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SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY MARKET NEWSLETTER

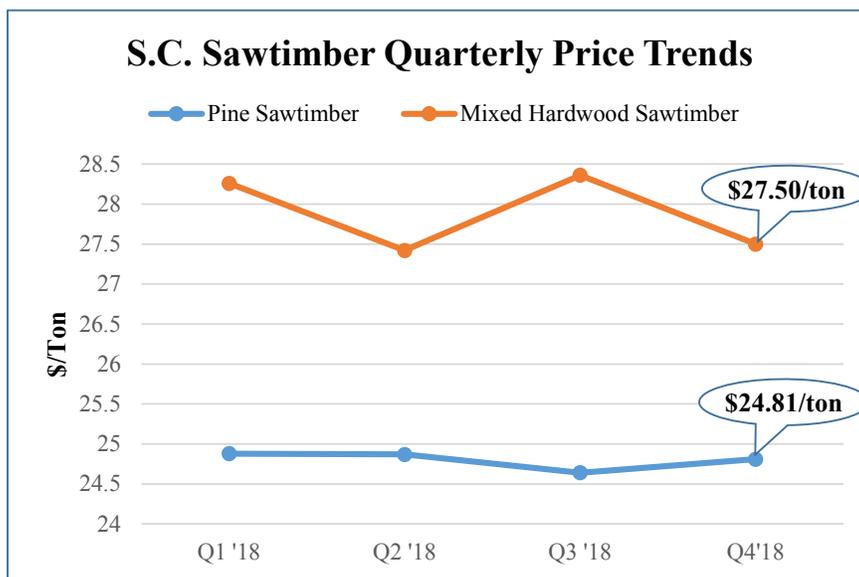
4th QUARTER, 2018

Topical Outline

1. S.C. statewide stumpage price trends.
2. S.C. forestry and forest-products news.
3. 2018 farm bill and benefits for forest landowners.
4. Article summary: Winter is a great time to control invasive privet.
5. Extension publication: Tax tips for forest landowners for the 2018 tax year.
6. Housing market trends, October 2018.

1. S.C. Statewide Stumpage Price Trends¹

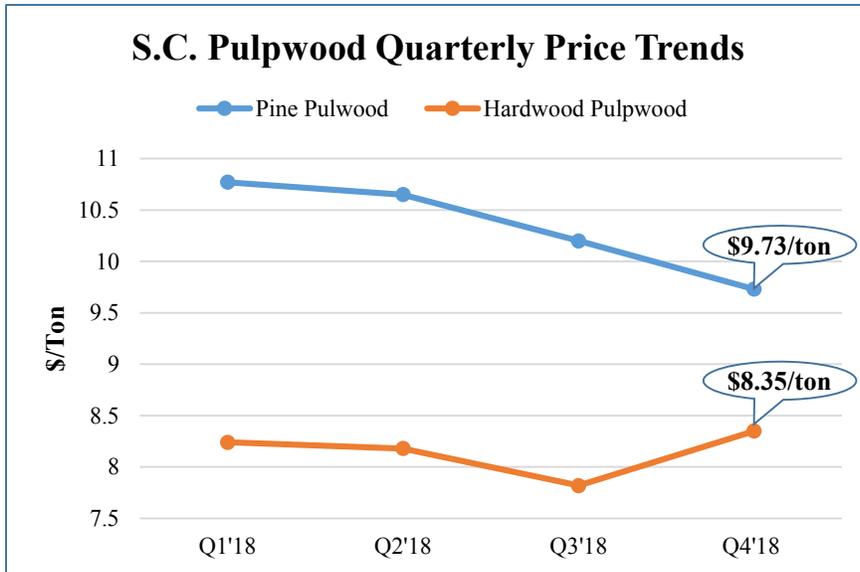
South Carolina statewide pine sawtimber stumpage (standing timber) prices, on average,



were \$24.81/ton in the 4th quarter of 2018. It is an increase of less than a percentage point as compared to the prices for pine sawtimber in the last quarter. For mixed hardwood sawtimber, statewide prices on average were \$27.50/ton. It is a decline of above 3% as compared to the

prices for mixed hardwood sawtimber in the last quarter.

¹ The sawtimber and pulpwood price data included in this newsletter are published with permission from TimberMart-South, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia, Athens GA 30602. Email, tmart@uga.edu.



South Carolina statewide pine pulpwood prices, on average, were \$9.73/ton in the 4th quarter of 2018. It is a decline of above 4% as compared to the prices in the last quarter. For hardwood pulpwood, the statewide stumpage price on average was \$8.35/ton in this quarter. It is an increase of about 7% as compared to the prices in the last quarter.

However, 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 acre and volume
- Logging operability
- Distance from nearby mills, and
- Current market condition

Price Conversions

- Pine sawtimber/MBF= Tons*7.5
- Hardwood sawtimber/MBF= Tons*8.75
- CNS and pine pulpwood/cords= Tons*2.68
- Hardwood pulpwood/cords= Tons*2.90

2. S.C. Forestry and Forest-Products News

- Ridgeland Pellet Co., LLC plans to launch new manufacturing operations in Jasper County. A manufacturer of wood pellets used in home heating fuel, alternative industrial energy and equine bedding, Ridgeland Pellet Co. will purchase an existing manufacturing facility at 579 Nimmer Turf Road in Ridgeland, SC.
- Central Packaging and Crating, Inc., a manufacturer of wooden, heat-treated pallets, is expanding operations in Greenwood County. The company’s \$6 million investment is projected to create 37 new jobs. The company will be upgrading an adjacent vacant facility, installing a new cut-up line for pine wood, and expanding production of pine pallets.
- Two biomass plants in South Carolina are to be acquired by Atlantic Power Corporation. One is located in Allendale and the other in Harleyville. Designed in exactly the same way, both plants have been operating since 2013; both use biomass fuel that mainly consists of a mill and harvesting residues.
- Forest Logistics Summit will be held January 25, 2019 at the UGA Tifton Conference Center, Tifton, Georgia. The event will focus on challenges of log truck liability insurance, opportunities to improve trucking efficiency, new driver training program, and highway safety and law enforcement.

3. 2018 Farm Bill and Benefits for Forest Landowners

On December 20, President Trump signed the \$867 billion 2018 Farm Bill into law. The bill is titled the Agricultural Improvement Act, or H.R. 2; and the funding for the bill will last through 2023. The bill Provides funding for many conservation programs, like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP). It also authorizes the Timber Innovation Act, which will incentivize investment to conduct the research and development of cross laminated timber and other engineered timber products for use in the construction industry.

4. Article Summary: Winter is a Great Time to Control Invasive Privet.

Dr. David Coyle, dcoyle@clermson.edu

During the winter months in many parts of South Carolina, privet is one of the few green things on the ground. This invasive shrub may be one of two species: Chinese or Japanese privet. Both look very similar, and for all intents and purposes they behave the same. Privet was (and still is) commonly used as a landscape plant across the southeastern U.S., but now grows readily in many forested areas. Privet can take over the forest understory, and while it has a green appearance

there is very little value for the forest. Chemical control for privet is an effective management method, and while basal bark herbicide applications (i.e. spraying the lower stem area) are very effective they are not particularly time effective in areas with a lot of stems.



Foliar applications of glyphosate are much more economical and just as effective, and during the winter months most other plants are dormant – meaning there’s less chance of nontarget effects from the herbicide application. A foliar application of 3-5% glyphosate, applied to the green foliage, should give excellent control. Apply enough so that foliage is wet but not dripping. Remember to follow all label directions (the label is the law) and wear appropriate personal protective equipment when applying pesticides.

5. Extension Publication: Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2018 Tax Year

Are you beginning to work on your taxes? The Federal income tax provisions that apply to timber have changed for the 2018 tax year from the December 2017 new tax legislation. If you are a forest landowner, here are some tax tips for the 2018 tax year:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/library/taxtips2018.pdf>

6. Housing Market Trends

In October 2018, total privately-owned housing starts in U.S. increased 1.5% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,228 thousand units. U.S. homebuilding rose in October amid a rebound in multi-family housing projects.

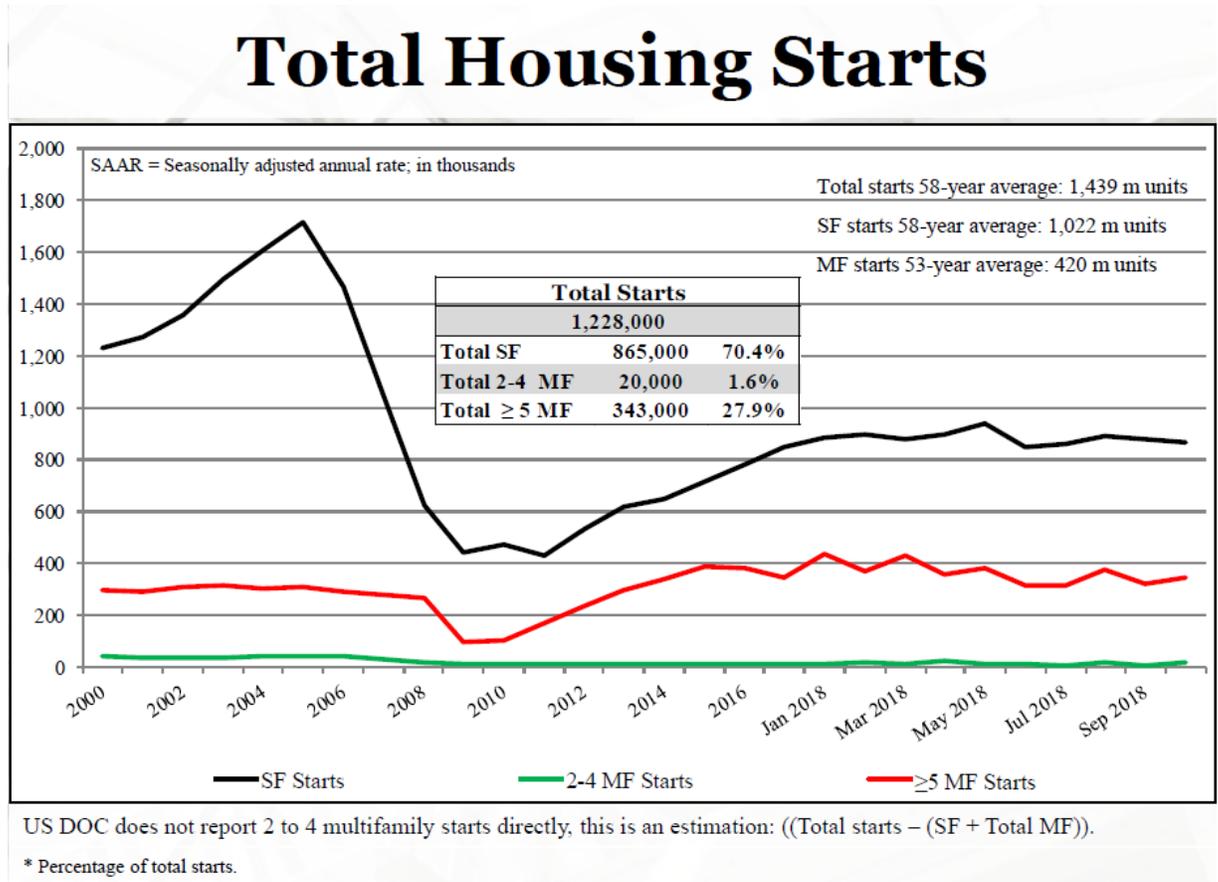


Figure Source: Virginia Tech - U.S. Forest Service housing market commentaries by Drs. Urs Buehlmann and Delton Alderman, October 2018.

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