

2011 Appalachian Hardwood Verified Sustainable Resource Guide



Appalachian Hardwoods Are Sustainable

The hardwood lumber resource from Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.'s territory is meeting the needs of today without compromising those of future generations - sustainably.

The resource from the Appalachian Hardwood Forest is more than sustainable by this definition and is actually banking trees for the future at a rate of 2.29 trees for each tree that is harvested AND dying combined. The research was completed by the U.S. Forest Service in its Forest Inventory and Analysis.

"We have known for several years that natural regeneration and forest management in the Appalachian region was providing a stable timber base," said AHMI President Tom Inman. "This analysis verifies that and extends it further to show that in the 344 counties of the Appalachian Region as AHMI defines it, the growth to removal ratio is more than 2.29 to 1.

"We believe this goes beyond basic sustainability and verifies an expanding resource and timber base for the future," he said.

AHMI is a regional trade association headquartered in High Point, NC. Its mission is to promote the hardwood timber and products from the Appalachian Region of the eastern United States.

The following guide is a listing of the companies who are members of the association. This includes sawmills, concentration yards, wholesalers, foresters, secondary manufacturers and suppliers.

The association's bylaws dictate the producing region as 344 counties in 12 states. These counties must meet elevation, soil composition and climate requirements to be included.

AHMI staff asked U.S. Forest Service officials to research the FIA data for this area and compare with the past 20 years. The analysis discovered the Appalachian Hardwood timber base has grown to more than 65.4 million acres, up 300,000 acres since 1990, and includes more than 115 billion cubic feet of trees.

"The public is becoming more interested in sustainable resources and green building and

our research proves that the Appalachian Hardwood Forest exceeds simple sustainability levels and definitions," Inman said. "Consumers can be assured when they purchase hardwood products from lumber manufactured from AHMI members that the resource is sustaining more growth than harvest. The data shows that Appalachian is synonymous with sustainable."

According to the U.S. Forest Service bulletin SRS-142, considerable attention has been given to the Appalachian Region in the Eastern United States because of its scenic beauty, rich biodiversity, and abundance of natural resources. Of particular importance are the hardwood forests that dominate the Appalachian landscape.

Questions surrounding the sustainability of the Appalachian hardwood resource are repeatedly being asked. While growth and removals of hardwood volume are not the only indicators of the sustainability of Appalachian hardwood forests, understanding how much wood is being grown and removed in the AHR is a key component in assessing the sustainability of the resource.

"It is apparent from the results of this analysis that overharvesting is not occurring at the landscape scale of the AHR. Volume from annual growth is estimated to be twice that of annual removals volume. The positive growth to removals relationship bodes well for the future of this important hardwood region," the report states.

AHMI members can provide customers with documents verifying that the Appalachian Hardwood Timber was manufactured from the AHMI territory.

AHMI was founded in 1928 and represents more than 200 lumber manufacturers, distributors, consumers, foresters and suppliers to the industry. Please visit www.appalachianhardwood.info for more information on the sustainability program and www.appalachianhardwood.org for information on the association and its membership.

AHMI FORESTRY MEMBERS

Below is the list of AHMI Forestry Division members. Information includes the company name, certification scheme if applicable, location, telephone, fax, contacts, email and website:

Balkentier, 1143 Aarons Creek Road, Morgantown, WV, 26508, Tel. 304-282-5417, Fax 304-291-3472, Curt C. Hassler, Tim Pahl, curth@mail.wvnet.edu

Berwind Land Co., 300 Summers St. Ste. 1050, Charleston, WV, 25301, Tel. 304-346-0569 x.105, Fax 304-346-6516, Dale Wise, Randy Wright, relliott@wvdsi.net

Coastal Timberlands Company, PO Box 709, Buckhannon, WV, 26201, Tel. 304-472-2854, Fax 304-472-2388, Ed McCoy, Ed Kraynak, emccoy@coastaltimberlands.com

Columbia Forest Products, PO Box 1148, Old Fort, NC, 28762, Tel. 828-724-4191, Fax 828-724-4517, Jim Sitts, Reed Morgan, Greg Decker, jsitts@columbiaforestproducts.com, www.columbiaforestproducts.com

Fiber Trade, LLC, 21259 Jade Woods Drive, Bristol, VA, 24202, Tel. 276-608-6500, Fax 276-466-4893, Steve Morris, Karl Kindig, Walt Crickmer, landmanagement13@comcast.net

Forecon, Inc., PO Box 228, Elkins, WV, 26241, Tel. 304-636-9336, Fax 304-636-9337, Rich Depp, Jason Wenrich, John Gifford, rdepp@foreconinc.com, www.foreconinc.com

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MeadWestvaco Corp., PO Box 577, Rupert, WV, 25984, Tel. 1-843-851-4686, Fax 1-843-851-4642, Trenor L. Hypes, Joe Lancaster, Mark Rogers, trenor.hypes@MWV.com, www.mwv.com

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