



# MCES Timber Price Report

Extension Agricultural Economics Department  
Extension Forestry Department

P. O. Box 5446  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

November-December, 1988

## MCES TIMBER PRICE REPORT

### 1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

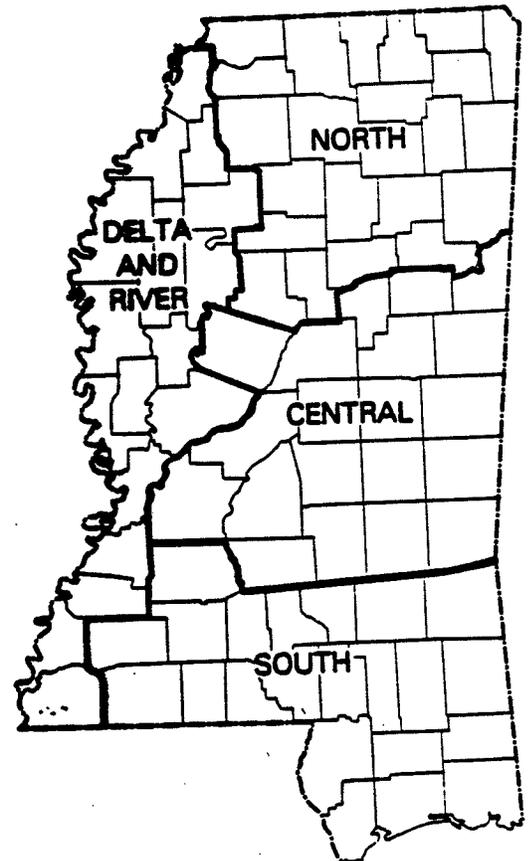
The MCES Timber Price Report is a monthly survey of stumpage and delivered timber prices in Mississippi. It is developed through the cooperation of public and private members of the forestry sector with MCES to provide an accurate picture of timber market activity. Mississippi is divided into four market regions that reflect distinct timber markets within the state (see map) and average prices for common forest products are listed. These values are compiled by polling cooperators from forest industry, public agencies, consulting foresters and landowners.

### 2. HOW TO USE THIS REPORT.

This report is intended to give a profile of timber prices in Mississippi.

Values given are offered as a guide to help individuals assess the fair-market value of their timber. The average price for a region should NOT be applied as the exact value for a particular timber tract. The best way for private landowners to obtain the highest price for a particular tract is to use competitive bidding. These prices, however, do reflect current timber market activity in each region.

Certain factors may cause a particular tract of timber to be valued higher or lower. For example, a tract that has a high timber volume per acre and can be logged during wet weather may bring a price per unit higher than the average reported here. On the other hand, a tract with less volume at great distance from the buyer's mill may bring less. Additional factors that affect timber values are timber quality, tract size, type of product to be made from the timber, access to the tract and many others. These values are a good price reference for landowners who wish to market timber, but individuals are advised to have their timber evaluated by a professional forester before making a timber sale.



*[Signature]*  
County Agent

3. TIMBER MARKET COMMENTS

Sawtimber

During the November-December period most sawmills were working to build their log inventories. About twice as many pine and hardwood mills reported low log inventories as reported normal or good log inventories. Efforts by mills to increase winter inventories have held stumpage prices up in some areas but other areas have experienced lower prices. For example, pine sawtimber stumpage in North Mississippi jumped up \$28/MBF on average while in Central Mississippi it dropped \$23/MBF. (Erratic prices are common in winter because some mills are in great need of logs and will pay higher prices while others have good inventories and are under less pressure to buy.) Most mills were shut down for several days during the holidays.

Pine log inventories have been running lower than normal, particularly in South Mississippi though many mills have been able to raise log inventory levels since late October. Pine lumber prices are soft adding to the problems of mills with low log inventories. Average delivered pine log prices reported were \$231/MBF in the southwest and \$256/MBF in the southeast.

Hardwood lumber prices were reported to be level after dropping for several weeks. One mill reported "prices were about the same but that lumber was moving easier." Some reporters did not believe lumber prices would increase appreciably in the near future. Delivered soft hardwood sawtimber prices in the Delta and River area ranged from \$138/MBF to \$175/MBF. Several mills in North and Central Mississippi reported that fewer landowners were offering timber for sale.

Pulpwood

Both hardwood and pine pulpwood prices remained steady (at about the yearly average) but more pulpwood is moving. One mill in the central area reported a need for more hardwood pulpwood, and several high stumpage prices were reported for pine pulpwood in Central Mississippi (\$14 and \$19/cord).

Other Comments

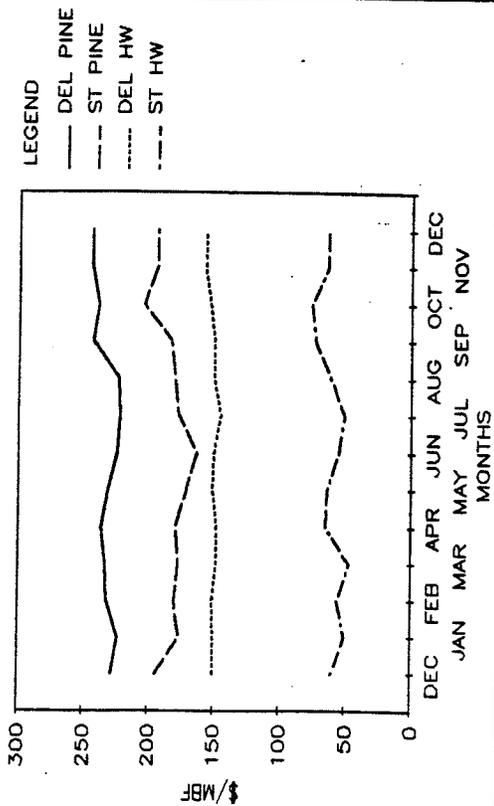
1988 was a good year for both the pine and hardwood industries in Mississippi. Above average weather conditions and good demand kept pine and hardwood sawtimber prices up throughout the year. Pulpwood markets have improved this fall after being extremely sluggish for most of the year.

This report includes graphs of 1988 monthly prices for both pine and hardwood sawtimber and pine and hardwood pulpwood.

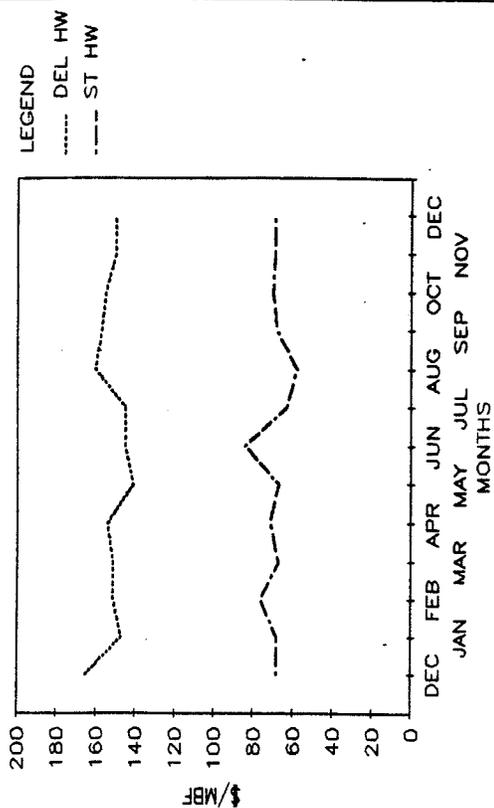
Anyone can receive the MCES Timber Price Report by contacting your county agent or the authors.

COMMENTS? We'd like to hear from you whether you're a forest landowner or in forest industry. Is this report useful to you? What's wrong with it? What's right with it? How do you use it? Has it helped you with a timber sale? Let us know your reaction to this report.

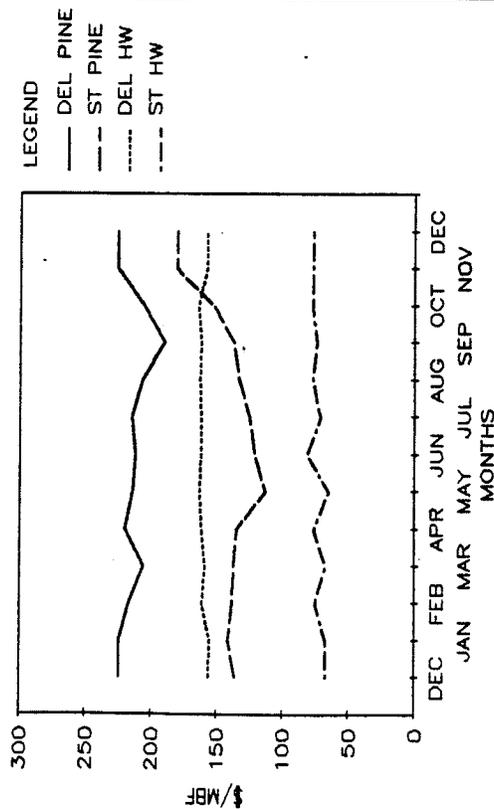
DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
SOUTH



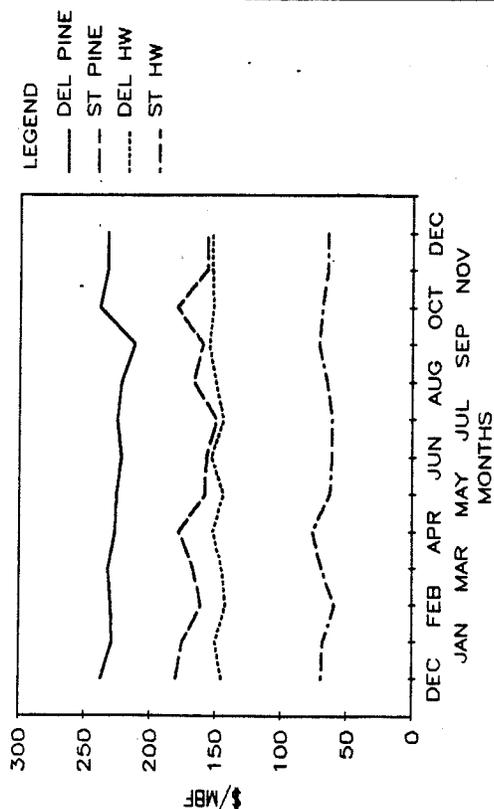
DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER  
PRICE FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
DELTA



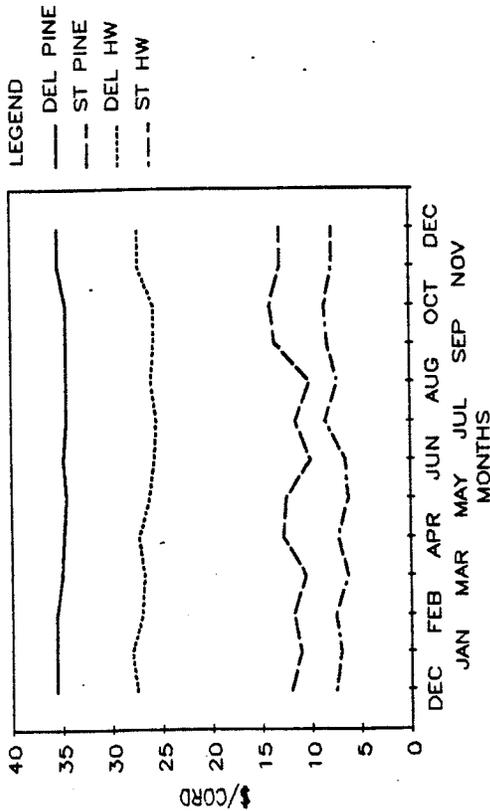
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PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
NORTH



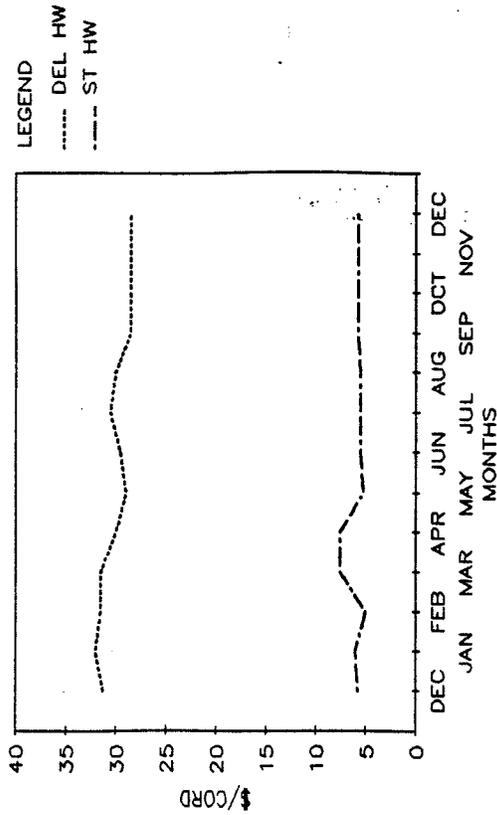
DELIVERED AND STANDING SAWTIMBER  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
CENTRAL



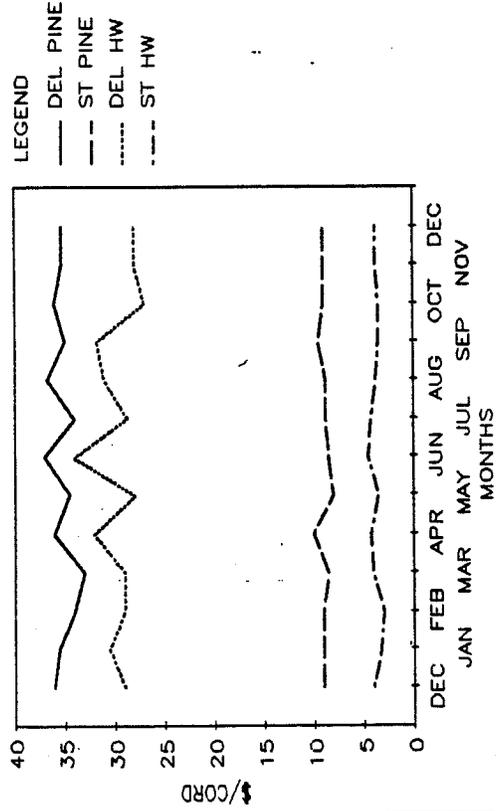
DELIVERED AND STANDING PULPWOOD  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
SOUTH



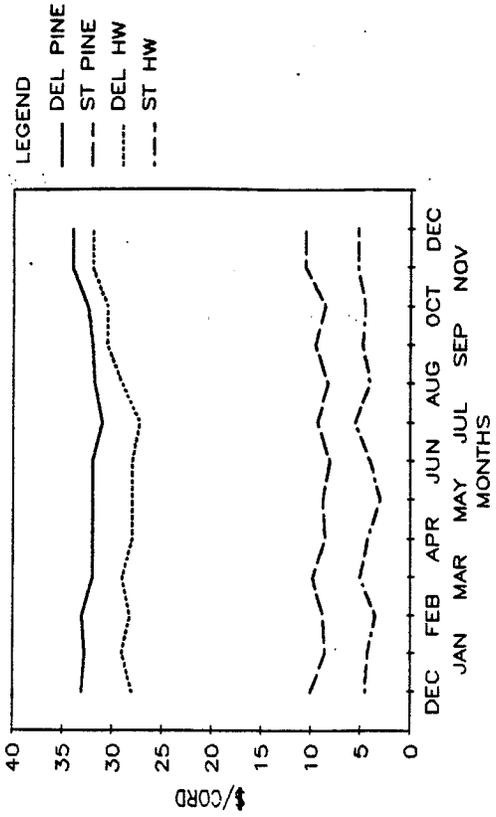
DELIVERED AND STANDING PULPWOOD  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
DELTA



DELIVERED AND STANDING PULPWOOD  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
NORTH



DELIVERED AND STANDING PULPWOOD  
PRICES FOR DEC 1987 - DEC 1988  
CENTRAL



MCES TIMBER PRICE REPORT

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1988

STANDING TIMBER

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	140-213	181	119-180	157	169-253	194	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	-	28*	28-35	32	-	-	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	300-380	347	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup>	60-110	77	50-80	65	46-89	64	53-83	69
Oak sawtimber	-	115*	95-150	123	-	-	138-200**	157
Soft hardwood sawtimber <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rare hardwood sawtimber <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine pulpwood	6-11	8.50	6-19	10.50	10-18	13.00	-	-
Hardwood pulpwood	3-6	3.75	4-15	5.75	5-10	7.75	5-6	5.75

DELIVERED PRICES<sup>5</sup>

	North		Central		South		Delta and River	
	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average	Low-High	Average
Pine sawtimber	200-260	226	200-265	233	228-260	244	-	-
Chip-n-saw pine	44-63	51*	58-70	64	59-65	62	-	-
Poles (pine)	-	-	-	-	-	40/T*	-	-
Mixed hardwood sawtimber <sup>2</sup>	140-170	158	150-160	153	140-170	157	128-170	150
Oak sawtimber	-	160*	200-250	216	-	-	180-250	218
Other hardwood sawtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	138-300	
Pine pulpwood	32-39	35.25	32-37	34	34-37	35.25	-	-
Hardwood pulpwood	27-29	28	27-40	32	26-31	27.25	-	-

<sup>1</sup>Prices reported are for timber market transactions during the previous 30-day period, sawtimber prices in \$/MBF Doyle, chip-n-saw and pulpwood prices in \$/cord, pine poles in \$/ton.

<sup>2</sup>"Mixed Hardwoods" are mostly: Low-grade oak Beech, Cottonwood, Willow, Elm, Gums, Locust, Hackberry, Magnolia, Pecan, Hickory, Sycamore, Tupelo and Birch.

<sup>3</sup>"Soft Hardwoods" are mostly: Cottonwood, Willow, Poplar and Gum.

<sup>4</sup>"Rare Hardwoods" are mostly: Walnut, Cherry, Royal Paulownia, Persimmon, some species and grades of Cypress, certain prime grades of Cherrybark and White Oaks.

<sup>5</sup>Delivered prices are values given at the sawmill or pulpwood yard gate.

\*Only one price reported.

\*\*See Timber Market comments.

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