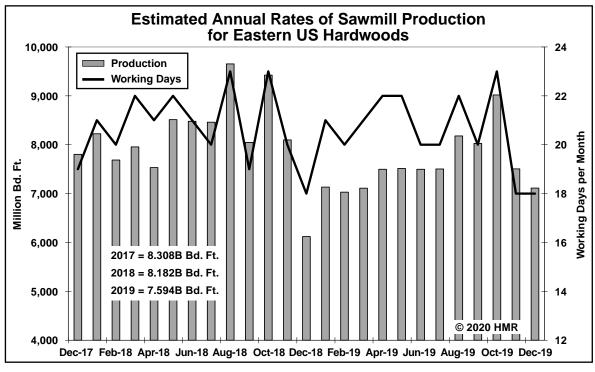
#### January 10, 2020

VOLUME XCVIII NUMBER 2

# Hardwood Market Report

Lumber News Since 1922



#### **US Stats**

#### New Home Sales - November

+1.3% over Oct., +16.9% over Nov. 2018 Inventories -3.3% from Nov. 2018 Median price +7.2% compared to Nov. 2018

#### **Existing Home Sales - November**

-1.7% from Oct., +2.7% over Nov. 2018 Inventories -5.7% from Nov. 2018 Median price +5.4% compared to Nov. 2018

#### Advance Durable Goods - November

New orders -2.0% from Oct. to \$242.6B Shipments +0.1% over Oct. to \$251.6B Inventories +0.4% over Oct. to \$434.0B

#### World Watch

#### Canada

Oct. GDP +1.2% over Oct. 2018 Oct. investment in construction -0.5% from Sept. Q3 capacity utilization -1.7% from Q3 2018 Q3 labor productivity +0.2% over Q2 2019

#### Germany

Q3 GDP +1.0% over Q3 2018 Oct. exports +2.1% over Oct. 2018

#### China - January through November

Investment in real estate +10.2% y-o-y Industrial corporate profits -2.1% y-o-y Industrial production +5.6% y-o-y



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# SOUTHERN HARDWOODS

2

ACTI	
ASH FAS 1F #1C #2A	PECAN & HICKORY FAS #1C #2A #2B
4/4 890 880 <b>510</b> - 350	4/4 800 535 390 280
5/4 1020 1010 <b>590</b> - 395	5/4 840 600 440 280
6/4 1095 1085 <b>680</b> – 425	6/4 875 650 455 280
8/4 1170 1160 <b>735</b> – 455	8/4 905 675 485 280
BEECH	POPLAR
FAS #1C #2A #3A	FAS 1F #1C #2A #2B
4/4 460 415 310 215	4/4 805 795 415 370 290
5/4 470 425 325 230	5/4 860 850 475 390 290
6/4 520 460 345 240	6/4 875 865 490 410 290 8/4 885 875 500 420 295
COTTONWOOD	SYCAMORE
FAS #1C #2A #2B	FAS #1C #2A
4/4 780 575 260 215 5/4 770 565 280 230	5/8 455 435 360
	4/4 460 440 360
SAP GUM FAS #1C #2A #2B	5/4 465 445 360
4/4 415 390 315 255	6/4 495 475 370 8/4 535 515 395
5/4 435 410 330 265	
6/4 485 460 350 270	WILLOW FAS #1C #2A #2B
8/4 525 500 370 275	
HACKBERRY	4/4 550 340 215 190 5/4 560 350 225 200
FAS #1C #2A	6/4 580 360 225 200
4/4 530 480 295	8/4 590 365 225 200
5/4 555 505 320 6/4 595 545 340	MIXED SOFT HARDWOODS
8/4 640 590 350	FAS #1C #2A #2B
SOFT MAPLE - WHAD	4/4 375 - 350 - 295 - 255 -
FAS #1C #2A	5/4 410 385 320 275 6/4 475 450 340 280
4/4 890 570 330	8/4 515 490 360 285
5/4 915 680 390	FRAMESTOCK - AIR DRIED
SOFT MAPLE - WHND	
FAS #1C #2B	4/4 OAK S2S (335-510) 4/4 MIXED S2S (375-520)
4/4 470 425 270	
5/4 485 440 280	CANTS - GREEN
6/4 535 490 335 8/4 550 505 335	460 (415-530)
RED OAK	TIES - 7x9 - GREEN
FAS 1F #1C #2A #3A	
4/4 650 640 510 490 425	SOUTHERN - WEST - 9'
5/4 775 765 570 515 445	CROSSTIES (31.50-37.00) Per Pc.
6/4 920 910 655 555 485	SOUTHERN - EAST - 81/2'
8/4 965 955 675	CROSSTIES (31.50-37.00) Per Pc.
FAS&1F ALONE 4/4 ADD \$0	
5/4 ADD \$0	BOARD ROAD - GREEN
6/4 & 8/4 ADD \$0	570 (510-640)
WHITE OAK	
FAS 1F #1C #2A #3A	F. O. B. MILLS - SOUTHERN AREA
4/4 1630 1620 705 530 475	Estimate of FOB Southern mill point average market prices for
5/4 1760 1750 790 550 490	well manufactured Southern hardwoods in truckload and greater
6/4 1940 1930 915 590 545 8/4 2015 2005 955	quantities. Stocks are random widths and lengths, green, rough, and
FAS&1F ALONE	graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Prices in US dollars per M'.
4/4 & 5/4 ADD \$0	Prices published in <b>Hardwood Market Report</b> are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page.
6/4 & 8/4 ADD \$0	© 2020 Hardwood Market Report
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#### **KILN DRIED PRICES - SOUTHERN AREA**

Prices in this matrix are for kiln dried lumber **measured before kiln drying**. The first figure listed for each grade and thickness is the predominant index price; figures in parentheses are the prevailing range of index prices. Bold figures indicate change. Prices published in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © 2020 Hardwood Market Report

			FAS	#	1 Co	mmon	#2A C	ommon
ASH	4/4 8/4	1325 1740	(1280-1390) (1695-1810)	<b>755 [</b> 1235	[-10]	<b>(700-800)</b> (1210-1310)	<b>565 [-15]</b> 830	<b>(510-620)</b> (785-890)
COTTONWOOD	4/4	955	(895-1005)	705		(650-775)		
RED OAK	4/4 5/4	900 1295	(790-965) (1235-1360)	705 890		(660-775) (815-960)	590 685	(545-640) (635-765)
WHITE OAK	4/4 5/4	2065 2335	(1965-2160) (2285-2405)	<b>950 [</b> 1200	[-20]	<b>(880-1020)</b> (1150- <b>1265</b> )	775 [-15] 930 [-15]	(715-845) (880-1000)
POPLAR	4/4 5/4 6/4 8/4	1005 1090 1135 1155	(940- <b>1060</b> ) (1045-1165) (1095-1190) (1110-1225)	590 675 750 <b>780 [</b>	[-10]	(530-645) (620-740) (705-800) (730- <b>835</b> )	480 525 	(425-555) (480-580)  

Prices in this matrix are for kiln dried lumber **measured after kiln drying ("net tally")**. The first figure listed for each grade and thickness is the predominant index price; figures in parentheses are the prevailing range of index prices. Bold figures indicate change. Prices published in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © *2020 Hardwood Market Report* 

5       (1375-1495)         0       (1820-1945)         5       (960-1080)         0       (850-1040)         5       (1330-1465)	1330 760 760		(755-860) (1300-1410) (700-830) (710-835) (875-1030)	<b>610 [-15]</b> 895  635 735	(550-665) (845-955) (585-690) (685-825)
5 (960-1080) 0 (850-1040)	760 760		(700-830) (710-835)	635	(585-690)
0 (850-1040)	760		(710-835)	635	, ,
			· · · · ·		, ,
5 (1330-1465)	955		(875-1030)	735	(685-825)
5 (2110-2320)	1025	[-20]	(950-1100)	835 [-15]	(770-910)
0 (2455-2580)	1290		(1235- <b>1360</b> )	1000 [-15]	(945-1075)
0 (1010- <b>1140</b> )	635		(570-695)	515	(455-595)
5 (1125-1255)	725		(665-795)	565	(515-625)
0 (1180-1280)	805		(755-860)		
0 (1195-1315)	840	[-10]	(785- <b>900</b> )		
(	0 (1010- <b>1140</b> ) 5 (1125-1255) 0 (1180-1280)	0 (1010- <b>1140</b> ) 635 5 (1125-1255) 725 0 (1180-1280) 805	0 (1010- <b>1140</b> ) 635 5 (1125-1255) 725 0 (1180-1280) 805	0       (1010-1140)       635       (570-695)         5       (1125-1255)       725       (665-795)         0       (1180-1280)       805       (755-860)	0 (1010- <b>1140</b> ) 635 (570-695) 515 5 (1125-1255) 725 (665-795) 565 0 (1180-1280) 805 (755-860)

Southern Comments on page 14

# **APPALACHIAN HARDWOODS**

1/10/20

ASH       HARD MAPLE - #1&2 WHITE         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A         4/4       800 - 790 - 440       315       FAS       1F       #1C       #2A         4/4       800 - 790 - 440       315       4/4       1230       1220       925       620         5/4       900 - 890 - 530       330       5/4       1440       1430       975          6/4       1050       1040       615       370       6/4       1500       1490       1035          8/4       1100       1090       690       425       8/4       1585       1575       1055          BASSWOOD         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       HARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       FAS       1F       #1C       #2A	
4/4       800 - 790 - 440       315       4/4       1230       1220       925       620         5/4       900 - 890 - 530       330       5/4       1440       1430       975          6/4       1050       1040       615       370       5/4       1440       1430       975          8/4       1100       1090       690       425       4/4       1585       1575       1055          BASSWOOD         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       HARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A	
5/4       900 -       890 -       530       330       5/4       1440       1430       975          6/4       1050       1040       615       370       6/4       1500       1490       1035          8/4       1100       1090       690       425       8/4       1585       1575       1055          BASSWOOD         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       HARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A	
5/4       900 -       890 -       530       330       5/4       1440       1430       975          6/4       1050       1040       615       370       6/4       1500       1490       1035          8/4       1100       1090       690       425       8/4       1585       1575       1055          BASSWOOD         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       HARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A	
6/4       1050       1040       615       370         8/4       1100       1090       690       425       8/4       1585       1575       1035          BASSWOOD         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A       #2B       #ARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED         FAS       1F       #1C       #2A	
8/4     1100     1090     690     425     8/4     1585     1575     1055        BASSWOOD FAS     1F     #1C     #2A     #2B     #ARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED FAS     IF     #1C     #2A	
BASSWOOD FASHARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED FASFAS1F#1C#2A	
FAS 1F #1C #2A #2B FAS 1F #1C #2A	
FAS 1F #1C #2A #2B FAS 1F #1C #2A	
	#3A
	#3A
4/4 675 665 350 205 180 4/4 1150 1140 885 580	380
5/4 740 730 400 220 185 5/4 1255 1245 925 595	420
6/4         810         800         460         225         195         6/4         1330         1320         950         600	465
8/4 860 850 500 240 205 8/4 1385 1375 975 625	480
9/4 885 875 540 245 220 FAS&1F ALONE ADD \$0	
BEECH FAS 1F #1C #2A #3A SOFT MAPLE - SAP&BTR	
FAS 1F #1C #2A #3A SOFT MAPLE - SAP & DTR FAS 1F #1C #2A	
4/4 610 600 465 320 260	
5/4 625 615 485 340 265 4/4 1350 1340 875 475	
6/4 640 630 550 355 275 5/4 1350 1340 880 500	
8/4 655 645 565 360 290 6/4 1365 1355 920 525	
8/4 1425 1415 955 565	
BIRCH	
FAS 1F #1C #2A SOFT MAPLE - UNSELECTED	
FAS 1F #1C #2A	
4/4         915         905         580         350         110         11         110 <th110< th=""> <th110< th=""> <th110< th=""></th110<></th110<></th110<>	
8/4 990 980 675 430 6/4 1245 1235 845 470 8/4 1275 1265 880 510	
FAS&TF ALONE ADD \$85 FAS&1F ALONE ADD \$0	
CHERRY	
$\mathbf{FAS}  \mathbf{1F}  \#\mathbf{1C}  \#\mathbf{2A}  \#\mathbf{2A}     \mathbf{RED} \mathbf{OAK}$	
FAS IF #IC #2A	#3A
4/4         1030         1020         515         310         270         4/4         675         665         510         475	410
5/4         1120         1110         570         310         280         5/4         765         755         525         505	435
6/4 <b>1150 - 1140 -</b> 615       330       300       6/4       815       805       575       515	450
8/4         1175 - 1165 -         635         370         320         8/4         865         855         600         530	470
FAS&1F ALONE #2A ALONE	
CHERRY - NORTH CENTRAL         4/4 ADD         \$0         4/4         \$475	
FAS 1F #1C #2A #3A 5/4 ADD \$0	
4/4 1060 1050 525 320 300	
5/4 1155 1145 595 340 300 WHITE OAK	
6/4 1185 - 1175 - 645 375 340 FAS 1F #1C #2A	#3A
8/4 <b>1230 - 1220 -</b> 685       390       345       4/4       1650       1640 <b>720 -</b> 520	470
5/4 1745 1735 840 525	475
HICKORY 6/4 2000 1990 970 610	550
FAS 1F #1C #2A #2B 8/4 2190 2180 1000	
4/4 800 790 500 400 335 FAS&1F ALONE	
0/4 040 000 420 000 F/4 ADD #0	
6/4 980 970 665 440 335 5/4 ADD \$0	
6/4         980         970         663         440         535         6/4 ADD         \$0           8/4         1020         1010         690         470         335         6/4 ADD         \$0           8/4         ADD         \$0         8/4 ADD         \$0	

#### F. O. B. MILLS - APPALACHIAN AREA

Estimate of FOB Appalachian mill point average market prices for well manufactured Appalachian hardwoods in truckload and greater quantities. Stocks are random widths and lengths, green, rough, and graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Prices in US dollars per M'. Prices published in Hardwood Market Report are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. ©2020 Hardwood Market Report

## **APPALACHIAN HARDWOODS**

<b>WHI</b> ' 4/4 5/4	TE OA FAS 935 965	K - WH 1F 925 955	<b>IND</b> #1C 695 745	SW 470 500		FRAMESTOCK - AIR DRIED           4/4 OAK S2S         (350-480)
<b>POPI</b> 4/4 5/4	LAR FAS 775 –	1F 765 - 795 -	#1C	#2A	#2B 270 – 285 –	4/4 MIXED S2S         (360-490)           CANTS - GREEN         440         (380-480)
6/4 8/4 10/4 12/4 16/4	820 - 825 - 855 - 895 -	810 – 815 – 845 – 885 – 925 –	440 - 455 - 480 - 500 -	345 - 350 - 385 - 400 -	285 - 290 - 315 - 325 - 330 -	TIES - 7x9 - GREEN SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN - 8 <sup>1</sup> /2 <sup>1</sup> CROSSTIES (30.50-36.00) Per Pc.
WAL 4/4	NUT FAS 2175	1F 2075	#1C 1175	#2A 465		<i>NORTHERN APPALACHIAN - 8½</i> CROSSTIES (30.25-34.75) Per Pc.
5/4 6/4 8/4	2395 2625 2765	2075 2295 2525 2665	1275 1450 1575	500 510 530		BOARD ROAD - GREEN 575 (525-625)

## Comments

M arket conditions for hardwood producers and resellers are much the same as before the Christmas and New Year holidays. The second half of December brought a more pronounced decline in sawmill production than is typical even for December. Wet weather during that period and since has prevented mills in many areas from increasing log inventories. Yet, concentration yards, distribution yards, and end users are well supplied with lumber. Many are buying on a replacement basis and turning away additional offerings. One of the few new developments in recent weeks is a slight uptick in Chinese demand for Red Oak. So far, this has not significantly impacted overall business. In fact, many exporters have seen no improvement.

**ASH:** Chinese demand for this species contracted sharply last year and shows no signs of recovery to this point. Increased exports to several smaller international markets, such as Vietnam and Estonia, are being offset by decreases elsewhere. Overseas interest is holding up better for Fas than for #1C and #2A, most of which had been going to China. Kiln dried Ash business is also slow domestically. Usage is relatively low in the furniture, residential flooring, truck trailer flooring, and moulding/millwork sectors; demand from the RV industry remains weak. Green and kiln dried prices retreated over time but have been more stable of late. That said, the green 4/4 and 5/4 Fas&1f listings warrant reductions this week (-\$15), as do the kiln dried 6/4 Fas figures.

**CHERRY:** Fashion is still dictating business for this species. North American consumer interest in interior fixtures and furnishings with red color has been very low for an extended period of time. That is also true for Europe. As such, Cherry demand is depressed in both regions. Moreover, the once robust Chinese market for Cherry remains in a slump. Generating orders for this species is difficult. Contacts often identify 4/4 #1C and 4/4 #2A as the most difficult items to sell, although none are selling easily. Prices in observed business necessitate reductions to the green listings for 6/4 Fas&1f (-\$10) and 8/4 Fas&1f (-\$20) in both producing areas. All the other green and kiln dried figures stay intact.

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**HICKORY:** Now that cooler weather has reduced the risk of stain damage, selective solid wood residential flooring plants are placing orders for additional green Hickory to replenish inventories. However, many other flooring plants have ample supplies and are controlling purchases accordingly. Demand for green Hickory is limited from concentration yards; many are experiencing steady kiln dried business in the US but ongoing weakness with exports. Reported prices are consistent with the published numbers for all items except kiln dried 4/4 #1C; the listings and ranges are lowered accordingly.

HARD MAPLE: This species is gradually gaining mo-

(Continued on Page 7)

Prices in this matrix are for kiln dried lumber **measured before kiln drying**. The first figure listed for each grade and thickness is the predominant index price; figures in parentheses are the prevailing range of index prices. Bold figures indicate change. Prices published in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © 2020 Hardwood Market Report

		FA	AS	#1 Co	ommon	#2A	Common
ASH	4/4	1285	(1210-1350)	780	(725-830)	580	(535-630)
	5/4	1390	(1275-1460)	945	(875-990)	745	(680-770)
	6/4	1485 [-25]	(1370-1555)	1180	(1095-1265)	900	(835-975)
	8/4	1625	(1545-1730)	1300	(1240-1380)	1025	(930-1080)
BASSWOOD	4/4	1100	(1035-1130)	675	(635-750)	425	(400-475)
	5/4	1180	(1115-1240)	715	(680-775)		
	9/4	1295	(1240-1345)	885	(840-935)		
CHERRY	4/4	1390	(1300-1465)	845	(800-930)	520	(445-575)
	5/4	1515	(1405-1590)	1000	(955-1070)	610	(540-655)
	6/4	1570	(1460-1645)	1210	(1160-1300)		
	8/4	1625	(1510-1720)	1280	(1230-1370)		
CHERRY	4/4	1415	(1300-1490)	885	(835-955)	525	(465-585)
North Central	5/4	1565	(1450-1660)	1045	(975-1115)	615	(560-670)
	6/4	1625	(1510-1720)	1255	(1185-1325)		
	8/4	1670	(1560-1765)	1325	(1255-1395)		
HICKORY	4/4	1325	(1230-1415)	930 [-15]	(835-975)	800	(705-845)
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1550	(1485-1625)	1125	(1070-1190)	835	(765-905)
#1&2 White	5/4	1790	(1675-1860)	1205	(1130-1275)	895	(835-955)
	6/4	1995	(1930-2115)	1350	(1280-1420)		
	8/4	2100	(2020-2205)	1370	(1300-1440)		
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1475	(1415-1565)	1050	(1005-1120)	700	(650-765)
Unselected	5/4	1720	(1650-1780)	1145	(1095-1215)	800	(760-855)
	6/4	1880	(1790-1955)	1230	(1175-1305)		
	8/4	1975	(1905-2065)	1295	(1225-1360)		
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1740	(1630-1815)	1210	(1140-1280)	815	(770-860)
Sap&Btr	5/4	1835	(1725-1910)	1210	(1115-1255)	815	(770-860)
	6/4	1945	(1840-2025)	1260	(1185-1325)	895	(845-940)
	8/4	1980	(1860-2050)	1390	(1325-1465)	920	(875-965)
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1530	(1475-1625)	1070	(1025-1125)	700	(640-755)
Unselected	5/4	1710	(1650-1810)	1115	(1060-1180)	715	(665-760)
	6/4	1835	(1770-1940)	1210	(1155-1275)	800	(745-840)
	8/4	1880	(1800-1980)	1310	(1235-1355)	830	(765-885)
<b>RED OAK</b>	4/4	1045	(930-1115)	800	(720-860)	635	(580-700)
	5/4	1255	(1140-1345)	905	(835-975)	745	(695-790)
	6/4	1475	(1395-1580)	1210	(1115-1255)	1000	(930-1060)
			( ,		(		()

#### **KILN DRIED PRICES - APPALACHIAN AREA**

Prices in this matrix are for kiln dried lumber measured before kiln drying. The first figure listed for each grade and thickness is the predominant index price; figures in parentheses are the prevailing range of index prices. Bold figures indicate change. Prices published in Hardwood Market Report are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © 2020 Hardwood Market Report

			FAS	#	1 Common	#	2A Common
WHITE OAK	4/4	2115	(1975-2210)	1070	(1000-1185)	825	(775-885)
	5/4	2460	(2325-2555)	1280	(1190-1375)	1045	(975-1095)
	6/4	2835	(2695-2925)	1765	(1670-1880)	1325	(1230-1370)
	8/4	3555	(3390-3720)	1860	(1765-1950)	1455	(1370-1535)
POPLAR	4/4	1055	(990-1120)	660	(605-700)	500	(455-540)
	5/4	1115	(1045-1185)	690 [·	-10] (655-750)	560	[-10] (505-590)
	6/4	1135	(1070-1210)	735 [·	-10] (695-790)	605	(560-640)
	8/4	1155	(1085-1220)	805	(760-850)	640	(585-680)
WALNUT	4/4	3320	(3090-3460)	1905	(1800-2020)	1085	(990-1155)
	5/4	3520	(3355-3675)	2430	(2275-2555)	1285	(1210-1395)
	6/4	3670	(3535-3815)	2765	(2625-2900)	1510	(1425-1610)
	8/4	3855	(3670-4040)	2945	(2790-3045)	1695	(1580-1815)

#### APPALACHIAN COMMENTS (Cont'd from Page 5)

mentum in the marketplace, particularly in the cabinet sector. Several cabinet and cabinet component manufacturers are now in the process of converting selected product lines from Soft Maple over to Hard Maple. This renewed interest is helping to stabilize green and kiln dried 4/4 #1C&Btr prices, which had been slipping in both color classifications. While the cabinet industry consumes a fair amount of 4/4 #2A, prices remain soft largely because demand is flat from residential flooring plants. No changes are warranted to the green or kiln dried Hard Maple figures in this issue.

**SOFT MAPLE:** Soft Maple is selling at a good pace despite increased Hard Maple substitution by end users. The cabinet industry is the largest market for Soft Maple, and 4/4 is drawing far more interest than other thicknesses of this species. Regardless, supply and demand for most items are now relatively balanced, which is mitigating upward price pressure. Reported green and kiln dried prices are clustered around the listings or otherwise contained within the ranges.

#2A&3A OAK: Residential solid wood flooring manufacturers in the Appalachian region entered 2020 with ample lumber inventories and are facing flat to declining finished goods prices. Truck trailer flooring factories are similarly situated with lumber and report thinning order files for manufactured goods. Companies in both sectors | (Continued on Page 9)

are working to reduce raw material costs. Prices show further erosion in given transactions, though not enough to alter the #2A&3A Red or White Oak listings.

**<u>RED OAK:</u>** Chinese purchases of Red Oak are somewhat better now than a month ago but can hardly be described as good. Exporters indicate certain Chinese distributors and end users are replenishing very low inventories, while many others remain on the sidelines. Likewise, some are agreeing to small price increases, but many are not. Demand for kiln dried Red Oak is flat from domestic yards and end users, including flooring plants. However, green 4/4 #1C&Btr supplies are reportedly strained in the region's northern tier due to low log supplies, a fair amount of 5/4 production, and sustained efforts to avoid Red Oak production to the extent possible. This, along with the modest uptick in Chinese business, has led some concentration yards to raise green 4/4 #1C&Btr purchase prices. Reported green and kiln dried 4/4 through 8/4 #3A&Btr prices include a mix of both upward and downward movement, but the published figures hold steady for now.

WHITE OAK: Broadly speaking, this species is outperforming most others in export markets. Steady shipments to multiple foreign destinations are sustaining demand for kiln dried Fas and, in turn, for green Fas&1f, as well. Also, buyers in Vietnam and other

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		FAS	(Net)	#1	Common (Net)	#2A C	Common (Net)
ASH	4/4	1380	(1300-1450)	840	(780-890)	625	(575-675)
	5/4	1495	(1370-1570)	1015	(940-1065)	800	(730-830)
	6/4	1600 [-25]	(1475-1675)	1270	(1180-1360)	970	(900-1050)
	8/4	1750	(1660-1860)	1400	(1335-1485)	1100	(1000-1160)
BASSWOOD	4/4	1185	(1115-1215)	725	(685-805)	455	(430-510)
	5/4	1265	(1200-1335)	770	(730-830)		
	9/4	1390	(1330-1445)	950	(905-1005)		
CHERRY	4/4	1495	(1400-1575)	910	(860-1000)	560	(480-620)
	5/4	1630	(1510-1710)	1075	(1025-1150)	655	(580-705)
	6/4	1690	(1570-1770)	1300	(1250-1400)		
	8/4	1750	(1625-1850)	1375	(1325-1475)		
CHERRY	4/4	1525	(1400-1600)	950	(900-1025)	565	(500-630)
North Central	5/4	1685	(1560-1785)	1125	(1050-1200)	660	(600-720)
	6/4	1750	(1625-1850)	1350	(1275-1425)		
	8/4	1800	(1675-1900)	1425	(1350-1500)		
HICKORY	4/4	1425	(1325-1525)	1000	[-15] (900-1050)	860	(760-910)
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1670	(1600-1750)	1210	(1150-1280)	900	(825-975)
#1&2 White	5/4	1925	(1800-2000)	1295	(1215-1370)	960	(900-1025)
	6/4	2150	(2075-2275)	1450	(1375-1525)		
	8/4	2260	(2175-2375)	1475	(1400-1550)		
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1585	(1525-1685)	1130	(1080-1205)	750	(700-825)
Unselected	5/4	1850	(1775-1915)	1230	(1175-1305)	860	(820-920)
	6/4	2025	(1925-2100)	1325	(1265-1405)		
	8/4	2125	(2050-2225)	1395	(1320-1465)		
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1870	(1750-1950)	1300	(1225-1375)	875	(825-925)
Sap&Btr	5/4	1970	(1850-2050)	1300	(1200-1350)	875	(825-925)
	6/4	2090	(1975-2175)	1355	(1275-1425)	960	(910-1010)
	8/4	2125	(2000-2200)	1495	(1425-1575)	990	(940-1040)
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1645	(1585-1745)	1150	(1100-1210)	750	(690-810)
Unselected	5/4	1835	(1770-1945)	1200	(1140-1270)	770	(715-815)
	6/4	1970	(1900-2085)	1300	(1240-1370)	860	(800-900)
	8/4	2020	(1935-2125)	1405	(1330-1455)	890	(820-950)
RED OAK	4/4	1125	(1000-1200)	860	(775-925)	680	(625-750)
	5/4	1350	(1225-1445)	975	(900-1050)	800	(745-850)
	6/4	1590	(1500-1700)	1300	(1200-1350)	1075	(1000-1140)
	8/4	1715	(1590-1790)	1375	(1275-1450)	1090	(1025-1155)

#### KILN DRIED PRICES - APPALACHIAN AREA

Prices in this matrix are for kiln dried lumber **measured after kiln drying** (**'net tally''**). The first figure listed for each grade and thickness is the predominant index price; figures in parentheses are the prevailing range of index prices. Bold figures indicate change. Prices published in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © *2020 Hardwood Market Report* 

			FAS (Net)	#1	Comm	non (Net)	#2A	Common (Net)
WHITE OAK	4/4	2275	(2125-2375)	1150		(1075-1275)	885	(835-950)
	5/4	2650	(2500-2750)	1375		(1280-1480)	1125	(1050-1175)
	6/4	3050	(2900-3150)	1900		(1800-2025)	1425	(1325-1475)
	8/4	3825	(3650-4000)	2000		(1900-2100)	1565	(1475-1650)
POPLAR	4/4	1135	(1065-1205)	710		(650-750)	535	(490-580)
	5/4	1200	(1125-1275)	740	[-15]	(705-805)	600	[-15] (545-635)
	6/4	1220	(1150-1300)	790	[-10]	(750-850)	650	(600-690)
	8/4	1245	(1165-1315)	865		(815-915)	690	(630-730)
WALNUT	4/4	3575	(3325-3725)	2050		(1940-2175)	1165	(1065-1240)
	5/4	3790	(3610-3950)	2615		(2450-2750)	1385	(1300-1500)
	6/4	3950	(3800-4100)	2975		(2825-3125)	1625	(1535-1735)
	8/4	4150	(3950-4350)	3165		(3000-3275)	1825	(1700-1950)

#### APPALACHIAN COMMENTS (Cont'd from Page 7)

Southeast Asian countries are showing decent interest in #2A&3A, easing downward pressure on green #2A&3A prices resulting from a moderation in purchasing by domestic flooring plants. The most problematic grade for sellers is #1C, due to its heavy dependence on Chinese business. The green 4/4 #1C listing is reduced \$20 to better align with reported information; all other White Oak figures are unchanged.

**POPLAR:** Domestic markets for Poplar are saturated with supply, and exports have not rebounded. Sawmills are moving developing green #2B&Btr production but are lowering prices to accomplish this, as reflected in \$10 decreases to all the listings. Kiln dried inventories are elevated despite solid demand in the US. The 5/4 #1C, 5/4 #2A, and 6/4 #1C listings and ranges retreat on lower reported prices. Previous reductions have all other published figures in order.

**WALNUT:** Reports about Walnut demand are highly mixed. In general, #1C&Btr are selling more readily than #2A, and business is better in North America than overseas. That said, longtime exporters are garnering some new orders from established customers, including Chinese customers. Contacts often attribute slow #2A demand to the trend toward wider widths in flooring, for which #2A does not necessarily yield well. Green and

kiln dried prices observed in the market are also mixed, including some higher numbers than in past weeks. Overall, though, the listings and ranges are consistent with most information.

#### FRAMESTOCK, CANTS, TIES, & BOARD ROAD:

Upholstered furniture and frame factories are well stocked with raw materials for frames. Consequently, producers of solid hardwood framestock describe business as slow. Lower reported prices take down both ends of the Oak and Mixed Species ranges \$10.

Pallet cant and lumber inventories at pallet plants are somewhat smaller than before the holidays but are more than sufficient to meet current demand. Most operations are purchasing cants on a replacement basis at prices consistent with the listing and range.

Crosstie production is trending up. Most tie yards and treating operations are readily accepting the additional volume, though a few smaller companies are reining in purchases due to capacity constraints. With prices soft for similar quality grade lumber items, some tie buyers are looking to lower prices. At this point, observed prices are still within the respective ranges.

Demand for board road and crane mats is seasonally slower but not bad for this time of year. Prices are little changed from previous reports.

## NORTHERN HARDWOODS

ASH	SOFT MAPLE - SAP&BTR
FAS SEL #1C #2A	FAS SEL #1C #2A
4/4 805 795 500 330	4/4 1410 1390 935 535
5/4 900 - 890 - 565 370 6/4 1000 - 990 - 660 410	5/4 1445 1425 960 545
8/4 1075 1065 720 435	6/4 1515 1495 1000 570 8/4 1575 1555 1040 590
ASPEN	SOFT MAPLE - UNSELECTED
FAS SEL #1C #2A #2B	FAS SEL #1C #2A #2B
4/4 740 730 445 280 210	4/4 1235 1215 820 460 285
BASSWOOD	5/4 1300 1280 845 510 290 6/4 1365 1345 875 535 300
FAS SEL #1C #2A #2B	8/4 1405 1385 940 570 305
4/4 795 780 420 225 190 5/4 830 815 440 235 200	FAS&SEL ALONE ADD \$0
6/4 865 850 495 245 210	RED OAK
8/4 920 905 530 255 215 9/4 945 930 590 270	FAS SEL #1C #2A #3A
	4/4 740 720 515 485 395 5/4 885 865 580 505 410
BEECH FAS SEL #1C #2A #3A	6/4 985 965 665 545 440
4/4 570 550 440 275 235	8/4 1065 1045 745
5/4 600 580 480 285 245	FAS&SEL ALONE #2A ALONE
6/4 635 615 540 310 275 8/4 655 635 555 315 275	4/4 & 5/4 ADD \$0 4/4 \$490
FAS&SEL ALONE ADD \$90	6/4 & 8/4 ADD \$0
BIRCH	WHITE OAK
FAS SEL #1C #2A #3A	FAS SEL #1C #2A #3A 4/4 1700 1680 885 540 425
4/4 1080 1060 670 460 310 5/4 1195 1175 750 485 335	5/4 1775 1755 <b>935</b> - 550 440
6/4 1270 1250 815 495 345	6/4 1900 1880 <b>1010 -</b>
8/4 1295 1275 840 515 360	FAS&SEL ALONE 4/4 ADD \$0
Red Birch Add\$305 Sap Birch Add\$140	5/4 ADD \$0
FAS&SEL ALONE ADD \$0	6/4 ADD \$0
NORTHERN SOFT GREY ELM	CANTS - GREEN
FAS SEL #1C #2A #2B	450 (395-510)
4/4 670 655 420 290 265	PALLET LBR - GREEN
HARD MAPLE - #1&2 WHITE	4/4 x RW 405 (365-460)
FAS SEL #1C #2A	5/4 x RW 420 (370-470)
4/4 1300 1280 905 690 5/4 1470 1450 1015	6/4 x RW 445 (395-485)
6/4 <b>1555 - 1535 -</b> 1100	4/4 x SW 440 (400-500)
8/4 <b>1685 - 1665 -</b> 1205	5/4 x SW 450 (400-510)
HARD MAPLE - UNSELECTED	6/4 x SW 480 (430-525)
FAS SEL #1C #2A #3A 4/4 1210 1190 820 625 490	TIES - 7x9 - GREEN
5/4 1355 1335 930 640 505	NORTHERN - 8½'
6/4 <b>1430 - 1410 -</b> 995 720 510 8/4 1515 1495 1075 745	
Sap 1-Face in cuttings Add\$100	CROSSTIES (27.90-31.50) Per Pc.
FAS&SEL ALONE ADD \$0	BOARD ROAD - GREEN
	525 (475-560)

#### F. O. B. MILLS - NORTHERN AREA

Estimate of FOB Northern mill point average market prices for well manufactured Northern hardwoods in truckload and greater quantities. Stocks are random widths and lengths, green, rough, and graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Prices in US dollars per M'. Prices published in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © 2020 Hardwood Market Report

#### KILN DRIED PRICES - NORTHERN AREA

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		F.	AS	#1 C	ommon	#2A	Common
ASH	4/4	1160	(1115-1280)	770	(710-835)	605	(550-670)
ASPEN	4/4	970	(910-1030)	630	(580-695)	480	(420-530)
BASSWOOD	4/4	1115	(1070-1200)	670	(615-725)	450	(405-505)
	5/4	1155	(1085-1200)	685	(640-740)	480	(435-510)
	8/4	1295	(1245-1350)	880	(830-950)	565	(515-600)
	9/4	1310	(1255-1355)	935	(870-980)	580	(535-615)
YELLOW BIRCH	4/4	1340	(1275-1415)	900	(835-980)	635	(580-710)
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1710	(1635-1785)	1150	(1105-1250)	1000	(950-1105)
#1&2 White	5/4	1970 [-20]	(1910-2060)	1340	(1280-1440)		
	6/4	2130	(2075-2240)	1435	(1385-1480)		
	8/4	2295	(2235-2370)	1540	(1495-1610)		
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1580	(1530-1650)	1060	(1015-1145)	910	(865-955)
Unselected	5/4	1820 [-25]	(1770-1885)	1235	(1185-1295)	920	(875-970)
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1750	(1690-1815)	1220	(1165-1305)	830	(775-875)
Sap&Btr	5/4	1835	(1780-1880)	1240	(1195-1305)	850	(810-900)
	6/4	1935	(1890-1970)	1305	(1255-1365)	890	(845-935)
	8/4	1960	(1900-2025)	1345	(1290-1400)	920	(875-965)
SOFT MAPLE Unselected	4/4	1600	(1555-1650)	1090	(1045-1170)	745	(695-790)
RED OAK	4/4	1075	(1000-1205)	810	(760-895)	725	(670-790)
	5/4	1345 [-20]	( <b>1305</b> -1430)	1025	(975-1100)	790	(745-850)
	6/4	1620 [-20]	( <b>1565</b> -1700)	1190 [-15]	(1130-1255)		· · · · · ·
WHITE OAK	4/4	2190	(2145-2285)	1235	(1160-1315)	940	(880-1000)

## Comments

inter weather conditions are solidifying ground conditions in parts of the North Country. Still, many sawmill operators are facing log shortages. A number of producers did not saw during the Christmas and New Year's holidays in order to preserve limited log decks or hopefully add to on hand supplies. Despite the downturn in mill output the last couple of weeks of 2019, end users indicate green lumber supplies are meeting or exceeding volumes needed to satisfy inventory objectives. There is still a negative price bias for most species, grades, and thicknesses, led by Ash and (Continued on Page 12)

some Hard Maple and White Oak items. Because sawmill operators have avoided Red Oak to the extent possible, green Red Oak prices were more stable this week. Additionally, market interest in Soft Maple is still good. Kiln dried business is similarly mixed. Reports continue to point out weak domestic demand from furniture manufacturers, while activity with cabinet and moulding/ millwork producers is described as fair to good. Distribution yards are carrying no more inventory than is nec-

#### NORTHERN COMMENTS (Cont'd from Page 11)

essary to meet immediate needs, knowing most lumber items can be replenished quickly. Industrial markets are outperforming grade lumber markets. Demand is especially good for crossties and pallet material.

**ASH:** There were very few positive comments about business for this species this week. Domestic and international demand is hardly straining Ash inventories in any particular thickness and grade combination. In fact, most sales companies indicate on hand supplies are high relative to buyers' needs. Reported prices for kiln dried stocks continue showing signs of pressure, though no further adjustments are warranted to the #2A&Btr figures at this time. Because of weak kiln dried markets, green lumber demand is low, and prices are sensitive. With effort, mills and resellers have been able to ship total production. Transactions point out lower numbers for 5/4 and 6/4 Fas&Sel that necessitate \$20 reductions to the listings.

**BASSWOOD:** The majority of domestic sales of green Basswood stems from ongoing business between buyers and sellers with established relationships. Information shows few orders and shipments outside of these relationships. Usually, established business is more price stable than spot sales. That is true now. The only problematic products for mills to move are low grades destined for wooden pallets and containers. Most end users have ample pallet raw materials, and Basswood is less favored than denser hardwoods. However, mills and resellers are shipping total production. Reported prices are in line with last week and hold the #2B&Btr listings in check. Markets for kiln dried stocks are steady, though supplies of 9/4 are slightly elevated for some sales companies. Information shows slight price deflation for 9/4, but changes are inside of the #2A&Btr ranges.

**HARD MAPLE:** Business for this species was once heavily influenced by seasonal buying patterns, with specific interest on winter cut production. That changed with the popularity of light colored interior fittings. Consumers still like light colored show woods, and demand for Hard and Soft Maple has been good for an extended period of time. Year round harvesting, production, and purchasing are necessary to keep pace with the market's needs for raw materials and manufactured goods. However, Hard and Soft Maple compete for market share against each other and alternative species with similar characteristics. Soft Maple has been favored most recently, though contacts believe that trend could be changing once again. Mills and resellers are shipping total green output, and most prices are stable. The exceptions are #1&2 White 6/4 and 8/4 Fas&Sel and Unselected 6/4 Fas&Sel, which fall \$20 each. Meanwhile, kiln dried inventories have edged down for a number of grades and thicknesses. Transactions point out steady numbers for most items, though reduce the 5/4 Fas figures for both color designations.

**SOFT MAPLE:** As with other species, Soft Maple availability is expected to pick up after several weeks of protracted sawmill production. Many buyers are better positioned with Soft Maple inventory now than this time last year. Some end users have switched to other species, due to the high costs of Soft Maple; in a number of cases, Hard Maple is one of the alternative species being used. Yet, mills and resellers are shipping total Soft Maple output with little difficulty. Reported prices for green Unselected #2B&Btr and Sap&Btr #2A&Btr hold steady at the listings. Markets for kiln dried stocks are solid, and inventories are described as low for key grades and thicknesses. Transactions point out few price changes, allowing the kiln dried #2A&Btr figures to stand for both color designations.

**RED OAK:** Area mills have intentionally processed less Red Oak than normal. Additionally, mills have steered more of their Red Oak production to industrial products, which has meant less grade lumber moving into the marketplace. Kiln dried Red Oak supplies have shifted from excessive to a much closer balance with demand for many grades and thicknesses. Nonetheless, there are competitive pressures, and reported prices remain soft; reductions are required to the listings and ranges for kiln dried 5/4 and 6/4 Fas, as well as 6/4 #1C. Green lumber production has been controlled the past several weeks because of holiday schedules and saw-mill operators' efforts to avoid Red Oak. Orders and shipments are keeping pace with mill output. Information shows few price changes from last week.

**WHITE OAK:** Many area mills have not received enough White Oak logs to make efficient runs and are holding off production until supplies are sufficient. The limited volume entering the marketplace is well received. However, weak demand and prices for kiln dried #1C continue to pressure activity for green #1C. To better re-

#### **KILN DRIED PRICES - NORTHERN AREA**

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		FAS	(Net)	#1 Comm	non (Net)	#2A Co	mmon (Net)
ASH	4/4	1250	(1200-1380)	830	(765-900)	650	(590-720)
ASPEN	4/4	1045	(980-1105)	680	(625-750)	515	(450-570)
BASSWOOD	4/4	1200	(1150-1290)	720	(660-780)	485	(435-545)
	5/4	1240	(1170-1290)	740	(690-795)	515	(470-550)
	8/4	1390	(1335-1450)	945	(895-1020)	605	(555-645)
	9/4	1410	(1350-1460)	1005	(935-1055)	625	(575-660)
YELLOW BIRCH	4/4	1445	(1375-1525)	970	(900-1055)	685	(625-765)
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1845	(1760-1925)	1240	(1190-1345)	1075	(1020-1185)
#1&2 White	5/4	2125 [-20]	(2060-2220)	1445	(1380-1550)		
	6/4	2295	(2235-2410)	1545	(1490-1595)		
	8/4	2470	(2405-2550)	1660	(1610-1735)		
HARD MAPLE	4/4	1700	(1645-1775)	1140	(1090-1230)	975	(930-1025)
Unselected	5/4	1960 [-25]	(1905-2030)	1330	(1275-1390)	985	(940-1040)
SOFT MAPLE	4/4	1880	(1815-1950)	1310	(1250-1400)	890	(835-940)
Sap&Btr	5/4	1970	(1915-2020)	1335	(1285-1405)	915	(870-965)
	6/4	2075	(2030-2115)	1400	(1350-1465)	955	(910-1005)
	8/4	2105	(2040-2175)	1445	(1385-1505)	990	(940-1040)
SOFT MAPLE Unselected	4/4	1715	(1670-1770)	1170	(1120-1255)	800	(750-850)
RED OAK	4/4	1160	(1075-1300)	870	(815-960)	780	(720-850)
	5/4	1450 [-20]	( <b>1405</b> -1540)	1105	(1050-1185)	850	(800-915)
	6/4	1745 [-20]	( <b>1685</b> -1830)	1280 [-20]	(1215-1350)		· · · · · ·
WHITE OAK	4/4	2350	(2300-2450)	1330	(1250-1415)	1010	(945-1075)

flect reported numbers, the green 5/4 and 6/4 #1C listings are decreased \$15. Demand for kiln dried Fas is keeping inventories thin and prices steady. On the other hand, markets are not as strong for the common grades, though past reductions have the #1C and #2A figures in order.

#### PALLET LUMBER, CANTS, TIES, & BOARD ROAD:

The slowdown in sawmill production through the holidays eased concerns about oversupply issues for hardwood pallet material. Now, most wooden pallet and container manufacturers indicate raw material inventories are adequate but not excessive. Reported prices for selected width lumber, random width lumber, and cants are stable and hold at the listings and ranges.

As anticipated, crosstie production increased last year, as mills worked to avoid grade lumber for species under price duress, especially Red Oak and Cherry. Too, low grade Maple customers have ample on hand supplies, which could divert even more production to ties and other industrial timbers. Transactions point out stable pricing for 7x9 crossties.

Board road production is adjusting to seasonally slower demand. There are a few instances of excess availability but not enough to alter the board road listing or range.

## SOUTHERN AREA Comments

**D** espite sawmill production downtime during the holidays, most end users report high lumber inventories. Some companies have placed suppliers on quotas. The cumulative effect of limited market outlets and weak pricing is drastically impacting area sawmill operators. Efforts have been underway for months to reduce log and timber costs. But as usually is the case, timber owners rarely offer plots for sale when prices are low. The prolonged squeeze between relatively high raw material costs and low lumber prices can have lasting impacts on the hardwood supply stream.

**ASH:** Demand for green and kiln dried Ash is not particularly good. However, sales companies are finding outlets for developing supplies, albeit at reduced pricing for some grades and thicknesses. The green 4/4 through 8/4 #1C listings decline \$10, and the kiln dried 4/4 #1C and #2A figures are reduced.

**#2A&3A OAK:** Markets for green #2A&3A Oak have noticeably weakened the past few months. High production by area sawmills last September, October, and November provided ample supplies to secondary manufacturers and concentration yards. Too, most all end users are facing seasonally slower sales and declining prices for finished goods, therefore are adjusting raw material costs accordingly. However, previous reductions have the green Red and White Oak #2A&3A listings in order.

**<u>RED OAK:</u>** Reports on Red Oak were widely mixed this week. Some exporters state that interest from China is somewhat higher. Kiln dried inventories fell sharply in November, as sales companies shipped lumber to China ahead of the Lunar New Year celebration. Too, drying time required to process lumber to a useable state is keeping grade lumber availability down. Contacts indicate 4/4 #1C is least available, though there are still decent volumes of Fas ready for shipment. Kiln dried prices were mostly unchanged this week. There is not the same level of price stability for green stocks. Demand for green Red Oak from solid wood flooring manufacturers is off. Raw material inventories are high, and finished goods sales prices are trending lower, therefore end users have reduced costs. But, past decreases have the green #3A&Btr listings in order for now.

**WHITE OAK:** Kiln dried White Oak suppliers have many outlets for developing production. However, Chi-

na has been a major market for the common grades, and demand from Chinese customers is well off previous levels. Reported prices for these items have declined, requiring reductions to the 4/4 #1C, 4/4 #2A, and 5/4 #2A figures, as well as the top sides of the 5/4 #1C ranges. Demand for green stocks is mixed. Interest in upper grade White Oak is much better than for the common grades. Prices vary accordingly, though no changes are warranted to the #3A&Btr listings at this time.

**POPLAR:** Sawmill production of Poplar has slowed to a degree. Mills and resellers are shipping total output. Reported prices are soft, though no further adjustments are necessary to the #2B&Btr listings. Demand for kiln dried Poplar is mixed. Many sales companies state business is best for Fas. However, total inventories are high relative to buyers' needs, which is feeding competitive sales pressures. The top sides of the kiln dried 4/4 Fas ranges are decreased, as are the 8/4 #1C listings and high end range figures.

FRAMESTOCK, CANTS, TIES, & BOARD ROAD:

Last year at this time, well air dried framestock shortages were the norm. That is certainly not the case now. Ample supplies have pressured prices down. However, current reported numbers are within the Oak and Mixed Species ranges.

While not unusual, sawmill production edged down the last half of December. Many wooden pallet and container manufacturers prepared for low pallet cant output by building inventories before the holidays. There are very few reported shortages of cants. Reported prices are in line with last week.

Sawmill operators that don't normally process ties are doing so now. The price advantage over sawing all lumber makes cutting railroad ties a necessity to survive. And, tie production has risen sharply the past few months. Most treaters welcome the additional supplies, though a few smaller companies have reduced receipts, due to lack of space or capital. Transactions point out a wider array of prices, but reported prices are within the two published ranges.

Even during winter months, there is ongoing business for board road. For longtime suppliers, reported prices are steady and hold the listing and range in check. 1/10/20

## OAK STRIP FLOORING

Figures in the Appalachian and Southern area columns are estimates of manufacturers' **predominant** prices for unfinished Oak strip flooring; prices in the other column are estimates of **prevailing industry ranges** of manufacturers' prices. Variations in prices are due, in part, to differences in freight, the nature of markets, volumes ordered and shipped, etc. Prices are for truckload quantities graded in accordance with rules or comparable standards set forth by NOFMA. **Prices are in US Dollars per square foot (SF) and are net of dealer discount fees and commissions.** Figures in bold print signify price changes. Prices in **Hardwood Market Report** are presented only as a guide. See statement on back page. © 2020 Hardwood Market Report

<u>3/4 x 2-1/4''</u>	<u>APPALACHIAN</u>	<b>SOUTHERN</b>	PREVAILING RANGE
SEL&BTR WHITE OAK	2.68 (02)	2.60 (05)	2.50-2.75
SEL&BTR RED OAK	2.25	1.95	1.90- <b>2.28 (NC/02)</b>
No. 1 COM WHITE OAK	2.00 (02)	1.94 (03)	1.85-2.05
No. 1 COM RED OAK	1.90	1.80	1.75-2.00
No. 2 COM WHITE OAK	1.36	1.30 (03)	1.20-1.38 (NC/02)
No. 2 COM RED OAK	1.23	1.07	0.97-1.28
<u>3/4 x 3-1/4''</u>	<b>APPALACHIAN</b>	<u>SOUTHERN</u>	PREVAILING RANGE
<u>3/4 x 3-1/4''</u> SEL&BTR WHITE OAK	APPALACHIAN 2.70	SOUTHERN 2.65	PREVAILING RANGE 2.50-2.75
SEL&BTR WHITE OAK	2.70	2.65	2.50-2.75
SEL&BTR WHITE OAK SEL&BTR RED OAK	2.70 2.25	2.65 1.95	2.50-2.75 1.90-2.28
SEL&BTR WHITE OAK SEL&BTR RED OAK No. 1 COM WHITE OAK	2.70 2.25 2.33	2.65 1.95 2.28	2.50-2.75 1.90-2.28 2.16-2.37
SEL&BTR WHITE OAK SEL&BTR RED OAK No. 1 COM WHITE OAK No. 1 COM RED OAK	2.70 2.25 2.33 <b>1.90 (02)</b>	2.65 1.95 2.28 1.88	2.50-2.75 1.90-2.28 2.16-2.37 1.75-1.95

The mix of business reported for Oak strip flooring during this first full workweek of 2020 ranged from routine, ongoing activity to the release of shipments that had been embargoed prior to the start of the new year. Nothing suggests there is any sense of urgency for supply or the need for rapid delivery. In fact, distributors seem to be adequately stocked for the time being, and manufacturers are capable of fulfilling buyers' needs promptly.

It is not unusual for the market to take a few weeks in January before regaining normalcy, which certainly could be the case this year. Even then, normalcy for Oak strip flooring demand during the early to mid-winter season does not evoke a lot of enthusiasm. However, whatever level of continuity that comes with normal winter business patterns is important.

Among the things to consider is the amount of new single family housing construction currently in process. At the end of November there were 531,700 units being built, plus an additional 83,200 units that had been permitted but not started at that time. Using November's rate of completions, new single family construction would fuel demand for interior fittings and raw materials past July without adding another permitted unit.

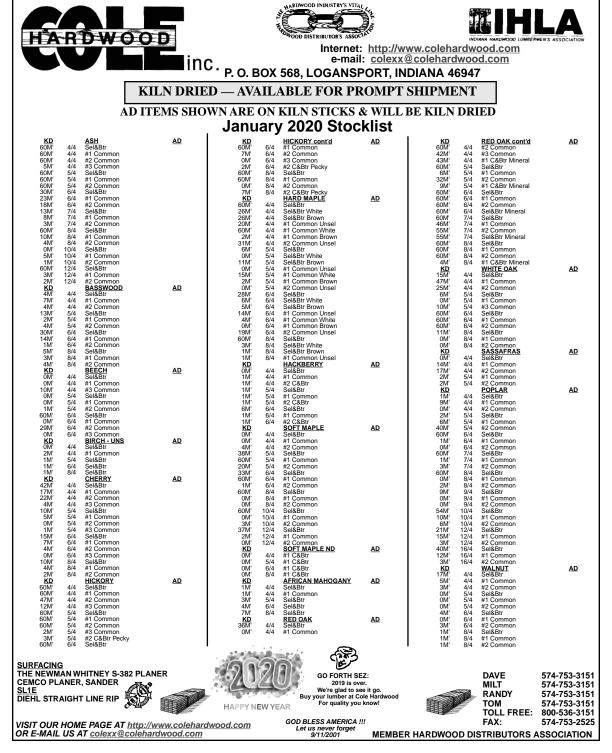
Remodeling expenditures on owner occupied single family housing remain elevated. After coming down from the record high watermark set in the first half of 2018, remodeling dollars are surging back toward the \$200B threshold. It is widely believed remodeling has as much, if not more, influence on Oak strip flooring demand as new housing construction. Given the limited amount of housing inventory available for sale, large numbers of homeowners are staying put and investing in their living spaces.

November's home sales are up from a year ago. On an unadjusted basis, existing housing sales increased 0.6%, and new housing sales surged 18.2%. Arguably, sales of both existing and new units might have been higher if additional inventory had been available. The median sales price for existing units increased 4.1% to \$309,600. The median price for new homes sold in November increased 7.2% to \$330,800. Together, the strong need for housing and rising values for both new and existing houses will help fuel demand for Oak strip flooring this year.

16			
Ti	oga	Specia CLARK LUMBER LUMBER S52 PUBLIC	BER CO., INC. alizing in ARDWOOD LUMBER <u>ibercompany.com</u> C WELL ROAD
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Pn: 607-657-86	686 - Fax: 607-657-2532	Joseph Draper:	jdraper@clarklumbercompany
Ash	0.5 0.5 % D/s 4.05"	<b>"FROM OUR FORES</b>	<b>F TO YOUR FACIL</b>
4M' 5/4 FAS F Basswood	R2E Sap&Btr 4.25"		R FOR SALE 8/4 RE
16M' 4/4 FAS/S	SEL Heavy 11'+	FAS, 1 COM, 2 COM 6/4 ASH 4/4 POPL/	FA AR <u>4/4 WA</u>
Cherry			COM, 2 COM FA
9M' 4/4 PRM-		FAS, 1 COM - WHITE FAS, 1 2 COM - UNSELECTED 6/4 POPL	COM FA
8M' 4/4 SEL 6		4/4 HICKORY FAS, 1	COM FA
4M' 4/4 SEL-N		FAS, 1 COM, 2 COM 4/4 RED O 5/4 HICKORY FAS, 1 FAS, 1	COM 10
28M' 4/4 2AC 4M' 5/4 2AC	90/50 Red + Unselected	FAS, 1 COM 5/4 RED O FAS	FA
7M' 6/4 FAS/		6/4 RED 0 FAS, 1	COM OTHE
23M' 8/4 1C	90/50 Red +		PALLI LL LOCATIONS CROSS
Hard Maple		5,000,000 E	BF INVENTORY ILN CAPACITY
13M' 4/4 FAS/S	8-12'	800,000 K	
2M' 4/4 FAS/S		Stacking Sticks	Large inventory of fu
2M' 4/4 FAS/S	SEL6N 1+2 White	Manufactured to your Specifications	hardwoods. Approx.
0NU 4/4 EAO/	5.5-5.99"	Gerald Arnaud	
2M' 4/4 FAS/S 3M' 4/4 FAS/S		"Stacking Stick King" Gaiennie Lumber Co., Inc.	well air dried, 50%
I3M' 4/4 FAS/S I2M' 4/4 1C	SEL Brown Sap&Btr	619 West Grolee Street • Opelousas, LA 70570	and thick dimension
2M 4/4 1C 2M' 5/4 FAS/F	•	(337) 948-3067  Fax: (337) 948-3069 Cell: (337) 351-6899	\$85,000. <b>Contact:</b> 6
2M' 5/4 FAS/S		E-mail: gerald@gaiennie.com Web Page: <u>www.gaiennie.com</u>	or <u>asharp@dtcc</u>
24M' 5/4 1C	Sap&Btr	neor age. <u>manyalemietom</u>	
2M' 5/4 2AC	Sap&Btr		
3M' 6/4 2AC	Sap&Btr	Manunar Hardura ada	Little River Lumber C Danny Arnold 828-50
2M' 7/4 FAS/\$ 5M' 7/4 1C		Menzner Hardwoods	email: arnold@littleriver
5M° 7/4 1C 5M' 8/4 FAS/S	Sap&Btr SEL Stain 1 15/16"	Buying Green FAS	William McNeill 828-3 email: william@littlerive
Hickory		4/4 & 5/4 Red Oak	KD FOR SALE FOB
7M' 4/4 1C	Unselected	West Union, SC Weir, MS	5 T/L 5/4 2/3C Whit
7M' 4/4 2AC	Unselected	(864)638-9515 (662)547-5009	5 T/L 8/4 2/3C Will
Red Oak		(Amy) (Travis)	1 T/L 4/4 1C Red
2M' 5/4 FAS/S			2 T/L 4/4 1C Hick
9M' 6/4 FAS/F	F1F 12" & wider		Buying Green Hickory, Hard
Soft Maple 8M' 4/4 2C&B	tr Wormy		Red and White Oak – All Bi
3M' 5/4 2C&B		Hamburg, AR	
.7M' 8/4 1C	Unselected	Phone 870-853-8722	
.6M' 8/4 2AC	Unselected	Fax 870-853-8707	BUYIN
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5M' 10/4 2AC&	BTR Wormy	Hamburg, AR and Dewitt Arkansas	BLACK LO
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8M' 4/4 FAS/F		Selling Ties, Lumber and	All grades
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LUMBE	<u>RFOR SALE</u> <u>8/4 RED OAK</u>
4/4 POPLA	FAS, 1 COM, 2 COM 4/4 WALNUT
FAS, 1	COM, 2 COM FAS, 1 COM, 2 COM
5/4 POPL/ FAS, 1	COM FAS
6/4 POPL/ FAS, 1	
4/4 RED 0	OAK 5/4 WHITE OAK
FAS, 1 5/4 RED 0	AK 4/4 SOFT MAPLE
FAS 6/4 RED 0	FAS, 1 COM
FAS, 1	
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	email: arnold@littleriverlumber.com William McNeill 828-396-7735
S	email: william@littleriverlumber.com
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7-5009	5 T/L 8/4 2C Walnut
ris)	1 T/L 4/4 1C Red Oak
/	2 T/L 4/4 1C Hickory 5.5" under
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	4/4

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2 T/L 4/4   1 T/L 4/4 ; 1 T/L 5/4 ; 1 T/L 7/4	#1 Common #2A Common
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1 I/L	5/4	#1 Common
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1 T/L	8/4	S/B	ASH			
1 T/L	6/4	S/B	1 T/L	4/4	S/B Black	
1 T/L	4/4	S/B 7'	1 T/L	4/4	#1 Com Black	
HARD MAPL	E		1 T/L	4/4	#2A Black	
1 T/L	4/4	S/B #1&2 White 10'	1 T/L	4/4	#1 Com White	
			2 T/Ľs	4/4	#2A White	
		ancois joe.francois@snowbe		1	Snowbelt Hardwoods is	
Please Contact:		lilgemann jhilgemann@snov		։ √ղ	S FSC certified	
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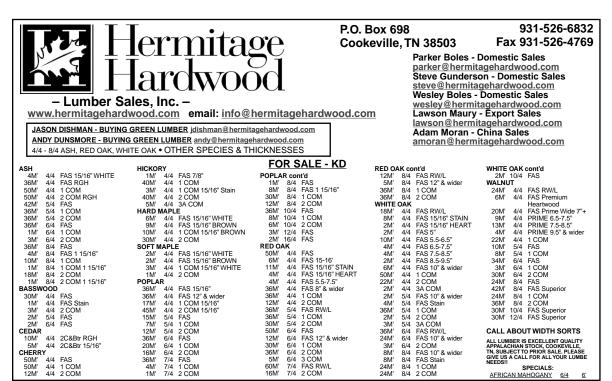
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1 T/L	4/4	1F+	Red Oak



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ar	PROMPT	2 T/Ľs	4/4	ЗA	Red Oak	PROMPT
ar	2 WEEKS	1 T/L	4/4	1F+	Soft Maple Unsel	3 WEEKS
ar	2 WEEKS	1 T/L	4/4	1F+	White Oak	2 WEEKS
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Oak						

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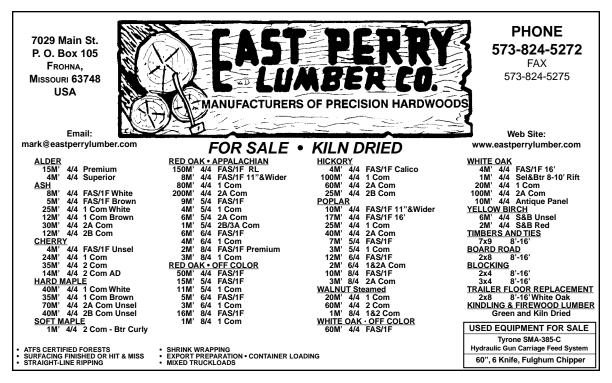


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HARD M				
26M'	., .			
13M'	4/4	Selects 1&2 White		
13M'	5/4	Prime 1&2 White		
26M'	5/4	1 Common		
13M'				
26M'	8/4	Prime 1&2 White		
13M'	8/4	1 Common		
12M'	8/4	2A Common		
POPLAR				
18M'	4/4	Prime		
10M'	4/4	1 Common		
10M'	4/4	2A Common		
RED OAP	<u>(</u>			
8M'	5/4	2A Common		
26M'	8/4	Prime	Mar	
SOFT MA	PLE			
16M'	4/4	Prime Sap&Btr		
14M'	4/4	1 Common Sap&Btr		
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31M'	5/4	1 Common		
13M'	6/4	Prime		
28M'	8/4			
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In the December Issue...

Demand for imported hardwood lumber varies widely depending on the species in question, as do performances of individual market sectors for imported woods. This month's HMR *Import* Newsletter<sub>TM</sub> explains which species and markets are performing well and which are not.







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# Real American Hardwood Promotion Coalition (Washington, D.C.)

The American hardwood industry is facing significant change driven by stiff competition from wood lookalike products, relentless misleading campaigns about the sustainability of wood products, a slowing world economy, and the ongoing U.S. trade war with China. Markets are shrinking, and businesses face an uncertain future.

The industry has a powerful story to tell about the beauty and desirability of the products, the small family businesses that make them, the sustainability of our raw material, and the environmental and health benefits of using real hardwood. The trouble is, the industry has not yet been successful in developing a coordinated and collaborative domestic initiative to effectively tell this story and communicate the science-based benefits of real American hardwoods.

That situation is in the process of changing. There is a new emphasis by a coalition of hardwood association executives, energized by the success of their joint effort on the Hardwood Economic Impact Study. This group came together in early 2019 to brainstorm approaches for a voluntary industry-wide promotion initiative.

The top priorities of this coalition are transparency and moving forward in a way that engages *all* members of the hardwood community. The mission is to develop a clear, concise, and overarching brand statement and promotion program that can be echoed throughout the entire supply stream.

This brainstorming session led to the following objectives:

- » Establish a real American hardwood promotion program directed at domestic consumers, specifiers, educators, influencers, and end-users with a launch date of spring 2020.
- » Identify steps and deliverables vital in developing a coordinated initiative to promote the true story and science-based benefits of real American hardwood.
- » Bring other association executives to the program, and expand the reach of the message.

A successful program will:

- 6 Educate consumers and raise public awareness of real American hardwood;
- Generate new products;
- Orect existing markets;
- Increase markets and sales;
- ◊ Improve industry stability.

More than 30 executives of hardwood industry organizations and associations – local, state, regional, and national, have been a part of the process to establish consensus and develop an action plan. The focus is to capitalize on the expertise and skillfulness of the hardwood association executives who manage diverse priorities and expectations, while sharing the same common denominator: Real American Hardwood.

Broad participation from every industry segment is vital to develop the overarching brand statement. To date, 24 organizations representing lumber, flooring, moulding, cabinetry, veneer and industrial market segments

have come forward to participate, agreeing to pool funds and finance at least the first two phases of work.

Promotion means different things to different people. Webster defines it as – an activity that supports or provides active encouragement for the furtherance of a cause, venture or aim; the publicization of a product, organization or venture to increase sales or public awareness. For the Real American Hardwood Promotion Coalition, key components to a successful, sustaining, promotion program include Advocacy, Research & Development, Marketing, and Education.

#### **Initiative Phases**

<u>Collect Data:</u> Review existing data; identify missing data regarding consumer attitudes towards hardwood products; identify the unknown. The coalition will work with a vetted research firm to collect significant data from consumers, architects, builders, designers, educators, and industry associates on buying habits, key influencers, little known (un)truths about hardwood products, and the environmental favor they hold versus other materials.

<u>Develop a Brand:</u> Engage a firm specializing in brand acceleration to utilize the research results to develop the overarching brand statement, AND identify the most effective go-to-market road map. This will include strategic efforts that can be implemented at little or low cost.

Implementation: Identify feasible tactics and move forward, continually evaluating and adjusting.

Education: Develop a database of post-secondary programs related to forestry, sustainability, and wood as a primary building material. Association and industry leaders will be able to search for opportunities to present and educate the build/design influencers of the future about the benefits of sourcing hardwoods for finished goods, construction, and industrial applications.

The next Coalition meeting will be held on Monday, February 3 at the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association (IHLA) Convention in Indianapolis. All interested association executives are encouraged to attend. A Coalition update will be presented at the general session on Tuesday, February 4.

As members of the American hardwood industry, the task before us is not an easy one. However, there is growing enthusiasm and great optimism that if we can pool our business intelligence and resources, we can successfully overcome these and future obstacles.

To offer support to the initiative, contribute financially, or receive additional information, please email to <u>hardwoodpromotion@gmail.com</u>.

# BUCHANAN HARDWOODS

Butch Ousley 205-779-7041 • Cell 205-292-1613

## White Oak 4/4 #2 Com KD 6-8% 100M'

Kiln Dried

ASH 4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 #1 Com 4/4 #2 Com 4/4 Framestock	Brown	114M' 5M' 73M' 67M' 5M'	WHITE OAK 4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 #1 Com 4/4 #2 Com 4/4 #2 Com	<b>RWL 10" &amp; Wider 6'</b> RWL RWL <b>8" &amp; Wider</b>	<b>84M'</b> <b>58M'</b> <b>24M'</b> 221M' 100M' <b>23M</b> '
RED OAK			5/4 FAS	RWL	OM'
4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 Sel Strips 4/4 FAS 4/4 #1 Com 4/4 #1 Com 4/4 #2 Com 5/4 FAS	6"&7" 12" & Wider 3.5" - 5.5" RL Mineral Stain Mineral Stain	0M' 101M' 9M' 13M' 59M' 91M' 24M' <b>4M'</b>	5/4 FAS 5/4 #1 Com 5/4 #2 Com 5/4 #3 Com 6/4 FAS 6/4 FAS 6/4 #1 Com 6/4 #2 Com	10" & Wider RWL 10" & Wider	<b>0M</b> ' 18M' 13M' 2M' <b>7M'</b> <b>0M'</b> 2.4M' 1M'
5/4 FAS	RWL	8M'	POPLAR		
5/4 #1 Com 5/4 #2 Com RED GUM 4/4 Sel&Btr	KVVL	25M' 11M' 5M'	4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 FAS 4/4 #1 Com 4/4 #2 Com	12" & wider	12M' 116M' 60M' 0M'

Red Oak Coffin Stock 12" & Wider 18% or less M/C 4/4

4M'

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