feet in height and has long, pinnately compound leaves with circular glands (Figure 2) under the lobes of the leaflet bases. The leaves are alternate with 10 to 41 leaflets on 1 to 3-foot stalks (Figure 3). To me, the leaves resemble those of sumac and black walnut, except they can be much longer.

Tree-of-heaven flowers between April and June (Figure 4). Typically, you will see long terminal clusters of small yellowish-green flowers. The flowers produce a seed (Figure 5) that can stay on the tree from July to February, and this is where you can really notice the difference between tree-of-heaven and sumac (Figure 6). The seed is very prolific and can be spread by wind and water. Tree-of-heaven can also reproduce by root sprouts and resprouts profusely from cut stumps.

Figure 3. Leaf of tree-of-heaven. Image from Dave Jackson, Penn State University.

Recommended Control Procedures:

Tree-of-heaven has an extensive root system, making control with one application difficult. Treatment timing with a follow-up application may need to be made in the second year to control sprouts.

Figure 4. Tree-of-heaven flowers Image Source: Jan Samanek, Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org.

Large trees:

Make stem injections and then apply Garlon 3A, Pathway*, Pathfinder II, or Arsenal AC* in dilutions and cut spacings specified on the herbicide label (midsummer best, late winter somewhat less effective). For felled trees, apply these herbicides to stem and stump tops immediately after cutting. However, stump treatment typically does not prevent root suckering.

Figure 5. Tree-of-heaven Fruits Image Source: Jan Samanek, Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org.

Saplings:

Apply Garlon 4 as a 20-percent solution in basal oil, vegetable oil, crop oil concentrate, diesel fuel, or kerosene (2.5 quarts per 3-gallon mix) or apply undiluted Pathfinder II to young bark as a basal spray.

Seedlings and saplings: Thoroughly wet all leaves with one of the following herbicides in water with a surfactant (July to October): Arsenal AC* as a 1-percent solution (4 ounces per 3-gallon mix), Krenite S as a 15-percent solution (3 pints per 3-gallon mix), Garlon 4 as a 2-percent solution (8 ounces per 3-gallon mix), or Escort XP* at 1 ounce per acre.

Prescriptions used from the Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forest: A Field Guide for Identification and Control publication.

*Nontarget plants may be killed by root uptake

Figure 6. Seed head from smooth sumac Image Source: Steven Katovich, Bugwood.org

Stumpage Price Trends in South Carolina for the Q1, 2025

By Puskar Khanal

Pulpwood Stumpage Trends in Q1, 2025:

In the first quarter of 2025, South Carolina's statewide average prices for pine and hardwood pulpwood were $6.8 per ton and $6.5 per ton, respectively. Compared to the previous quarter (Q4 of 2024), these figures represent declines of 12% for pine and 32% for hardwood pulpwood. Pine pulpwood prices fell below $7 per ton this quarter, largely driven by significant price drops in the Upstate region, which pulled down the statewide average. In contrast, the sharper decline in hardwood pulpwood prices occurred in the Lowcountry rather than the Upstate, highlighting a regional disparity in South Carolina's timber market. Overall, pine and hardwood pulpwood prices were at their lowest this quarter compared to the previous three quarters across South Carolina.

Sawtimber Stumpage Trends in Q1, 2025:

In the first quarter of 2025, statewide pine sawtimber prices averaged $23.3 per ton, while hardwood sawtimber prices averaged $19.2 per ton. Pine sawtimber prices rose by approximately 4% compared to the previous quarter (Q4 of 2024), whereas hardwood sawtimber prices experienced a steep decline of over 20%. Such a significant drop in hardwood sawtimber prices is highly unusual. The decline appears to be largely driven by a sharp decrease in mixed hardwood prices in the Upstate region. This sudden drop may reflect a mill reporting error or data anomaly, as prices at this level have not been observed in the region in recent years.

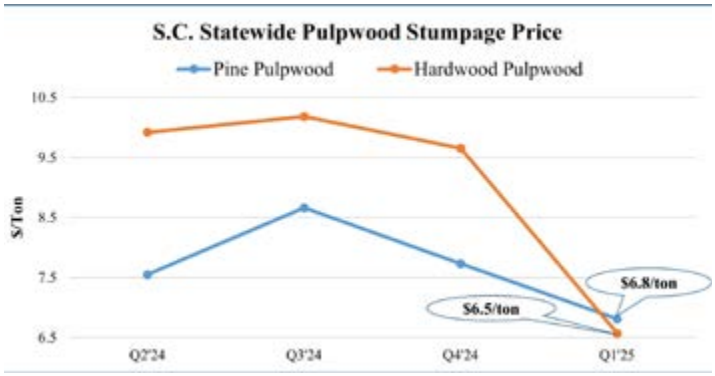

Figure 1. Graph of South Carolina statewide pulpwood stumpage prices for Q2'24 to Q1'25. Graph credit: Puskar Khanal, Clemson University.

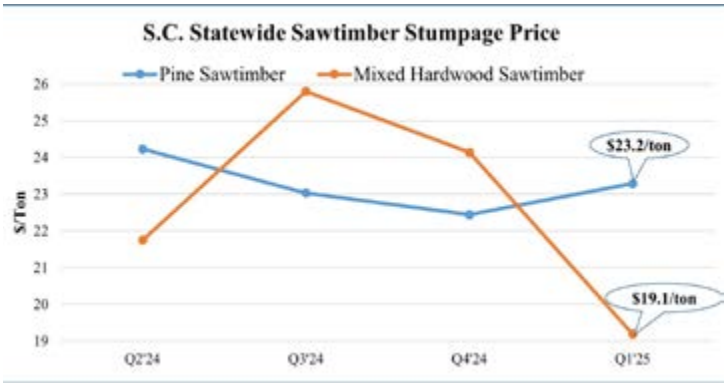

Figure 2. Graph of South Carolina statewide sawtimber stumpage prices for Q2'24 to Q5'21. Graph credit: Puskar Khanal, Clemson University.

Wood Market is Local: Stumpage prices for both sawtimber and pulpwood in your local markets could vary significantly as compared to the above statewide averages depending on: size and species composition, quality of timber, total acres and volume, logging operability, distance from nearby mills, and overall market condition.

Data credit: The sawtimber and pulpwood price data included in this newsletter are published with permission from TimberMart-South Athens, GA 30605 email tmart@timbermart-south.com.

Clemson University Launches Statewide Extension Wildlife Damage Management Program

Wildlife Damage Management Program
CLEMSON COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Clemson University's Cooperative Extension Service has recently launched a new, statewide Wildlife Damage Management Program to provide resources and science-based solutions for addressing human-wildlife conflicts in South Carolina. The new program, led by Clemson University's Extension Wildlife Damage Program Director, Dr. Elizabeth A. Bradley, and two Wildlife Damage Extension Associates, Andrew Jamison and Jacob Murray, aims to implement an evidence-based and interdisciplinary approach to reduce wildlife damage caused by common conflict species, including but not limited to feral swine, white-tailed deer, beaver, and coyotes. Through collaboration with state agriculture and natural resource agencies such as the SC Department of Agriculture, SC Department of Natural Resources, SC Farm Bureau, and others, the new Wildlife Damage Management Program is part of Clemson Extension's commitment to integrating research, education, and outreach to address issues affecting agricultural producers, non-industrial private landowners, and community stakeholders throughout South Carolina.

FAQ: *Tree*mendous Benefits for Stormwater

By Samantha Porzelt and Susan Lunt

There are a Treemendous number of benefits from the use of trees to help manage stormwater in suburban and urban areas. As land use is increasingly dominated by impervious surfaces, less rainfall can soak into the soil, increasing stormwater runoff. Pollutants such as nutrients in fertilizers and bacteria in pet waste can bond to soil particles, and the soil particles themselves can be carried from land to waterways by stormwater runoff. A medium-sized tree can intercept as much as 2,380 gallons of rainfall per year, which will reduce runoff, flooding, erosion, and water contamination. The graphic focuses on how each part of the tree (leaves, limbs, trunk, and roots) can utilize stormwater to reduce runoff and erosion. The graphic also contains pictures of recommended native trees that benefit stormwater and a QR code for more recommendations from the Clemson Cooperative Extension Carolina Yards Website.

Treemendous benefits for stormwater graphic created by Clemson Extension

Contact our Agents:

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