



Since 1928

The Standard

Newsletter of APPALACHIAN Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.



June 2009

Conference Discusses Markets, Certification

Domestic and international markets for hardwood lumber and certification options will be the focus of the Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. 2009 Summer Conference.

Set for Aug. 1-4, the conference returns to The Homestead, Hot Springs, VA. The Monday business session will offer presentations on domestic and international markets from a panel of AHMI members and Michael Snow, executive director of the American Hardwood Export Council.

The panel will offer insight into their operations and markets as they see it. Snow will discuss developing markets for American Hardwoods around the world.

**Appalachian
2009 Summer
Conference**
August 1 - 4



AHEC has recently completed research on markets in India, Australia and the Middle East. Snow will discuss this as well as offer reports on efforts in existing markets in Europe, Asia and Mexico.

AHMI will announce a partnership with three or
(See Meeting on page 3)

USDA Publishes Appalachian Forest Report

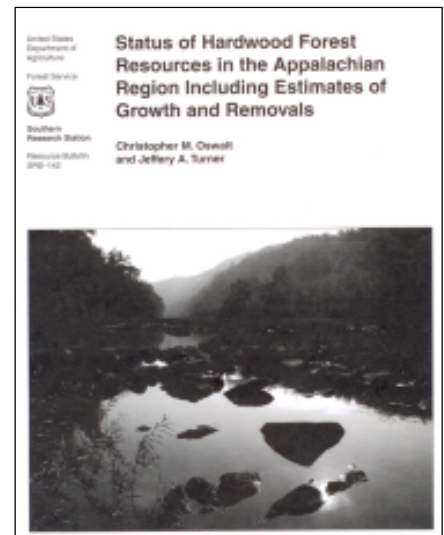
ASHEVILLE, NC - It's official. The U.S. Forest Service published its analysis of the Appalachian Hardwood Forest and found that growth continues to outpace removals by more than 2 to 1.

USFS Resource Bulletin SRS-142 was published in May to report the Status of Hardwood Forest Resources in the Appalachian Region. Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. requested this research from the US Forest Service in 2007 and the bulletin completes the effort.

"It is apparent from the results of this analysis that overharvesting is not occurring on the landscape scale of the Appalachian Hardwood Resource," the report states. "The positive growth to removals relationship bodes well for the future of this important hardwood region."

The Forest Service analyzed the data from the 344 counties of the Appalachian Region as defined by AHMI. The research is the basis for the AHMI promotion, Appalachian Hardwood Verified Sustainable.

"We have been waiting for this peer-reviewed bulletin to broadcast far and wide the outstanding hardwoods we have in the Appalachian Region and that we are exceeding sustainability," said Tom Inman, AHMI president. "We have copies of the report in the office for companies to use educating their customers about our resource."



**For a copy of SRS-142,
contact the AHMI office or
your local USFS office**

AHMI, P.O. Box 427, High Point, NC 27261
phone: 336-885-8315 fax: 336-886-8865
e mail: info@appalachianwood.org
web: www.appalachianwood.org

APPALACHIAN Future Meetings

2009 Summer Conference - Aug. 1-4
The Homestead, Hot Springs, VA
2010 Annual Meeting - Feb. 24 - Feb. 28
Long Boat Key Club, Long Boat Key, FL

The way I see it...

By Tom Inman, AHMI President

....the U.S. Forest Service got it right.

The final chapter of the Appalachian Hardwood Forest sustainability message has been written and it is good news. If we did not grow another tree, it would take 90 years to harvest the standing inventory in the Appalachian Forest.

But we are growing trees. At a rate better than 2 to 1, according to this analysis and banking trees sustainably for the future.

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. has been promoting the Verified Sustainable program for two years now with more than 110 AHMI members actively involved. Thousands of certificates, letters, labels and more are all over the world.

And now the completion of our work: the published white paper from the U.S. Forest Service on the Status of Hardwood Forest Resources in the Appalachian Region Including Estimate of Growth and Removals.

In its conclusions, the report notes that "growth and removals 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."

Agreed. So how much is growing?

There are 65 million acres of timberland in the AHR as we define it and 91 percent of that forest is covered with hardwoods. This has increased marginally in the past 20 years.

There is currently an inventory of 115 billion cubic feet of live hardwood trees in the AHR. The annual growth added to these trees has averaged 2.4 billion cubic feet over the past 20 years.

The key finding: we remove slightly more than 1.0 billion cubic feet annually. We are harvesting about 47 percent of the annual growth, less than half, and have this vast inventory already there.

Now that's what I call sustainability. That's what AHMI is calling sustainability and that's what our customers can be assured of when making purchases.

Consumers respond positively when you present them with facts and the facts are in. Fortunately in a U.S. Department of Agriculture report that is fairly easy to understand.

We are happy to provide you with copies of the report and can explain the data to your sales team to spread the word:

Appalachian = Sustainable



HIGH POINT - Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. welcomes the following new member to the association:

Distributor

Doug Younts
Y&Y Hardwoods, LLC
626 John Young Road
Lexington, NC 27292

FSC Certified Markets Forum Set In Greensboro

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. is co-sponsoring the first "Growing Green Wood Markets: A forum on FSC certified forest product markets" that is June 23 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, in Greensboro, NC.

Forest products companies, TIMOs, landowners, green builders, FSC staff and others will gather to discuss current markets and opportunities to expand markets for FSC certified forest products in the South and Appalachian regions.

The cost is \$35 (includes lunch) and CFE Credits: 1.5 hours for the chain of custody workshop & 4.5 hours for the forum, Category 1-CFE are available.

The forum is hosted by AHMI, The Community Forestry Business Alliance, Southern Forests Network, NCSU Forestry and Environmental Outreach Program, and Rainforest Alliance

The program begins at 9:30 am with a technical workshop on chain of custody certification. The forum begins at 11 am with introductions and a discussion on markets for FSC certified products.

The afternoon session includes market development panel discussions; organizing supply- forests and primary mills; strategies, opportunities, and challenges for facilitating a reliable supply of FSC certified solid wood products; facilitating local value - added processing- manufacturing and distribution; and concludes with strategies, opportunities, and challenges for connecting with local buyers.

For more information, contact the AHMI office at (336) 885-8315 or register online at www.appalachianwood.org/fscmarkets.

Meeting from page 1

ganizations to offer group forest land and chain of custody certification to AHMI member companies. The Southern Forest Network, the WoodNet Market Council, and Foresters Inc. will provide services to AHMI members seeking Forest Stewardship Council certification. The initiative will provide forms and a template approach for completing the process and paperwork involved with group certification. Many companies will find cost savings in a group approach.

The conference begins with an informal reception for early birds on Saturday, Aug. 1 in the Chairman's Suite at 6 p.m. On Sunday, Aug. 2, registration will open at 4 pm with all meeting materials distributed on site. The Welcoming Reception is at 6 p.m. on Sunday.

The business session begins Monday morning at 8:30 a.m. with golf, tennis and sporting clay tournaments Monday afternoon. A reception is scheduled for Monday evening. The AHMI Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday at 8 a.m.

The luxury resort offers finely appointed rooms and suites, superb dining, a myriad of sporting activities and outdoor adventure and is an AHMI member favorite destination for the summer. The AHMI group rate is the Modified American Plan and includes two meals each day.

AHMI last met at The Homestead in 2006. It is ranked among the world's finest golf and spa resorts and is steeped in the rich and timeless tradition of Southern hospitality that treats all visitors with a gracious and welcoming atmosphere.

A meeting registration form is included in this newsletter on page 6. Both registration forms are available online at www.appalachianwood.org. If you have questions, please call the AHMI office at 336-885-8315.

Congress Adds Hardwoods To Green Schools

The Hardwood Federation reported in May a huge victory for the U.S. hardwood industry as its efforts to amend the "Green Schools" bill to include hardwoods were successful.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a hardwood amendment by a vote of 425 to 7 and by voice vote final passage for "Green Schools" bill, H.R. 2187, specifically recognizing the environmental attributes of hardwoods. The bill authorizes more than \$6 billion for new and renovated school construction projects throughout the U.S. It originally had limited building products used under the program to those meeting LEED, Green Globes, Energy Star or equivalent

2009 AHMI Summer Conference Agenda

Saturday, Aug. 1

6 pm - Early arrival reception in Chairman's Suite

Sunday, Aug. 2

10 am *Optional* Golf for early arrivals (contact the AHMI office for details)

4-6 pm - Registration open for materials

6 -7 pm - Reception

Dinner on your own

Monday, Aug. 3

8:30 am - General Session

International Markets For American Hardwoods - Michael Snow, AHEC

Domestic Markets and Operations - Panel of AHMI members

Forest and Chain of Custody Group Certification Programs - WoodNet Market Council, Southern Forest Network and Foresters, Inc.

Hardwood Federation Challenge - Brad Thompson, Columbia Forest Products

12 noon - Golf Tournament

1 pm - Sporting Clays Tournament

2 pm - Tennis Tournament

6-7:30 pm - Reception

Dinner on your own

Tuesday, Aug. 4

8 a.m. AHMI Board of Trustees breakfast

lent state standards.

Working with the Hardwood Federation, Rep. Brad Ellsworth (D-IN) devised an amendment "to provide that nothing in the bill shall be construed to prohibit a local educational agency from using sustainable, domestic hardwood lumber for public school modernization, renovation, repairs, or construction... and to require agencies receiving grant funds under the bill to disclose whether any flooring installed was from renewable sources."

The bill now goes to the U.S. Senate and HF will be continuing to support this important official statement for hardwoods.

Foresters Learn Degraded Stand Strategy

PRINCETON, WV - Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.'s Forestry Division and the Appalachian Hardwood Forest Research Alliance trained 20 foresters in May with silvicultural prescriptions and guidelines for managing degraded upland hardwoods.

The program was held at the Wood Education Resource Center in Princeton, WV. The research was directed by Dr. Jeffrey Stringer, a forestry professor at the University of Kentucky.

The project looked at the significant acreage in the region which has been exploitatively managed or neglected. Most silviculture and management research has focused on well-stocked lands or ways to avoid degradation rather than how to rehabilitate stands.

The research found ways to identify the root causes of stand degradation and ways to initiate positive change in stand composition, quality and value. Foresters actually visited a stand and developed prescriptions for improvements.

"This was the fourth of four research projects AHFRA has completed and each have provided valuable information for professional foresters," said Tom Inman, AHMI president.

Stringer was awarded an AHFRA research grant



Dr. Jeff Stringer discusses silvicultural practices with foresters in West Virginia

in 2007 to develop silvicultural and management guidelines for rehabilitating degraded hardwood stands. For more information or to receive a copy of the materials, contact the AHMI office.

AHFRA was founded in 2005 to oversee research throughout the region. The coalition of forest land management companies received a U.S. Forest Service grant to fund the research work.

VT Changes College To Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation

BLACKSBURG, VA - The Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources announced that its Department of Forestry as changed its name to the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation to better reflect the breadth and depth of the many natural resource programs offered.

"The past two decades have brought a variety of changes to both the practice and profession of forestry in Virginia, the United States, and the world," explained Mike Kelly, dean of the college. These changes have paralleled and have been driven in part by the increasing demands for forest fiber, timber products, recreation amenities, wood-based fuel, clean water, biodiversity, and climate stabilization.

Forest industry and public land management agencies are restructuring and aligning their activities to improve forest sustainability. "This has made the need for leadership from Virginia Tech's Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation greater than ever before," elaborated Janaki



FORESTRY

Alavalapati, who became department head last fall.

"To position ourselves in creating the next generation of professionals and to better reflect and promote our activities, we are exploring a series of strategies," said Alavalapati. "We are making our curriculum more flexible and have established partnerships with community colleges so that students can more easily transfer to our program. We are developing new majors and options and revising existing ones, as well as improving our marketing efforts, along with renaming the department."

The College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech consistently ranks among the top three programs of its kind in the nation. Faculty members stress both the technical and human elements of natural resources and instill in students a sense of stewardship and land-use ethics. Areas of studies include environmental resource management, fisheries and wildlife sciences, forestry, geospatial and environmental analysis, natural resource recreation, urban forestry, wood science and forest products, geography, and international development.

Log Truck Profit Info

ROCKVILLE, MD - The Forest Resources Association has developed an Improving Log Trucking Profitability Workshop, in the form of a facilitated PowerPoint presentation, directed to loggers and log trucking managers. The CD-based Workshop reviews ways to ensure a full and legal load and presents tips and techniques for saving fuel, reducing truck tare weight, and deploying trucking assets more effectively.

"A facilitated workshop also provides a forum for trucking managers and loggers to share ideas of their own about ways to reduce trucking costs or improve net revenue," noted FRA Southwide Region Manager Rick Meyer, who oversaw development of the workshop. "The Workshop format encourages participants to share knowledge and build on each others' experiences."

FRA President Richard Lewis said trucking can present a significant barrier to wood supply chain efficiency. "As productivity has increased throughout the harvesting function, we haven't yet taken full advantage of similar opportunities for improvement in forest product transport," he said. "Moving wood from the landing to the first point of processing accounts for over 30% of the wood's delivered cost. FRA is working through the AgTEC Coalition with the American Loggers Council and others to raise truck weight limits on the Interstate System, but we also need to make efficiency improvements at the operational level."

Designed for a discussion leader with some knowledge of forest products trucking to present in an interactive setting, the 61-slide presentation provides material for a three-hour Workshop. A ten-page Discussion Leader's Guide, to cue the facilitator through the session, is included along with the PowerPoint CD.

FRA members may order the CD and Guide at \$50 per set, domestic shipping included; the price is \$100 per set for non-members. Please enclose payment with order, checks payable to "FRA"; charge orders may be faxed to 301/838-9481. Direct orders to Forest Resources Association Inc., 600 Jefferson Plaza, Suite 350, Rockville, MD 20852, phone 301-838-9385, and refer to stock number 08-A-1.

The Forest Resources Association Inc. is a non-profit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers.

Stickley Furniture Adds Upholstery Plant In NC

ARCHDALE, NC — L.& J.G. Stickley Furniture says it plans to expand its manufacturing presence here with a new plant for its recently acquired Nichols & Stone division, according to *Furniture Today*.

The company, which already employs 165 at an upholstery plant here, is converting a leased warehouse at 701 Eden Terrace to manufacturing. The 35,000-square-foot building will be operational in about six months and will employ 20 workers within two years, said company Vice President Edward Audi.

Including the purchase of the building and equipment and other related expenses, the project will cost about \$880,000, he said.

The company has asked the city of Archdale and Randolph County to cover the \$11,250 cost to install a natural gas line to the property. Archdale City Council members agreed to cover half the expense at a meeting on May 26.

"We are cautiously optimistic about the future," Audi said. "We are already planning for the economic recovery."

OSHA Training Set In NC

The Southeastern Occupational Safety and Health Administration Training Institute (OTI) Education Center, through North Carolina State University, is offering three July workshops in Greensboro, NC, at The Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship. The programs are specifically designed for smaller businesses and all who seek a foundational understanding of OSHA's standards and requirements.

They are:

1) OTI 7510: Introduction to OSHA for Small Businesses Wednesday, July 8, 2009 to learn how OSHA procedures can prevent injuries and illnesses in your workplace

2) OTI 7845: OSHA Recordkeeping Seminar Wednesday, July 8, 2009 to learn to maintain and post injury and illness records per OSHA requirements

3) OTI 7500: Introduction to Safety and Health Management Thursday, July 9, 2009 to learn to implement an effective safety and health management system in your workplace

For more information, contact OTI, 909 Capability Drive, Suite 1600, Research IV, Raleigh, NC 27606 or telephone 1-800-227-0264 or email ies_services@ncsu.edu



APPALACHIAN Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.



2009 Summer Family Conference

The Homestead, Hot Springs, VA Aug. 1-4, 2009

To accurately plan the functions and make sure all participants are included on the Registration List, please complete this form and return it with your check or complete the credit card information below by July 3, 2009 to AHMI, P.O. Box 427, High Point, NC 27261.

MEETING REGISTRATION FEES:

AHMI MEMBER - \$230 per person

GUEST - \$330 per person

MEMBER SPOUSE - \$120

GUEST SPOUSE - \$220

ADULT CHILDREN - \$40

CHILDREN UNDER 18 FREE!

Full registration will be refunded on cancellations received by July 10, 2009. Cancellations received after that time will be subject to 50% forfeiture.

PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING FOR AHMI'S SUMMER FAMILY CONFERENCE

Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ FEE: \$ _____

Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ FEE: \$ _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

GOLF TOURNAMENT (Monday at 12 p.m. The Homestead Olde Course)

Name: _____ Hdcp _____ FEE: \$170

Name: _____ Hdcp _____ FEE: \$170

SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT (Monday at 1 p.m. The Homestead Shooting Club)

One round of 100 targets - Includes gun and ammunition

Name: _____ FEE: \$130

Name: _____ FEE: \$130

TENNIS TOURNAMENT (Monday at 2 p.m. on The Homestead courts)

Name: _____ FEE: \$30

Name: _____ FEE: \$30

Payment information

Check enclosed _____

Credit Card: VISA / MasterCard # _____

Total _____

Expiration date _____

Name on card: _____

Billing zip code _____

You may also register online at www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm

Room reservations may be made at www.thehomestead.com and enter the group code