



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™ EXTENSION

Department of Forestry

MTN - 31C

2015 Harvest of Forest Products¹ Forest Economics

June 2016

The Mississippi forest industry harvested and delivered \$1.67 billion worth of forest products to mills and other processors in 2015. The forest industry in Mississippi and the harvest volumes in this report include all producers and harvesters of forest products paying a timber severance tax collected by the Mississippi Department of Revenue. The total estimated value of the 2015 Mississippi timber harvest delivered to the point of first processing (such as a pulpwood yard or sawmill) was \$1,668,423,090. The estimated volume and value of the 2015 timber harvest by product is presented in Table 1. The 2015 harvest value is 62.5% higher than the 2014 value of \$1.02 billion. This increase in harvest value is attributable to a combination of greater harvest volumes of both pine and hardwood sawtimber. (See Table 2). A comparison of 2015 and 2014 Mississippi timber product prices is presented in Table 3.

Timber was the second most valuable agricultural commodity in Mississippi for 2015. Poultry and eggs were the most valuable commodity at \$3.22 billion, and soybeans was the third most valuable commodity at \$930 million. Mississippi's forest landowners collected \$977.4 million for their standing timber in 2015, an increase of 100.6% from the previous year. The estimated value of the harvesting and transportation sector², which is the difference between the delivered and standing values, was \$689.4 million. The 2015 value of the harvesting and transportation sector accounted for 41.4% of the total harvest value as compared with 53.3% of the total harvest value in 2014.

Severance tax collections on forest products were \$3,822,585 in 2015, which is 3.3% higher than 2014 collections. Twenty percent of severance tax collections, or about \$764,517, is returned to counties where the timber was harvested. Eighty percent, or about \$3,058,068, is allocated to the Forest Resource Development Program (FRDP) to provide cost share funds to nonindustrial private forest landowners for reforestation and other forest management practices.

A comparison between 2015 and 2014 harvest volumes and delivered values by product category is presented in Table 2. The harvest volume of pine sawlogs increased by 28.6%, and its value increased 28%. Pine pulpwood volume decreased by 33.0% while the value decreased 33.4%. Hardwood sawlog volume increased 483.2%, and its value increased by 446.4%. Hardwood pulpwood volume decreased 48.9%, and its value decreased by 54.5%. Christmas tree harvest increased 3.4% and value increased by 15.9% from the previous year's values.

¹ By James E. Henderson, Associate Extension Professor.

² This sector includes logging firms, contractual services, contractual trucking, timber buyers, and wood dealers.

The estimated value of the harvesting and transportation sector accounted for 41.4% of the total harvest value in 2015 amounting to a 23.1% decrease in this proportion over the previous year. This decrease in the harvesting and transportation estimated value reflects a smaller spread between standing and delivered prices for product categories such as pine and hardwood sawtimber, which combined comprise 80% of the 2015 harvest value. The decrease in the harvest and transportation cost is reflective of the decrease in fuel costs, which, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the 2015 U.S. Gulf Coast diesel price was 30.4% below 2014 price levels.

The demand for pine sawtimber improved in 2015 as evidenced by a 28.6% increase in harvest and a 5.9% increase in stumpage prices in 2015 as compared with 2014. U.S. housing starts in 2015 (an indicator of new home construction tracked by the U.S. Census Bureau) was up 10.9% from 2014 levels. U.S. South softwood lumber manufacturing in 2015 was up 3.2% from 2014 production levels and up 9.5% from 2014 levels. However, delivered prices for pine sawtimber actually decreased in 2015 as compared with 2014 prices reflecting the price dampening effect of the tremendous excess supply of standing pine sawtimber in Mississippi. Pulpwood markets for both pine and hardwood pulpwood continue to disappoint as evinced by lower stumpage and delivered prices and lower harvest volumes.

The demand for hardwood sawlogs was exceptionally strong in 2015 accounting for 49% of the annual harvest value. Much of this growth was a result of timber sale contracts signed when the U.S. oil and gas production sector was at its peak in 2014 and demand for hardwood mats and board road used in oil and gas drilling was high.

Harvested volumes by product and by county obtained from the Mississippi Department of Revenue are presented in Table 4. For information on current Mississippi timber prices, consult the Mississippi Timber Price Report available at extension.msstate.edu. Select “Natural Resources” then “Forestry” then “Forest Economics” and then “Timber Prices.” For more information on timber marketing, harvesting, or prices, contact your local County Extension office or the Mississippi State University Department of Forestry, Box 9681, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Also, please visit our blog <http://blogs.msucare.com/forestry/> and sign up for email updates to review the latest information from Forestry Extension on publications and educational programs.

Table 1. Estimated volumes and values of the 2015 timber harvest.

Product/Unit¹	Volume	Standing² Value(\$)	Delivered² Value(\$)
Pine Sawlogs, MBF, D	1,448,316	292,805,027	518,291,455
Hardwood Sawlogs³, MBF, D	1,519,700	568,462,507	821,966,444
Pine Pulpwood, Cords	2,948,526	58,251,162	206,294,059
Hardwood Pulpwood, Cords	694,319	18,804,524	57,323,018
Poles, MBF, D	341	104,730	160,016
Crossties⁴, MBF, D	133,271	38,923,319	62,708,099
Christmas Trees⁵, Tree	30,000	**	1,680,000
Total Value		977,351,270	1,668,423,090

¹ Unit abbreviations: MBF = thousand board feet, and D = Doyle log rule.

² Standing and delivered values calculated using regional (north and south Mississippi) volumes reported by the Miscellaneous Tax Division of the Mississippi Tax Commission and product prices from sources such as Timber Mart-South.

³ Composite price for hardwood sawlogs calculated under the assumption that hardwood sawmills cut 70% oak and 30% mixed hardwood.

⁴ Crosstie values calculated using standing and delivered values for mixed hardwood sawtimber prices by region.

⁵ Christmas trees value and volumes estimated by Mississippi State University Extension Forester Stephen Dicke.

** Not reported since most trees are sold as choose-n-cut.

Table 2. Comparison of 2014 and 2015 harvest volumes and delivered values by product.

Product/Unit ¹	2014		2015			
	Volume	Value -Dollars-	Volume	% Change	Value -Dollars-	% Change
Pine Sawlogs, MBF, D	1,126,483	404,856,917	1,448,316	28.6%	518,291,455	28.0%
Hardwood Sawlogs, MBF,D	260,584	150,440,237	1,519,700	483.2%	821,966,444	446.4%
Pine Pulpwood, Cords	4,402,886	309,925,151	2,948,526	-33.0%	206,294,059	-33.4%
Hardwood Pulpwood, Cords	1,358,844	125,873,870	694,319	-48.9%	57,323,018	-54.5%
Poles, MBF,D	58,327	31,034,565	341	-99.4%	160,016	-99.5%
Crossties, MBF,D	6,402	3,377,341	133,271	1981.7%	62,708,099	1756.7%
Christmas Trees, Tree	29,000	1,450,000	30,000	3.4%	1,680,000	15.86%
Total Value		1,026,958,081			1,668,423,090	62.5%

¹ Unit abbreviations: MBF = thousand board feet, and D = Doyle log rule.

Table 3. Comparison of 2015 and 2014 Mississippi major product prices¹.

Product / Unit ²	Region	Standing Prices				Delivered Prices			
		2015 Average	Statewide Average			2015 Average	Statewide Average		
			2015	2014	% Change		2015	2014	% Change
Pine Pulpwood, Cords	North	14.26	20.49	21.51	-4.8%	69.92	72.43	73.77	-1.8%
	South	26.72				74.94			
Hardwood Pulpwood, Cords	North	25.78	27.23	31.73	-14.2%	81.26	82.99	92.64	-10.4%
	South	28.68				84.73			
Pine Sawtimber, MBF,D	North	188.25	200.38	189.13	5.9%	351.25	357.13	359.13	-0.6%
	South	212.50				363.00			
Mixed Hardwood Sawtimber, MBF,D	North	304.00	296.50	327.13	-9.4%	476.50	472.75	527.25	-10.3%
	South	289.00				469.00			
Oak Sawtimber, MBF,D	North	414.50	411.88	437.63	-5.9%	573.50	572.75	604.63	-5.3%
	South	409.25				572.00			
Pine Poles, MBF,D	North	316.00	308.25	360.75	-14.6%	477.25	468.63	535.63	-12.5%
	South	300.50				460.00			
Pine Pulp, Ton	North	5.32	7.65	8.03	-4.8%	26.09	27.03	27.53	-1.8%
	South	9.97				27.96			
Oak Pulp, Ton	North	8.89	9.43	9.48	-0.5%	28.02	28.62	31.95	-10.4%
	South	9.98				29.22			

¹ Data source: Timber Mart-South.

² Unit abbreviations: MBF = thousand board feet, and D = Doyle log rule.

Table 4. Mississippi's 2015 harvested timber volumes by product and county¹.

	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE		PINE	HARDWOOD
	LUMBER	LUMBER	SAWLOGS	SAWLOGS	PULPWOOD	PULPWOOD	POLES	CROSSTIES	CHIPS	CHIPS
COUNTY	MBF	MBF	MBF,D	MBF,D	CORDS	CORDS	C CU FT	MBF,D	TONS	TONS
NORTHERN REGION										
ALCORN	-	-	3,652.8	941.8	26,094	12,882	10	-	-	-
ATTALA	26	-	62,910.4	14,271.5	184,183	5,698	3,851	292	-	-
BENTON	-	-	1,444.7	337.4	4,560	7,098	0	-	-	-
BOLIVAR	-	-	85.2	5,222.4	0	3,627	0	-	-	-
CALHOUN	-	-	27,377.3	2,316.5	64,878	5,654	96	-	-	-
CARROLL	-	-	19,994.5	7,286.1	67,730	2,656	846	107	-	-
CHICKASAW	-	-	21,576.3	445.3	30,146	10,261	96	30	-	-
CHOCTAW	237	6	32,757.8	6,560.3	78,600	10	1,843	532	-	-
CLAY	-	-	17,554.9	7,610.5	17,205	1,137	703	4,077	-	-
COAHOMA	-	324	755.5	2,146.9	0	2,141	0	-	-	8,781
DESOTO	-	-	483.7	2,499.0	886	221	175	-	-	-
GRENADA	-	184	9,806.4	7,761.4	65,087	1,009	42	-	-	-
HOLMES	-	-	5,702.7	13,166.2	43,776	14,269	266	45	-	-
HUMPHREYS	-	-	0.0	627.5	38	3,029	0	-	-	-
ISSAQUEENA	-	-	21.0	5,864.2	227	16,865	0	-	-	-
ITAWAMBA	4	-	29,216.4	1,983.9	20,971	27,536	0	114	-	-
KEMPER	75	721	67,441.0	30,758.0	125,589	172	2,933	1,573	-	-
LAFAYETTE	-	-	11,039.4	810.8	53,703	11,100	221	-	-	-
LEAKE	29	-	31,184.5	13,407.4	100,825	8,594	6,024	6,310	-	-
LEE	-	-	3,006.6	684.1	3,880	5,541	247	-	-	-
LEFLORE	-	-	3.0	4,680.9	30	272	0	-	-	-
LOWNDES	406	460	5,467.8	4,141.8	19,446	1,637	191	2,477	-	-
MADISON	-	49	9,660.3	15,331.7	67,470	18,353	767	1,575	-	-
MARSHALL	-	-	4,542.5	155.4	16,914	3,052	0	-	-	-
MONROE	25	3	27,273.6	10,615.1	21,314	42,136	0	1,171	-	-
MONTGOMERY	-	-	26,325.7	7,056.2	54,596	343	1,455	-	-	-
NESHOBA	98	144	41,752.7	32,126.2	32,429	1,024	3,171	5,581	82	76
NOXUBEE	57	367	26,027.3	7,980.7	98,626	290	365	1,571	-	-
OKTIBBEHA	-	-	15,671.1	4,753.1	39,671	186	457	1,418	-	-
PANOLA	-	-	2,915.5	2,175.1	15,859	3,552	44	-	28	8,798
PONTOTOC	-	-	18,029.3	740.2	24,926	10,152	0	-	-	-
PRENTISS	-	-	7,085.5	1,126.3	39,126	18,875	0	-	-	-
QUITMAN	-	-	0.0	533.4	0	46	0	-	-	1,509
SHARKEY	-	-	0.0	1,927.8	29	9,422	0	-	-	-
SUNFLOWER	-	-	0.0	606.5	0	193	0	-	-	-
TALLAHATCHIE	-	-	775.5	7,718.9	8,996	-	0	-	-	-
TATE	-	-	1,857.0	770.2	7,311	40	0	-	-	15,041
TIPPAH	-	-	4,310.3	2,419.9	20,353	17,058	5	-	-	-
TISHOMINGO	-	-	6,023.9	1,891.0	65,425	24,153	0	17	-	-
TUNICA	-	-	0.0	14.7	0	-	0	-	-	1,091
UNION	-	-	5,904.7	675.9	13,406	14,536	0	-	-	-
WASHINGTON	-	-	117.7	1,352.2	0	6,721	16	-	-	435
WEBSTER	-	-	33,525.3	6,279.4	48,142	1,419	1,202	-	-	-
WINSTON	69	226	17,117.9	15,084.4	99,099	98	674	310	-	-
YALOBUSHA	-	-	8,688.5	1,651.0	28,518	3,121	0	-	-	-
YAZOO	-	176	717.4	10,208.7	34,558	28,568	9	-	-	-
NORTHERN TOTAL	1,026	2,660	609,804	266,718	1,644,622	344,747	25,709	27,200	110	35,731

¹ Data source: Mississippi Department of Revenue.

Table 4. Mississippi's 2015 harvested timber volumes by product and county (cont.)¹.

	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE		PINE	HARDWOOD
	LUMBER	LUMBER	SAWLOGS	SAWLOGS	PULPWOOD	PULPWOOD	POLES	CROSSTIES	CHIPS	CHIPS
COUNTY	MBF	MBF	MBF,D	MBF,D	CORDS	CORDS	C CU FT	MBF,D	TONS	TONS
SOUTHERN REGION										
ADAMS	-	2	6,799.5	13,072.7	1,186	377	58	-	-	-
AMITE	-	978	95,956.9	34,927.7	73,959	2,233	1,541	63	-	-
CLAIBORNE	-	119	9,957.0	26,338.3	29,831	20,327	581	125	-	-
CLARKE	-	18	25,708.9	74,707.3	53,266	29,809	4,666	5,901	106,348	32,263
COPIAH	5	230	54,097.7	104,492.4	13,150	10,799	2,133	738	-	1,287
COVINGTON	-	-	16,265.8	24,895.4	22,740	1,479	416	3,221	81	12,399
FORREST	-	-	9,918.3	16,752.9	18,021	55	774	1,808	-	5,277
FRANKLIN	-	-	50,390.7	41,557.1	42,869	875	606	135	-	-
GEORGE	-	-	4,616.1	17,567.7	3,642	1,806	483	2,105	-	1,388
GREENE	5	-	26,129.5	54,313.9	36,866	17,854	2,221	12,558	82	304
HANCOCK	-	-	11,324.7	1,262.2	42,884	10	103	41	-	2,623
HARRISON	-	-	2,541.6	3,002.9	10,858	0	0	-	-	371
HINDS	-	2,270	7,588.9	19,560.1	70,083	25,354	34	226	-	26
JACKSON	-	-	3,032.0	4,304.3	3,959	1,289	8	549	-	560
JASPER	-	-	23,487.7	52,200.9	562	2,485	1,171	11,120	2,349	30,397
JEFF DAVIS	-	-	27,461.9	22,340.9	43,087	4,248	709	1,400	-	-
JEFFERSON	-	140	37,282.4	25,402.0	54,028	6,252	1,058	20	-	-
JONES	1	-	13,457.7	59,042.0	3,133	2,247	421	7,563	2,563	13,913
LAMAR	86	-	30,153.3	11,079.8	73,871	1,055	2,045	1,082	1,079	8,530
LAUDERDALE	127	162	39,882.5	35,412.9	55,901	3,131	1,950	7,445	-	24
LAWRENCE	-	-	28,560.5	28,016.0	48,680	3,492	589	879	-	-
LINCOLN	-	142	35,182.5	52,571.4	8,049	1,340	257	1,073	-	-
MARION	-	-	23,484.7	7,199.3	99,804	7,279	1,474	74	-	1,163
NEWTON	66	12	24,828.1	64,647.7	6,271	6,930	2,558	9,064	4,565	28,209
PEARL RIVER	-	-	19,385.4	3,173.4	144,425	961	529	28	-	3,327
PERRY	4	-	12,392.0	45,019.7	2,801	11,292	1,288	7,877	84	5,248
PIKE	-	52	22,100.1	9,652.2	60,635	5,861	227	15	-	-
RANKIN	-	-	23,886.9	55,912.9	22,114	5,695	2,342	10,118	-	-
SCOTT	-	-	17,678.2	45,859.1	31,097	11,290	796	4,575	1,951	15,080
SIMPSON	-	-	19,439.0	53,713.9	6,681	2,224	180	2,124	-	3,538
SMITH	-	12	21,457.0	54,463.1	7,943	343	1,134	5,556	9,696	43,799
STONE	-	-	9,054.3	5,990.5	22,778	714	37	1,167	-	7,263
WALTHALL	-	-	19,173.3	10,532.4	82,324	5,660	221	498	-	1,287
WARREN	255	1,774	894.9	19,500.3	2,412	40,829	0	39	-	-
WAYNE	7	-	36,412.9	79,236.9	32,519	23,198	3,616	6,884	2,424	173
WILKINSON	-	522	26,947.2	66,167.1	20,963	0	106	-	-	-
SOUTHERN TOTAL	556	6,433	836,930	1,243,889	1,253,392	258,793	36,332	106,071	131,222	218,449
GRAND TOTAL	1,582	9,093	1,446,734	1,510,607	2,898,014	603,540	62,041	133,271	131,332	254,180

¹ Data source: Mississippi Department of Revenue.