

1st Quarter 2020

County Agent Comment

I have truly been blessed by the kindness, support, and generous spirit of the people of Union County Arkansas.

My life of service, especially this last past 10 years, has been Rewarding, at times exciting, and extremely life fulfilling, thanks to you. I have learned so much from each of you, that I will never be able to repay.

I have witnessed the growth and excellence of youth, the trials and achievements of producers versus the weather and the markets.

Please understand that the University of Arkansas Systems Cooperative Extension Service programs only work, if the people care. The success that I have enjoyed as your County Extension Agent over the last ten years is only due to the care, time, leadership and wonderful support that you put into it. For that care and leadership, I can never truly repay you.

Your support, and that of a truly supportive and loving spouse, made my efforts for you possible. Remember always, and I pray that future generations understand, the Cooperative Extension Programs are designed to help you work through issues that you identify as important to your Community. Keep supporting your County Agent and Staff. After all it is "Your Tax Dollars At Work" for you. You, the farm producers, 4-H youth and Adult Volunteers, Master Gardeners, Extension and Home owners, are the ones who make this program great.



I Will Miss You All,

**Robin D. Bridges
CEA-Staff Chair
Union County**

Union County Master Gardeners Presents

Dirt Friends Festival

March 14, 2020

**Featuring Nationally
Known Garden Author
NORMAN WINTER**

Registration Begins at 8:15 a.m.
COLLEGE AVE. CHURCH OF CHRIST
1817 N College Ave. • El Dorado, AR
ADMISSION \$10



U of A
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System


**MASTER
GARDENER**

2020 Southeast U.S. Hay Harvest Survey (Open until March 7th)

Extension forage specialists with the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and in the Southeast U.S. would like your help in gathering information on hay harvest methods and time required for harvesting hay to help develop more effective forage educational programs.

We would appreciate you taking the time to complete a survey regarding your hay harvest methods. If you do choose to participate, we appreciate your feedback and all information will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by applicable State and Federal law. By completing the survey, you are agreeing to allow the use of your responses for educational purposes. If you do not wish to complete the survey, your refusal to do so will have not any effect on your relationship with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. To opt out of taking the survey, simply do not complete the survey.

If you have questions or concerns about this study, you may contact John Jennings at (501) 671-2350 or by email at jjennings@uaex.edu. For questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant, please contact Ro Windwalker, the University's IRB Coordinator, at (479) 575-2208 or by e-mail at irb@uark.edu.

Information gathered from the survey will provide direct insights into current hay harvest practices, and allow us to better develop forage educational programs. Additionally, the information provided will be used to prioritize research and Extension outreach efforts moving forward to more effectively address your needs.

Please click on the link below to access the survey. It should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

2019 Southeast U.S. Hay Harvest Survey

https://uaex.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cLVmS7buxux288R

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey, and we look forward to your insightful responses. If you have any questions while taking the survey, please feel free to contact us at the emails listed below.

John Jennings jjennings@uaex.edu
Professor and Extension Forage Specialist
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Prussic Acid Poisoning in Cattle

What are the most common signs of prussic acid poisoning in cattle?

The symptoms of prussic acid poisoning are very similar to that of nitrate poisoning. Symptoms of prussic acid poisoning include anxiety, progressive weakness and labored breathing, and death may follow when lethal amounts of hydrocyanic acid (HCN*) are consumed. However, the dead animals may be found without visible symptoms of poisoning. Animals may also show increased rate of respiration, increased pulse rate, gasping, muscular twitching and convulsions. Death from prussic acid poisoning often occurs more rapidly than nitrate poisoning in affected animals.

**Hydrocyanic acid (HCN) or prussic acid is generally found in stressed plants and is formed by enzymatic action on compounds called the cyanogenetic glucosides (dhurrin) when growth is adversely affected.*

What is the treatment for prussic acid poisoning?

Get the animals off the pasture they're grazing. Contact your veterinarian immediately. Animals affected by prussic acid poisoning may be treated with a sodium nitrite--sodium thiosulfate combination. It must be injected intravenously and very slowly. The dosage and method of administration are critical. Prussic acid poisoning from hay is very uncommon.

Consult a veterinarian immediately to correctly diagnose prussic acid poisoning and to determine the proper treatment.

[Farm Animal Veterinarian Directory for Arkansas](#)

What is the relationship between prussic acid and nitrate poisoning?

Prussic acid poisoning is most commonly associated with johnsongrass and sorghum-sudangrass. Pearl millet and corn do not produce prussic acid. Under certain stressful conditions (especially prolonged drought or cool, cloudy weather), these grasses may produce prussic acid or accumulate high levels of nitrates in their stems. ***There is little or no relationship between prussic acid and nitrate poisoning.*** However, HCN poisoning is often confused with nitrate poisoning since environmental conditions and animal symptoms of the two disorders are somewhat similar.

How to Prevent Prussic Acid Poisoning

Do not allow animals to graze fields with succulent, young, short growth. Graze only after plants reach a height of 18 to 24 inches.

Do not graze drought damaged plants in any form, regardless of height, within four days following a good rain. It is during this period of rapid growth that accumulation of prussic acid in the young tissue and of nitrates in the stems is most likely to occur.

Do not graze wilted plants or plants with young regrowth.

Do not rely on drought damaged material as the only source of feed. Keep either dry forage or green chop from other crops available at all times. Uneven growth as a result of drought can best be utilized as silage or hay.

Delay pasturing for a least seven days or until the frosted material is completely dried out and brown colored. Do not rely on frosted material as the only source of feed. Do not graze at night when frost is likely.

Do not turn hungry cattle onto a pasture of sorghum, sorghum sudan hybrid, or johnsongrass. Fill them up on hay or other forage first, and begin grazing in the late afternoon.



Managing Wildlife Habitat on Your Land

Having a diversity of grasses, forbs, berry-producing shrubs, and nut-producing trees provides ample food and cover for wildlife. (Image courtesy Lynn Betts, NRCS, bugwood.org.)

How you manage your land affects wildlife, even if your land is idle. Idle land is not necessarily good habitat.

- **Periodic disturbance** may be needed

if you are managing for early-successional species such as cottontail rabbits, bobwhite quail, or species that prefer mixed-successional stages such as white-tailed deer or wild turkey. Although gray or fox squirrels prefer large stands of mature oaks, planning for the next generation of oak trees is necessary for sustaining squirrel habitat. A number of songbirds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians also thrive in these different habitat types.

- **Timing is everything.** Exactly when these disturbances occur and the types of plant species present in the seed bed results in different plant responses. Landowners who are willing to experiment can gain understanding about native plant responses to these practices on their property.

Grow a diversity of plants. The key to providing wildlife habitat is establishing a diversity of plants which provide year-round nutrition and cover for wildlife survival. Wildlife are adapted particularly to native plants that meet many of their habitat needs. Enhancing beneficial native plants is an essential part of any habitat plan. Native forbs and grasses can be established through creating disturbance, such as disking, prescribed fire, and thinning trees.

The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers publications, local demonstrations, workshops and field days about improving your land for wildlife habitat. Contact your [local county Extension office](#) for information.



Arkansas Timber Price Report



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System

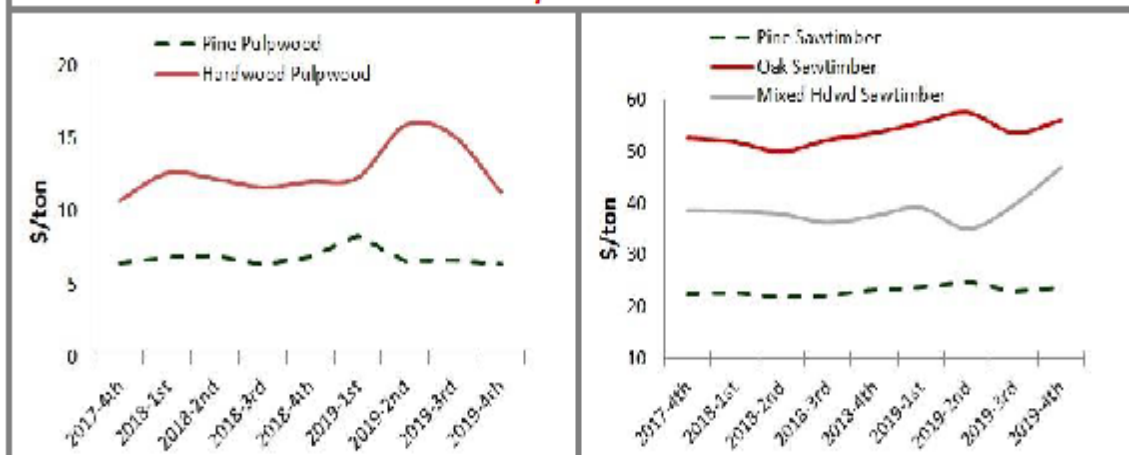
ARKANSAS FOREST
RESOURCES CENTER

The Arkansas Timber Price Report is a quarterly report of timber stumpage prices in Arkansas. Survey data for this report are provided by [Timber Mart-South](#). The price summary is provided to illustrate current, statewide market trends in timber product values for standing timber. These values may not reflect the stumpage values for a particular tract of timber. Timber prices may vary greatly depending on many factors including: location in the state, species, products, access, distance to mills, and site conditions. To obtain a report visit www.uaex.edu and go to the Environment and Nature tab, or www.afrc.uamont.edu. You can also contact your local county Extension agent. If you have questions about the report, please contact: Dr. Kyle Cunningham at 501-671-2145 or kcunningham@uaex.edu.

4th Quarter 2019 Stumpage Prices (\$/ton, statewide average)

Product	Price	Change
Pine Sawtimber	\$ 24.00	4 %
Oak Sawtimber	\$ 56.00	3.7 %
Mixed Hardwood Sawtimber	\$ 47.00	17 %
Pine Chip-n-Saw	\$ 15.00	7 %
Pine Pulpwood	\$ 6.00	-14 %
Hardwood Pulpwood	\$ 11.00	-27%

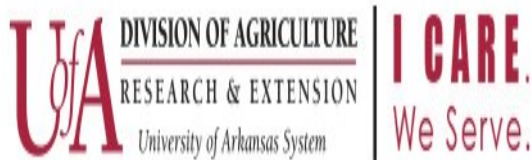
Time Series by Quarter Since 2017



Trends: Stumpage prices were variable for most products in the 4th quarter of 2019. White oak log demand remained high; however, significant reductions in hardwood exports have begun to impact red oak log prices. Somewhat dry conditions decreased demand for most products, having negative impacts on demand for logs. A loss in pulpwood mill capacities due to closures and conversions began to impact pulpwood prices, particularly hardwood pulpwood, which may become a difficult product to move across the state for the short term.

Timber Mart-South has more detailed data available by subscription that contains products and regions not included in this report. TMS is compiled and produced at the Center for Forest Business, Warnell School of Forest Resources, University of Georgia, under contract with the Frank W. Norris Foundation, a non-profit corporation serving the forest products industry.

It is the policy of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture that no person shall be discriminated against in hiring, assignment, transfer, promotion, termination, compensation, or terms, conditions, and privileges of employment on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status.



Robin D. Bridges
County Extension Agent
Staff Chair
Union County
UofA Cooperative Extension Service
307 American Road
Suite 101
El Dorado, AR 71730
Ph: 870-864-1916
Fax: 870-864-1919

All meetings and activities announced in this newsletter are open to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should notify the county Extension Office as soon as possible prior to the activity.