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Timber Tales

No. 157 News and Ideas for Forest Landowners from Ricky Kilpatrick, Area Forestry Agent 4th Quarter 2016

Third Quarter 2016 Louisiana Timber Market Report¹

By Dr. Shaun Tanger, LSU AgCenter Forest Economist

Louisiana Stumpage Prices	3 rd Quarter 2016	Change from prior Quarter
Product Class	Price Per Ton	% Change
Pine Sawtimber	27.50	-2.47
Pine Chip-N-Saw	19.00	0.57
Pine Pulpwood	10.00	-6.07
Oak Sawtimber	45.00	7.69
Mixed Hardwood Sawtimber	37.00	10.93
Hardwood Pulpwood	9.00	-4.48

Price Conversions:

Pine Sawtimber/ MBF= Tons * 8

Hardwood Sawtimber/ MBF = Tons * 9.5

CNS and Pine Pulpwood Cords = Tons * 2.7

Hardwood Pulpwood = Tons * 2.8

¹ The following document is intended for use by owners of forested land in Louisiana. The source of these prices is proprietary in nature and are therefore rounded per agreements to disseminate to the general public. The prices I report are also state averages and the LDAF numbers are by specific regions. I recommend using both to aid in decisions about purchases, sales, and determining harvesting schedules. As always communicate with a consultant forester on prices before executing contracted agreements with wood buyers.

What is in a Price? (part II)

By Dr. Shaun Tanger, LSU AgCenter Forest Economist

(This is actually a summary of Dr. Tanger's report. For the entire document, go to his *Stumpage Speak* blog at: <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/blogs/stumpagespeak>

At that sight, you can subscribe to his forest economics discussions and view past editions.)

After the positive feedback from the last quarter's write up on prices, I thought I should give credit and mention that the information was adapted from a presentation given by Conner House (Cottonport Hardwoods) at a Redstick Forestry Association Meeting from late last year.

With that let's get into the meat of what I wanted to discuss on prices. Let's start with a paper from researchers at Auburn University (Daowei Zhang, Li Meng and Maksym Polyakov) and a study that was published in 2013 in *Forest Science* 59(4). The study is entitled '***Determinants of the Prices of Bare Forestland and Pre-Merchantable Timber Stands: A Spatial Hedonic Study***'. Data was taken from locations in the southwest of Alabama and southeast of Mississippi. They examined timberland properties that played a part in determining the price per acre of bare forestland tracts and pre-merchantable tracts. They found that road access, topography, land productivity and population density were the main determinants of bare forestland prices, while land productivity, potential for higher and better uses and plantation stand age were key determinants of pre-merchantable tract prices. For the details, you can access this study at: <http://www.auburn.edu/~zhangd1/RefereedPub/ForSci2013meng.pdf>

Another study titled, "***Estimating Tract Value Relationships in the North Louisiana Timberland Market***" from researchers at LA Tech (Gary Kennedy & Donald Decker) and the LSU AgCenter (Lonnie Van de Veer, Steve Henning, and Huizhen Niu), was published in the *Southwestern Economic Review*. Data for the study consists of 133 tracts of timberland in the North Central Area that sold between January 1, 1993 and June 30, 1998. Tracts included in the study consisted of largely pre-merchantable and merchantable soft and hardwood timber. Again, impact from factors such as road frontage, access, economic development potential and others was determined. This study can be accessed at: <http://www.ser.tcu.edu/2002/SER2002%20Kennedy%20et%20al%20123-134.pdf>

References

Kennedy, G.A., L.R. Venderveer, S.A. Henning, N. Huizhen, and D.L. Deckard. 2002. Estimating tract value relationships in the north Louisiana timberland market. *Southwestern. Economic Review* 28(1):123- 134.

Zhang, D., Meng, L., and Polyakov, M. 2013. Determinants of the prices of bare forestlands and premerchantable timber stands: a spatial hedonic study. *Forest Science* 59(4): 400–406.

Next Time: We'll discuss the different price reports out there and what goes into them and what comes back out and so you don't misinterpret them.

Forestry Forum Scheduled for January 13, 2017 in West Monroe

The 2017 Ag Expo Forestry Forum will be held from 8:00 a.m. till noon on Friday, January 13, 2017 at the West Monroe Conventions Center at 901 Ridge Avenue in West Monroe. Topics for the program include:

- Timber Marketing Issues for Small Forest Landowners – Dr. Shaun Tanger, LSU AgCenter Forest Economist
- Managing Forests for Wildlife/Federal Cost-Share Programs for Forests – Rick Williams, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Forester
- Tax Update – Paul Spillers, Board Certified Tax Attorney and Tree Farmer, Theus, Grisham, Davis and Leigh
- Pine Forest Pest Signs & Solutions – Wood Johnson, US Forest Service Entomologist

- Herbicide Options – Dr. Michael Blazier, LSU AgCenter Research Forester
- Hog Control – Dr. Glen Gentry, LSU AgCenter Animal Science Associate Professor
- Forestry Update – Buck Vandersteen, Louisiana Forestry Association Executive Director

Note that early registration is due by January 6, 2017.

EARLY REGISTRATION FORM	
* Due by Friday Jan. 6, 2017 *	
Name(s): _____	# attending _____
Amount enclosed (\$15 per person) _____ Parish of residence _____	
(Late Registration Fee – \$20.00 at the door)	
E-mail address: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, e-mail me forestry information and notices in the future.	
Make checks payable to: <u>CATAHOULA ANR</u> (Please write Forestry Forum on memo line)	
Mail payment and this detached form to: LSU AgCenter, P O Box 160, Harrisonburg, LA 71340	
For more information contact: Luke Stamper at (318) 744-5442 or lstamper@agcenter.lsu.edu	

LSU AgCenter Experts See Success With Biological Control of Aquatic Weed

LSU AgCenter researchers are seeing increased benefits of controlling giant salvinia with salvinia weevils, experts said at a meeting of the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society annual meeting on Sept. 14, 2016.

Giant salvinia is one of several major aquatic weeds in Louisiana, and "there are probably others already in the state that we're not yet aware of," said Rogers Leonard, associate vice president of the LSU AgCenter.

With 9,174 square miles of surface water in Louisiana, "eradication of any aquatic weed, although possible, is unlikely," said Leonard, who is an entomologist. "We're looking at management strategies, not eradication."

"In southwest Louisiana, aquatic weed infestations are affecting drainage and irrigation," he said. "These pests are influencing the efficiency of agricultural production and have to be managed carefully to reduce the potential for losses in net profits."

Legislation to control the movement of invasive plants and mechanical removal are options, Leonard said. Chemical control is not permanent and may affect non-target species.

"Biocontrol represents another opportunity to manage these pests," he said. The differential selectivity of insects targeting specific plants allows this integrated strategy to be successful.

A weevil from South America that was introduced to control the invasive weed giant salvinia has proven effective in Louisiana, Leonard said. The AgCenter is using demonstration sites and research operations to produce an adequate supply of these insects to distribute across the state.

Giant salvinia was first discovered in Louisiana in 1998 at the Toledo Bend reservoir, said retired AgCenter weed scientist Dearl Sanders, who spent more than 15 years working to control the weed.

The AgCenter began producing salvinia weevils in ponds and transferred them to infested areas of the state. From 2007 to 2014, the AgCenter along with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries conducted 19 major harvests and distributed nearly 10 thousand tons of giant salvinia containing more than 5 million adult weevils, Sanders said.

Using biocontrols can be the most effective method of controlling pests like the giant salvinia. But a biological control organism is fragile, Sanders said. For example, widespread spraying for mosquitoes to control the Zika virus could affect salvinia weevils and other beneficial insects.

Louisiana's water bodies are a combination of lakes, rivers, bayous, canals and backwater swamps where water flows and carries invasive plants like the giant salvinia, said Christopher Mudge, a research biologist with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center and an adjunct faculty member in the LSU AgCenter.

Using chemicals or mechanical methods almost never completely removes giant salvinia from a water body, said AgCenter entomologist Rodrigo Diaz.

"Salvinia regrows faster than it can be removed," Diaz said. "When successful, biocontrol can be the most cost-effective method."

Because one of the drawbacks of releasing the salvinia weevil is its tolerance to cold weather, researchers have been searching the world for a weevil population that can live through the colder winters of north Louisiana.

Diaz and graduate student Alana Russell have collected weevils from Argentina, Australia and Uruguay to identify a population that can withstand north Louisiana winter temperatures. Results so far suggest a population from Argentina has greater cold tolerance than a population from Henderson Swamp in south Louisiana, Diaz said.

The researchers will seek permission from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for permission to release the Argentine population in Louisiana. It's the same species that's already been released, and approval is anticipated within two years, Diaz said.

The researchers are looking forward to releasing the new weevil population in north Louisiana because of the large-scale biocontrol success in south Louisiana this year, Diaz said.

Christmas Gift Ideas

It's that time of year again, so here's a few gift ideas for a forest landowner, gardener or homeowner. Sometimes we forget about some of these practical things that are very handy! I've included small and big budget items.

backpack sprayer	GPS	soil probe	rain gauge
diameter tape	chainsaw	machete/hatchet	pruning tools
compass	prism	leaf vac	soaker hose
compost bin	tree growth bands	dibble	game camera
ground blind	small greenhouse	binoculars	golf cart
brush chaps	framed aerial photos	flagging	tree marking/boundary paint
hog trap	deer feeder	tree watering bags	tree seedling protectors
bird houses	wood duck boxes	game calls	snake leggings
posted signs	beaver trap	guns/ammo	deer aging kit
flashlight	first aid kit	herbicides	lightweight outdoor stool/chair
gloves	drone	ATV	seed/fertilizer spreader

Field guides for trees, wildlife, birds, etc.

This list could go on and on....it's fun to think of all the things you'd like to have to work around the family forest land or farm. I guess I should add STORAGE BARN!!!

*****Events, Thoughts and Tidbits**

***The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has produced several short treestand safety videos that are available at www.wlf.louisiana.gov/hunting-safety-videos. Who knows, it might impress your insurance agent if you told him/her that your hunters watch these at the camp at the beginning of each hunting season!

***The 2016 Louisiana State Fair has come and gone. Unlike 2015, the weather was great for this year’s fair! I hope you had a chance to visit and enjoy it!!

****Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2016 Tax Year* by Dr. Linda Wang, National Timber Tax Specialist, U.S. Forest Service is now available at: <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/blogs/stumpagespeak>. This bulletin summarizes Federal income tax provisions related to woodland property for use by woodland owners in preparing their 2016 individual tax returns. Information is current as of October 24th, 2016. It is for educational use only. Consult your tax adviser for more information.

*** Upcoming Forestry Forums :

- January 13, 2017 – Ag Expo Forestry Forum, West Monroe, contact Luke Stamper, lstamper@agcenter.lsu.edu
- February 24, 2017 – SW LA Forestry Forum, DeRidder, contact Keith Hawkins, khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu
- March 2, 2017 – Ark-La-Tex Forestry Forum, Shreveport, contact Ricky Kilpatrick, rkilpatrick@agcenter.lsu.edu
- March 17, 2017 – Florida Parishes Forestry Forum, Hammond, contact Brian Chandler, bchandler@agcenter.lsu.edu
- Cenla Forestry Forum – TBD, Alexandria area, contact Robbie Hutchins, rhutchins@agcenter.lsu.edu

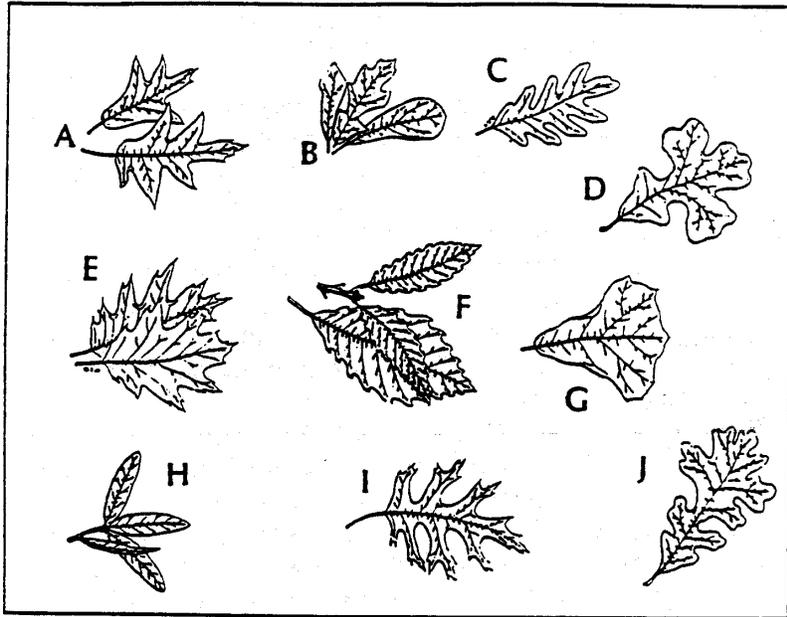
***Keeping good deer hunting notes and harvest records provides helpful management information, and serves as a good reminder of when, where and how to hunt in following years. In addition to data on the deer you harvest, information such as what the deer was eating, weather conditions, water levels in creeks, ponds, etc., when the deer were in rut, moon phase and other items might help you develop patterns to make future hunts more successful.

#	Date	Sex	Age	Live Wt.	Dressed weight	Antler Measurements					Doe in Milk (Yes/No)	Hunter	Comments	
						Points	L.Beam Circum.	R.Beam Circum.	L.Beam Length	R.Beam Length				Inside Spread

A printable deer harvest record sheet is on our website at this address: [http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Bossier/Features/Forestry Wildlife/Deer+Record+Sheet.htm](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Bossier/Features/Forestry_Wildlife/Deer+Record+Sheet.htm).

Here's a quiz to test your ability to identify several oak trees. Hopefully, this will help you become more familiar with the trees on your forest land. By the way, one of these isn't native to Louisiana.....can you pick it out?

1. _____ Northern Red Oak
2. _____ Southern Red Oak
3. _____ Shumard Oak
4. _____ Blackjack Oak
5. _____ Water Oak
6. _____ Willow Oak
7. _____ White Oak
8. _____ Post Oak
9. _____ Bur Oak
10. _____ Chinkapin Oak



1.= E, 2.= A, 3.= I, 4.= G, 5.= B, 6.= H, 7.= C, 8.= D, 9.= J, 10.= F



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family!

Ricky Kilpatrick
 Ricky Kilpatrick
 Area Forestry Agent

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability. If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in a meeting, please contact the Bossier Parish Extension Office at (318) 965-2326 three days prior to the meeting.

For additional information, call Area Code 318 and . . .			
BIENVILLE	263-7400	BOSSIER	965-2326
CLAIBORNE	927-3110	DESOTO	872-0533
RED RIVER	932-4342	SABINE	256-3406
		CADDO	226-6805
		NATCHITOCHE	357-2224
		WEBSTER	371-1317

**32nd ANNUAL ARK-LA-TEX FORESTRY FORUM
THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017
8:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**

**RAMADA SHREVEPORT AIRPORT
(Formerly Holiday Inn Shreveport Airport West)
5555 FINANCIAL PLAZA
SHREVEPORT, LA**

The program is currently being planned and speakers are being contacted. Planned topics include:

- Forest Herbicides...What, When, Where and How
- Forest Taxes...What's the Latest
- Forest Product Marketing for the Small Landowner
- Issues Impacting Forest Landowners, such as the Clean Water Act, recent and pending legislation, timber theft, feral hogs and others

Door prizes will be given by several exhibitors.

Come and enjoy an excellent forestry meeting, great lunch and the fellowship of others interested in forestry. If you pre-register by February 27th, the fee is \$20. After that date or at the door, registration will be \$25.

**ARK-LA-TEX FORESTRY FORUM
MARCH 2, 2017**

Name _____ Phone _____

Company/Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

This form may be duplicated. If more than one person shall be registered, please include names and addresses of the additional people.

_____ Number of people registered @ \$20 per person (\$25 after February 27th)

_____ Amount enclosed

Make check payable and mail to: **ARK-LA-TEX FORESTRY FORUM
P O Box 370
Benton, LA 71006-0370**

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**News and Ideas for Forest Landowners from Ricky Kilpatrick, Area Forestry Agent, serving:
Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Red River and Webster Parishes**

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