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# Profiles of Midsouth Nonindustrial Private Forests and Owners

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## INTRODUCTION

Information about the nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) and owner is readily available from many sources, but it often is presented in a manner that obscures differences and similarities between NIPFs and other ownership categories. This bulletin summarizes NIPF resources within the Midsouth States (fig. 1) and compares NIPF traits with other ownership classes.

Much of the data in this bulletin has been presented elsewhere, but in a different format. The resource characteristics (tables 1–10) are presented in the most recent State reports published by the Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit (FIA) of the Southern Forest Experiment Station (Rudis et al. 1984, Birdsey 1983, vanHees 1980, Murphy 1978, Murphy 1977, Murphy 1976, Murphy 1975). The one exception is the “forest management type” data in table 3. These data were compiled by FIA analysts as part of a study of the South’s timber supply.

The NIPF category in tables 1–10 is made up of three types of owners: “Farmer,” “Miscellaneous Private: Individual,” and “Miscellaneous Private: Corporate.” Each is defined in the FIA State reports. During the period from 1974 to 1982, these ownership classes held 68.3 million of the Midsouth’s 99.0 million acres of timberland—69 percent. This proportionate share of total ownership is one of many possible criteria that could be used as a basis for comparing NIPFs to other ownership categories. Because 69 percent of the Midsouth timberland area is in NIPF, it seems reasonable to assume that various resource characteristics would be distributed in similar proportions, assuming particular ownership classes do not have a built-in bias for types of land owned, especially with regard to productivity. Deviations of forest attribute proportions from the area proportions indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the NIPF resource, mainly the result of man-induced disturbance.

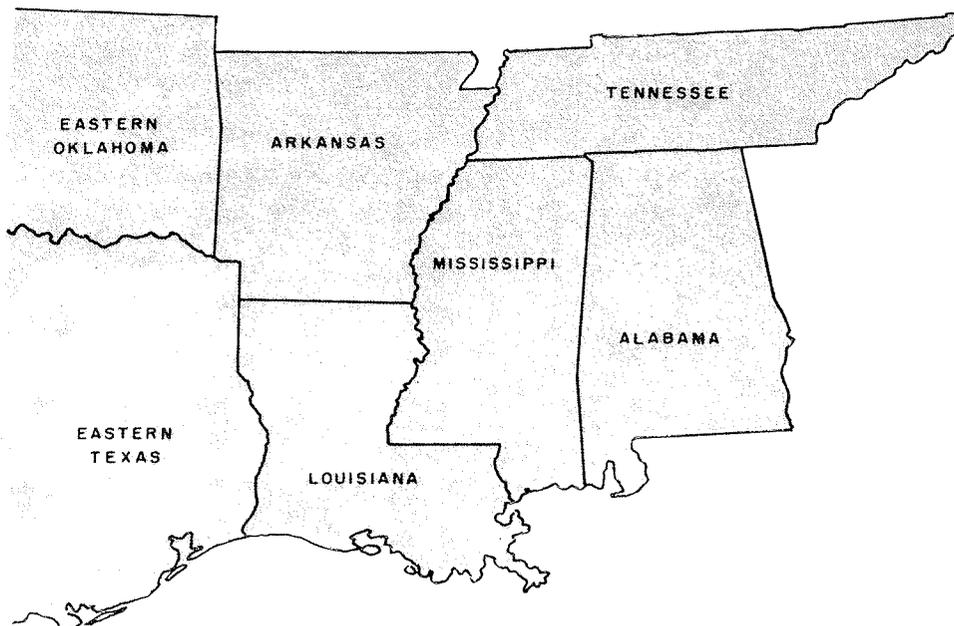


Figure 1.—Midsouth States surveyed by the Southern Forest Experiment Station.

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The landowner characteristics (tables 11–18) were collected for the nationwide study of private forest landowners in 1978 by the Forest Service and the Economic Research Service. Although published earlier for the Nation and various regions (Birch et al., 1982), data for each of the seven Midsouth States are presented here for the first time. State survey data collected between 1974 and 1982 were used in this bulletin because of the relevancy in time to the landowner characteristics data (1978), even though data is available from more recent Midsouth State surveys.

## THE NIPF RESOURCE

### Timberland Area

Figure 2 illustrates the relative distribution of the three major ownership categories: public, forest industry, and NIPF. Each symbol represents an approximate plot location and each plot location represents, on average, 5,700 acres. The map was formulated from data collected by FIA survey crews in conjunction with measurement of on-the-ground plots.

The Midsouth has 99.0 million acres of timberland, of which 68.3 million acres are NIPF. The proportion of the total timberland owned by NIPF owners in Midsouth States ranges from 57 percent in Arkansas to 82 percent in Tennessee (table 1 and fig. 3). The proportions in the remaining five States are very close to the average Midsouth proportion of 69 percent. Obviously, the Midsouth's capability to contribute to the Nation's timber supply depends heavily upon the availability, condition, and production of these 68.3 million acres.

Two States, Arkansas and Tennessee, diverge significantly from the Midsouth mean for proportion of NIPF ownership. Tennessee is far above the Midsouth NIPF acreage average because of the lack of forest industry commitment to timberland acquisition. This is because of the emphasis on the pine resource. Climatically and edaphically, Tennessee is at the northern margin of the southern pine region and is not an area that can be considered highly suitable for converting low value hardwood stands to pine. Pine will perform poorly on many of these sites; thus, there is little incentive for forest industry activity. In addition many Tennessee landowners have left their marginal lands in trees or have allowed once-cleared lands to revert to forest.

In contrast to Tennessee, Arkansas is far below the Midsouth mean. This is due to two situations. A large proportion of timberland is in the public domain, most of which is National Forest land; and there are substantial forest industry timberland holdings in the southern and western portions of the State (fig. 2).

### Stand-size Class

Forty-three percent of Midsouth timberland, 42.3 million acres, is in sawtimber stands. Of that, 65 percent is NIPF. Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi have the most acreage in NIPF sawtimber stands with 5.6, 5.1, and 5.1 million acres, respectively. Clearly, private landowner attitudes will have a direct impact on availability of the sawtimber resource.

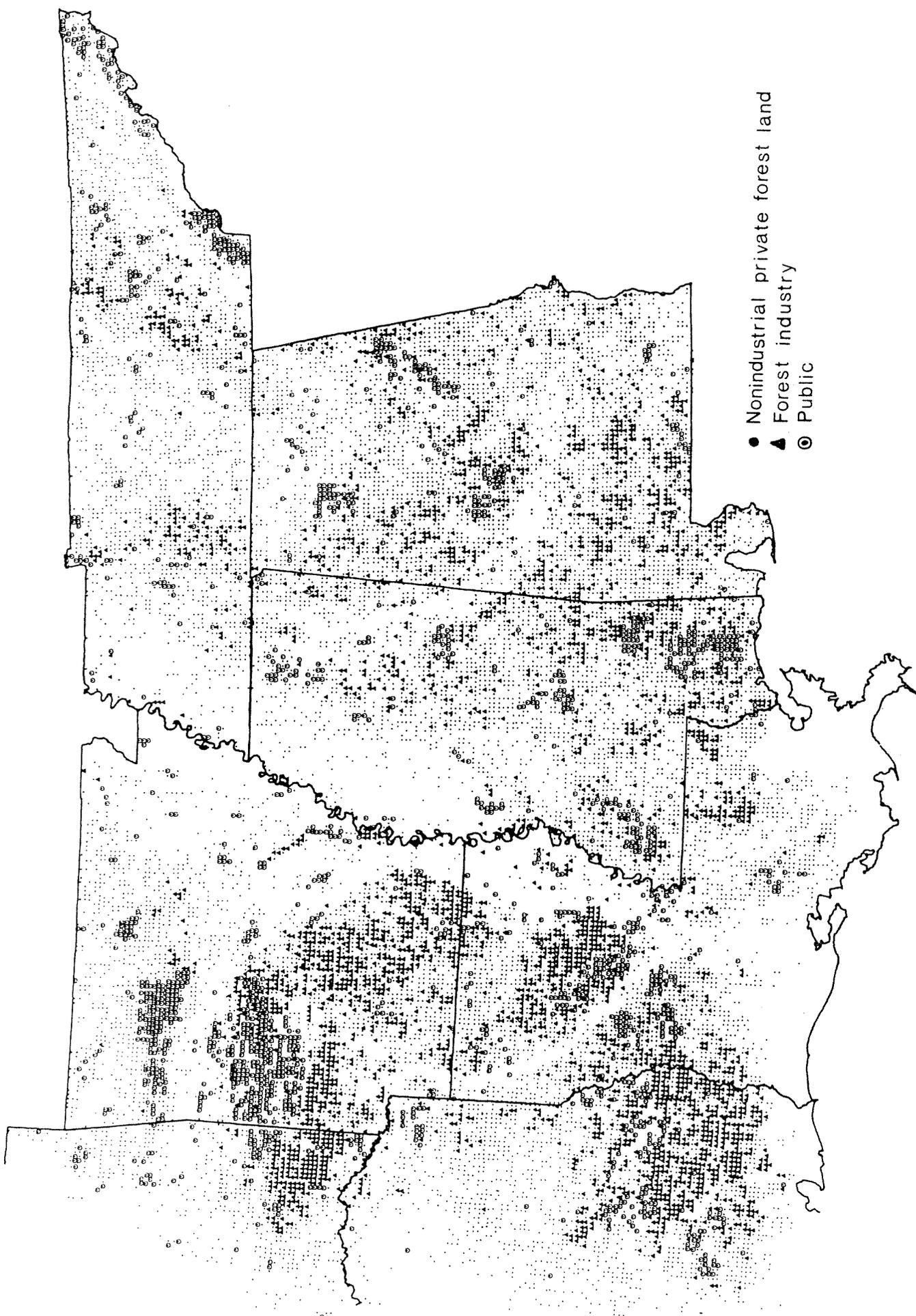
The most striking feature of the distribution of stand-size classes across ownerships is the disproportionate area in NIPF ownership that is nonstocked (table 2 and fig. 4). Midsouth-wide, nearly 84 percent of the 1.3 million nonstocked acres occur on NIPF. Among individual States, only Tennessee has a smaller proportion of nonstocked acres compared to total acres of NIPF. Alabama has an almost equal proportion of nonstocked to total acres.

Proportionately, sawtimber stands on NIPF are in relatively short supply in all Midsouth States except Tennessee. On the other hand, the proportion of pole-timber acres exceeds the proportion of total acres in most Midsouth States, and seedling and sapling acres are represented in expected proportion to total acres.

The amount of timberland by stand-size class gives a crude indication of the balance of forest stands with harvest rotations. Roughly one-third of the forest area should be in sawtimber, one-third in poletimber, and one-third in seedlings and saplings at any given time. Currently, the stand-size proportions on NIPFs are 40 percent, 34 percent, and 25 percent for sawtimber, poletimber, and seedling and sapling stands, respectively. Adequate proportions of sawtimber stands are available for the near future but there is concern that many harvested acres will not be regenerated in a timely manner and, consequently, much of this acreage will shift to a nonstocked or poorly stocked condition. Already, of the more than 17.5 million acres of poorly stocked timberland in the Midsouth, 77 percent is on NIPF.

### Forest Management Classes

Only 2.9 million of the Midsouth's 9.0 million acres of pine plantations are held by NIPF owners—about 32 percent (table 3 and fig. 5). Even though timber removals from NIPFs are below the proportionate share, the acreage of pine plantations on NIPFs is far below the area available (after removals) for stand establishment. Many NIPF owners may wish to rely on natural regeneration for reasons ranging from economical to ecological. However, indifference and/or lack of incentive may explain why so few plantations are on these lands. Unless owners have taken steps to put their timberland into a management plan, it is highly unlikely that a proportion of harvest money will be diverted to regeneration expenses. Instead,



- Nonindustrial private forest land
- ▲ Forest industry
- ⊙ Public

Figure 2.—Distribution of ownership in the MidSouth States. Each dot represents approximately 5,700 acres.

stands are replaced by natural responses, resulting in decreases in pine and subsequent increases in hardwood. Hardwoods have an accelerated advantage on such sites because of vegetative reproducing capabilities coupled with generally inadequate seed sources left for pine. Of the southern pines, only shortleaf pine is a significant sprouter and only on stumps from trees up to 6 to 8 inches in diameter. Loblolly pine only sprouts from 1- to 3-year-old seedlings. Therefore, adequate pine regeneration cannot rely on vegetative reproduction from these two species. Only purposeful input from artificial regeneration or seed trees will provide adequate pine stocking after harvest.

Natural pine is also proportionately under-represented on NIPF acres—59 percent for the Midsouth. Hardwoods are dominant on 38.9 million acres of NIPF—three-fourths of the region's hardwood acres. Upland hardwoods are over-represented to a greater extent than bottomland hardwoods—78 percent to 70 percent.

The distribution of management classes in the individual States follows the same general pattern as that for the region. Upland hardwoods are most frequently encountered on NIPFs in every State except Louisiana. Bottomland hardwoods and mixed pine-hardwoods occur in about the same proportion as total NIPF acres in most of the States.

## Forest Type

A detailed breakdown of forest type is presented in table 4. In all States, NIPF owners hold less than their proportionate share of the three pine forest types (including oak-pine) and in most States they own a larger proportion of the three hardwood forest types. These conditions exist because of geomorphology, site conditions, and stand history, and also because of continued removal of pine without efforts to ensure adequate regeneration.

The longleaf-slash pine forest type covers 3.8 million acres in the Midsouth. Three States, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi, hold 93 percent of the total resource. NIPF owners hold 49 percent of this acreage.

Of the 24.9 million acres in the loblolly-shortleaf pine forest type, 57 percent is on NIPF. Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and Louisiana have the most acreage in this type on NIPF. Most of the States have 60 percent of NIPF ownership in this type; Oklahoma and Arkansas stand out with only 31 and 38 percent respectively, on NIPF.

The proportion of NIPF ownership increases as the hardwood component in forest types increases. In the oak-pine forest type the Midsouth has 17.4 million acres; 64 percent of this on NIPF. Alabama and Mississippi have 3.3 million and 2.5 million acres, respectively, on NIPF.

The oak-hickory forest type occupies 34.5 million Midsouth acres of which 27.4 million acres are NIPF. Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi, together, have 80 percent of this forest type on NIPF.

The oak-gum-cypress type, with a Midsouth total of 16.2 million acres, is most prominent in Louisiana. Of Louisiana's 5.0 million acres, 3.8 million acres are NIPF. Louisiana and Mississippi, together, have 53 percent of the NIPF acreage in this forest type in the Midsouth.

## Stand Volume

The area of timberland in three major volume-per-acre classes is shown in table 5 and figure 6. Stands containing less than 1,500 board feet per acre (International 1/4 rule) are slightly more prominent on NIPFs in all States except Alabama. At the other extreme, stands containing more than 5,000 board feet per acre are proportionately more scarce on NIPFs in all seven States. A more detailed examination of timber volume on NIPF land is presented later.

## Site Class

The various site classes shown in table 6 and figure 7 occur on NIPF in proportions nearly equal to that of the total area of timberland in the Midsouth. Exceptions are in Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas where NIPF owners hold title to more than their proportionate share of poor sites. Overall, however, shortfalls in forest productivity on NIPF cannot be attributed to poor site conditions. Even though Arkansas has the most Midsouth acreage in the lowest site class category, 71 percent of it is on NIPF, close to the expected distribution among ownership classes.

## Growing-stock Characteristics

Softwood growing-stock volume, annual growth, annual removals, and mortality are shown in table 7. Figure 8 illustrates the proportion of cubic foot volume of each of these characteristics on NIPF. The relative volume-to-area ratios—57 percent to 69 percent—in the Midsouth illustrate the lower stocking levels and under-representation of sawtimber stands discussed previously. This same condition exists, varying only in degree, in each of the Midsouth States.

The other softwood growing-stock attributes—growth, removals, and mortality—are also analyzed by comparing the respective NIPF proportion with the NIPF area proportion. For the region as a whole, 62 percent of the net annual growth occurs on NIPF, 7 percent lower than expected. Three conditions can contribute to a lower growth-rate: a large proportion

of timberland acreage in very old stands; low stocking levels (fewer trees to contribute to stand growth); and a large percentage of acreage in very young stands. FIA does not measure tree growth until a tree becomes at least 5.0 inches in diameter and is of an acceptable (no cull) tree class. Thus, these very young stands contribute no growth in FIA data. Similarly, the NIPF annual removals proportion of total removals is substantially lower than the NIPF area proportion (56 percent to 69 percent). The mortality proportion is also less than the area proportion (61 percent to 69 percent). Since the softwood volume is less than expected in relation to area, it is logical that removals and mortality will also be closely tied with volume. Nonetheless, an NIPF weakness in one attribute will strengthen or weaken other attributes, correspondingly. In this instance, softwood removals and mortality are less than the expected proportion because there is less than the expected softwood volume to begin with.

The softwood volume on NIPF for the Midsouth averages 413 cubic feet per acre versus 689 cubic feet per acre for all other ownerships. This is a very large difference of 276 cubic feet per acre. On NIPF, volumes per acre range from 114 cubic feet in Oklahoma to 566 cubic feet in Louisiana. Alabama, Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee follow Louisiana with 500, 483, 471, 345, and 160 cubic feet per acre.

Average net annual growth for softwood on NIPF is 26 cubic feet per acre. This is 10 cubic feet per acre lower than that reported for all other ownerships. Excluding the bottomland physiographic class raises the net annual softwood growth to 32 cubic feet per acre on NIPF versus 43 cubic feet per acre on all other ownerships.

The softwood growth-to-removal ratio for the Midsouth on NIPF is 1.32. Individual States range from 1.02 for Alabama to 3.00 for Tennessee. Recent information suggests that the ratio for the Midsouth on NIPF land will approach 1.00 as industrial expansion will necessitate access to the NIPF resource where possible. If regeneration is not implemented on these harvested acres the growth-to-removal ratio will close to 1.00 very rapidly.

The proportion of the Midsouth's hardwood growing-stock volume on NIPF (72 percent) slightly exceeds the proportion of total timberland in NIPF ownerships (table 8 and fig. 9). The annual growth, annual removals, and mortality proportions also exceed but are very close to the NIPF area proportion in the Midsouth. Many of the States, however, diverge substantially from expected proportions of the above attributes.

Hardwood volume on NIPF in the Midsouth averages 538 cubic feet per acre versus 468 cubic feet per acre for all other lands. On NIPF, the volume per acre ranges from 805 cubic feet per acre in Tennessee to

241 cubic feet per acre in Oklahoma. Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas follow Tennessee with 559, 548, 520, and 382 cubic feet per acre, respectively. Per acre estimates are based on all timberland for hardwood computations.

Hardwood net annual growth averages 23 cubic feet per acre on NIPF in the Midsouth. On all other ownerships, hardwood net annual growth averages 19 cubic feet per acre. If softwood plantation acreage is excluded, net annual growth averages 24 cubic feet per acre on NIPF and 23 cubic feet per acre on all remaining ownerships. Net annual growth per acre ranges from a high of 33 cubic feet per acre in Tennessee to a low of 14 cubic feet per acre in Oklahoma.

The growth-to-removal ratios for Midsouth NIPF hardwoods is 2.03. Resource drain will not be a problem for hardwoods on NIPFs in the near future. The growth-to-removal ratios range from 3.36 in Oklahoma to 1.65 in Alabama. As more products are developed to utilize existing hardwoods, (particle board, etc.), the drain on the NIPF hardwood resource will increase substantially.

### Sawtimber Characteristics

The relatively low supply of pine sawtimber on NIPF has been illustrated already. Table 9 and figure 10 depict the softwood sawtimber situation from the perspectives of board-foot volume, annual growth, annual removals, and mortality. While holding 69 percent of timberland, NIPF owners have only 54 percent of the softwood sawtimber volume. In individual States, NIPF owners in Alabama come closest to owning their proportionate share of sawtimber volume. All other Midsouth States are below their expected volume. Almost one-third of NIPF softwood sawtimber volume in the Midsouth is in Alabama.

The proportion of softwood sawtimber net annual growth on NIPF, for the Midsouth, is about 10 percent less than expected. None of the individual States has softwood sawtimber growth above that of areal proportion. Again, Alabama is closer than any other State to expected growth.

Similarly, removals and mortality of softwood sawtimber are less than the proportion of area on NIPF. Oklahoma stands out with 64 percent of its timberland in NIPF but only 13 percent of softwood sawtimber removals are on these lands.

Hardwood sawtimber volume on NIPF is proportionately very close to NIPF forest acreage across the Midsouth and in each State (table 10 and fig. 11). The NIPF hardwood sawtimber resource is much more prominent than the softwood resource across the Midsouth. Alabama is the exception, where a strong softwood inventory also prevails on NIPF.

The growth, removals, and mortality attributes are also in equal proportion to area for the region. In

individual States exceptions are Oklahoma and Texas. Oklahoma has substantially higher hardwood sawtimber removals than expected. Mortality for hardwood sawtimber in Texas is also slightly higher than expected.

## THE NIPF OWNER

Tables 11–18 illustrate the distribution of the Midsouth's private landowners and the acres they own by several owner characteristics frequently used to describe NIPFs. The acreage totals in these tables are not directly comparable to those in tables 1–10 because they were computed differently and they pertain to all private owners including forest industry. However, if the 28.6 million acres owned by the "other" category in table 11 are subtracted from the 88.6-million-acre total, the remaining 60 million acres is close to the 68.3 million acres owned by farmers and miscellaneous categories included in tables 1–10.

Accurate estimates of the actual number of private owners (or "ownership units", as used here) are limited by the economics of sample size. The estimates in tables 11–18 are no exception, a point reflected in the large sampling errors shown in table 19. Consequently, these estimates must be used with caution. The distribution of acres among landowner attributes is more important than the distribution of ownership units from the standpoint of describing those owners who hold large proportions of the timberland. As shown in table 19, acreage estimates are much more accurate than owner estimates. Consequently, most of the emphasis here is on the acreage distributions.

### Types of Ownership

Excluding the "other" category, the largest proportions of the Midsouth's private timberland are owned by sole proprietors, families, and family partnerships—in that order (table 11 and fig. 12). This ownership pattern exists in each of the States except Louisiana, where family partners own more land than families, and in Oklahoma and Tennessee, where family ownerships are dominant. Nonfamily partnerships and family corporations own relatively small proportions of the timberland in each State.

The "other" category includes all corporations (except family corporations), noncorporate sport and recreation clubs, and undivided estates (Birch, et al, 1982). In the Midsouth, the bulk of these acres is owned by forest industries. As figure 12 indicates, this "other" category of ownership is dominant in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

### Occupation of Owners

Farmers own the largest proportion of private timberland in the United States—over 16 percent (Birch,

et al., 1982). In the Midsouth, this distinction belongs to retired people who own more than 17 percent of the private acres (table 12 and fig. 13). Farmers are third among the occupational categories with 13 percent, behind white collar workers who own nearly 15 percent. Retired people also own the largest share of timberland acres in each State except Arkansas and Oklahoma. White collar workers own larger shares in these two States.

The landowner estimates in table 12 indicate that retired people constitute by far the largest number of landowners as well—nearly 34 percent. Blue collar workers are a distant second (21 percent) while farmers comprise only about 9 percent of the owners. When the estimated number of owners in each occupational category is compared with the acres owned by the category, we find that farmers own an average of nearly 84 acres each, white collar workers own about 44 acres each, blue collar workers own about 26 acres each, and retired people own nearly 29 acres each.

An interesting side issue of the occupational distribution is the accuracy of the "farmer" occupational label. In the nationwide survey, timberland owners who identified themselves as farmers owned 11.5 million acres of timberland in the Midsouth (table 12). However, timberland owners placed in the "farmer" category during the State-by-State FIA forest survey own an estimated 19.3 million acres. This discrepancy, once again, makes the point that the "farmer" category, however defined, should be interpreted with caution.

### Age of Owners

Individuals 65 years and older own more than 22 percent of the Midsouth's private timberland acres—nearly 20 million acres (table 13 and fig. 14). An estimated 528 thousand owners are in this age category—one out of three private owners; so each owner has an average of nearly 38 acres of timberland. In Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee combined, this age group owns more than one-fourth of the private timberland, a total of 12.7 million acres. This ownership pattern has important implications because it is reasonable to assume that title to many of these forest acres will transfer to new owners within the next 5–10 years. Regardless of how much we know about the characteristics, management activities, and objectives of current owners such information quickly becomes obsolete when large acreages change hands.

At the other age extreme, individuals under 35 own less than 3 percent of the Midsouth's private timberland, and their average-sized holding is only 18 acres. Even though larger proportions of land are owned by these individuals in Oklahoma (10 percent) and Arkansas (5 percent), the area they own in those two States is only about 1.2 million acres. The significantly larger proportion of land owned by individuals

between the ages of 35 and 49 (13 percent in the Midsouth) may indicate the ages when most individuals begin inheriting timberland or begin acquiring it for various purposes.

### Sex and Race of Owners

The private timberland owners in the Midsouth are overwhelmingly white males. Males own more than 42 million of the nearly 52 million noncorporate acres—and whites own nearly 50 million of these acres—96 percent (table 14 and 15). In the Midsouth, female ownership is largest in Alabama where women own nearly 2.9 million acres—21 percent of the nearly 13 million noncorporate acres. Blacks own less than 1 million acres in any State except Mississippi; they own only about 2.9 million acres across the Midsouth. Oklahoma is the only State with significant acreage owned by other than the white and black races; others (primarily American Indians) own 390 thousand acres there and 450 thousand acres across the Midsouth.

Not only is the total timberland acreage owned by females and blacks relatively small, but the average acreage per ownership is quite low. Females own an average of about 30 acres each in the region, and the average black ownership is only slightly more than 17 acres. These averages contrast with the 41.5 acres and 41 acres owned by each male and white owner, respectively.

### Education

Nearly equal amounts of private timberland in the Midsouth are owned by individuals who have eight years or less of formal education, high school graduates, and college graduates (table 16 and fig. 15). This tri-modal distribution is evident in most of the States. The most obvious exception is in Tennessee where nearly 23 percent of the private timberland is owned by individuals with no more than a junior high school education.

When the acres owned are divided by the estimated number of owners in the three major education categories, the picture changes. Junior high “graduates” own an average of 25 acres each, high school graduates own 37 acres each, and college graduates own 55 acres each.

### Owner's Residence in Relation to Timberland

More than 54 percent of the private timberland in the Midsouth belongs to owners who live or, in the case of corporations, have headquarters in the county where at least a portion of their timberland is located

(table 17 and fig. 16). Another 20 percent of the land belongs to owners living in the same State, and about 16 percent belongs to out-of-State owners. The proportion of land owned by “same county” residents ranges from 38 percent in Louisiana to nearly 72 percent in Tennessee. In all States except Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas the rate is about 50 percent. Louisiana and Oklahoma contain relatively large acreages owned by residents of other States or countries.

Even though “same county” residents own a majority of the timberland, their average ownership is significantly smaller than that of “absentee” owners. The averages are 38 acres for “same county” owners, 149 acres for “same state” owners, and 190 acres for “different state” owners. The inclusion of corporations, which tend to be headquartered in metropolitan areas, accounts for some of the difference in averages.

### Size of Holding

The vast majority of individual owners of timberland own very small tracts. The national survey found that more than 5.5 million owners—71 percent of the estimated total—have tracts containing less than 10 acres of timberland (Birch, et al., 1982). In the Midsouth 1 million such owners collectively own only 2 percent of private timberland (table 18 and fig. 17). Timber production potential is quite low on these 2 million scattered acres.

The next two size categories (10–49 acres and 50–99 acres) are more problematic in terms of timber management potential. An estimated 400 thousand individuals own these 15.5 million acres, an average of less than 40 acres per owner. Among the States, Mississippi typifies the region very closely. There, an estimated 65 thousand own 2.5 million acres in the 10–49 and 50–99 acre categories. If these owners were evenly distributed over the State's 82 counties, which certainly they are not, there would be nearly 800 per county. Just making contact with this many owners would strain the service forestry sector—public and private—in that State.

For the 100–499-acre size category, the picture changes dramatically. This category includes about one-half of the non-corporate acres (nearly 30 percent of all privately owned land), but only about 9 percent of the owners—some 136 thousand. The pattern is the same in practically every State. The data in table 12 indicate that about 52 million acres are in the private, individual category in the Midsouth. If we add the acres in the size categories in table 18, we find that nearly 44 million acres are included in the first four categories (up to the 499-acre size category). We can conclude, then, that only about 8 million individually owned acres are in ownership units larger than 500 acres.

## CONCLUSIONS

Nonindustrial private forests and owners are extremely diverse regardless of the dimensions used to describe them; consequently, generalizations for large areas and populations have limited use beyond planning general strategy and policy for these forests and owners. With that note of caution, we offer the following conclusions from this analysis of the Midsouth NIPF's and owners.

The condition of the nonindustrial private forest reflects the general neglect of its owners to practice intensive forest management. Poor stocking and low volumes-per-acre suggest that many NIPF owners are doing little to improve the status of their stands. The failure of owners to regenerate pine stands following harvest is well documented (Fecso et al., 1982), and the relatively small areas in pine plantations and natural pine along with a disproportionately large area of upland hardwoods illustrate that failure here. On the other hand, NIPF owners have near their proportionate share of seedling/sapling and poletimber areas, but their small proportion of sawtimber areas and volume may indicate that timber is being harvested before it is mature.

Growth, removals, and mortality do not appear to be problems in NIPFs. Given the proportional distribution of site classes and the room to grow in poorly stocked stands, radial growth is occurring at about the expected rate.

The advanced age and retired status of the owners of a large portion of NIPF land in the Midsouth may have important implications for the future management and productivity of the forests. A recent study in Mississippi indicated that a major ownership objective of individuals 65 years of age and older was to pass the land to their heirs (Doolittle et al., 1986). These owners often expressed a reluctance to invest in improvements because they were unlikely to see immediate results; leaving the timberland as it is appeared to be a more important consideration. More intensive study is needed of the nearly 20 million acres held by these senior citizens.

From a practical point of view, approximately 2,000,000 acres of small-tract timberland should not be considered a contributor to timber production in the Midsouth. This land does make an important contribution to the "green belt" in the form of aesthetics, wildlife protection, and ownership enjoyment.

Tracts from 10–100 acre-sized stands won't contribute heavily because of the difficulty of reaching and advising the 400 thousand owners. That, coupled with the economics of harvesting such small areas, puts these areas in doubt as contributors to the timber supply. In all likelihood, these areas will be cut when the opportunity arises with little or no management

input regarding rotation, thinning, harvesting, and regeneration.

If there is to be a concentration of effort to improve the management and timber production on NIPF land, the approximately 26 million acres in ownership units of 100 to 500 acres would appear to be the logical place to begin. The number of owners of these acres is not unmanageable from a service forestry standpoint, and improvement on their lands would make a dramatic change in the overall NIPF picture.

Finally, recent changes in the tax law may have a significant impact on the NIPF resource in future years. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 has eliminated two important tax benefits to NIPF owners: the capital gains tax and income averaging.

Beginning January 1, 1987, capital gains will be taxed as ordinary income up to a maximum 28 percent. This will mean a substantial increase in taxes for the small timber producer.

NIPF owners often sell their timber and receive all income in one taxable year. Income averaging spreads this income over a three-year period to reduce the tax burden. Beginning January 1, 1987, income averaging will not be allowed.

Still allowed under the new tax law are amortization and tax credits for reforestation expenses, and capitalization of costs. However, even with the retention of these two tax features, incentive is likely to decline for NIPF owners to actively pursue and invoke programs to manage their timberland because of the loss of capital gains and income averaging. It remains to be seen what impact this will have on the NIPF contribution to the timber inventory.

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## Appendix

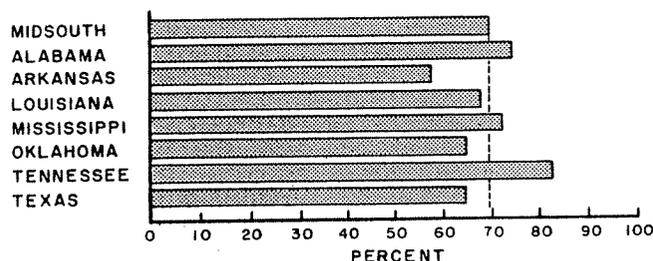


Figure 3.—Proportion of total timberland owned by private non-industrial owners, Midsouth States and region.

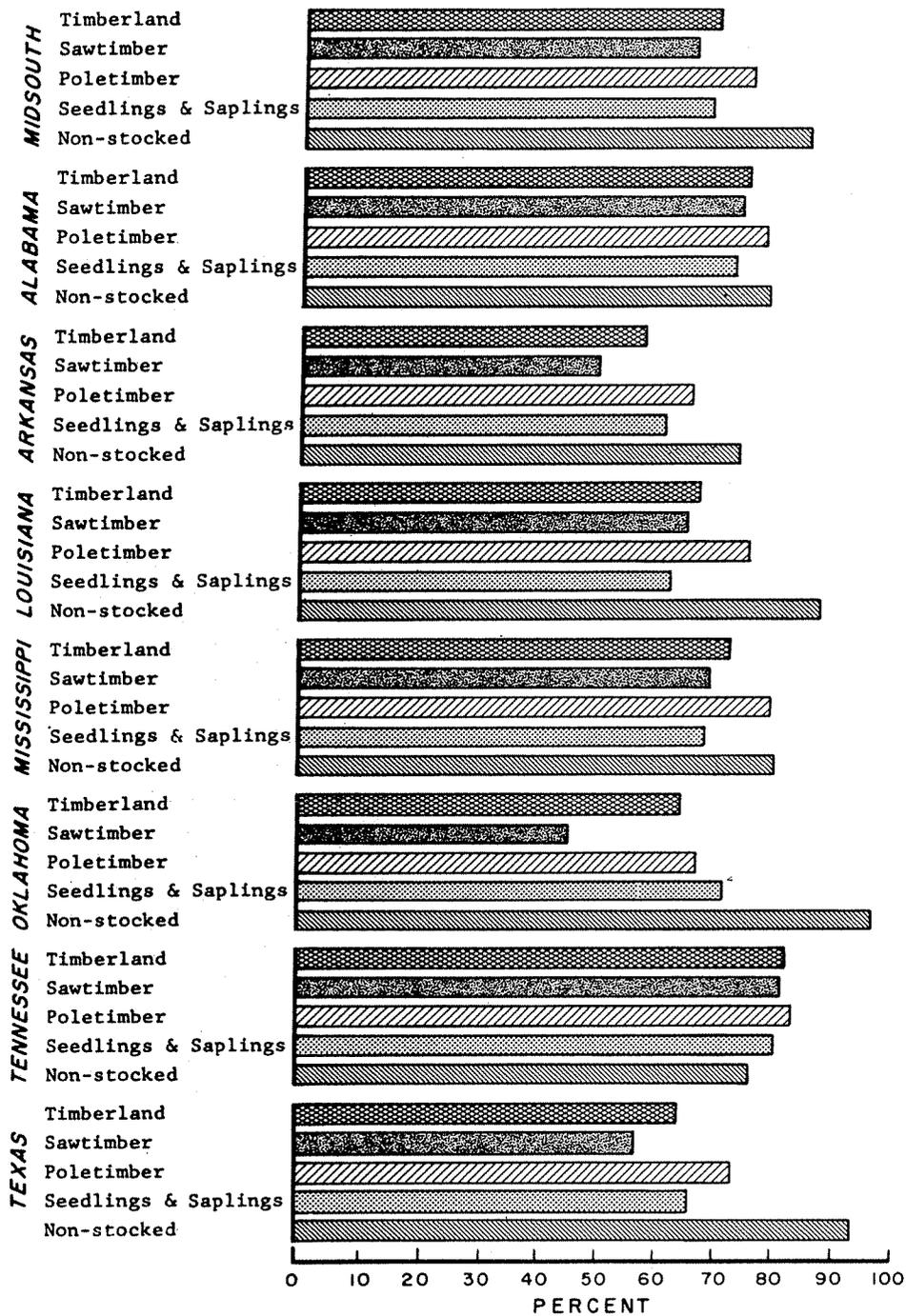


Figure 4.—Proportion of total timberland and total stand-size class area in NIPF ownership, Midsouth States and region.

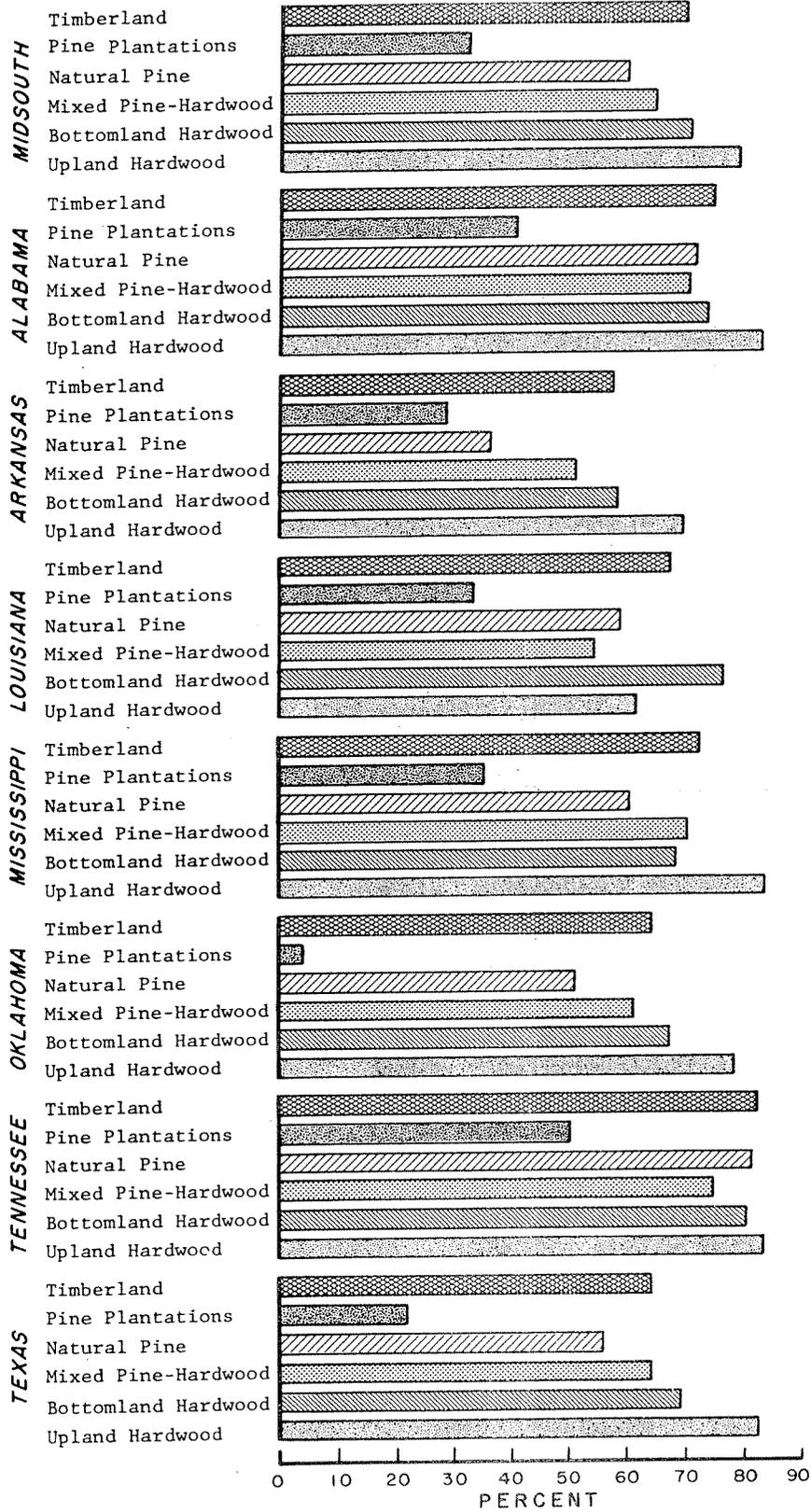


Figure 5.—Proportion of total timberland and total forest management type area in NIPF ownership, Midsouth States and region.

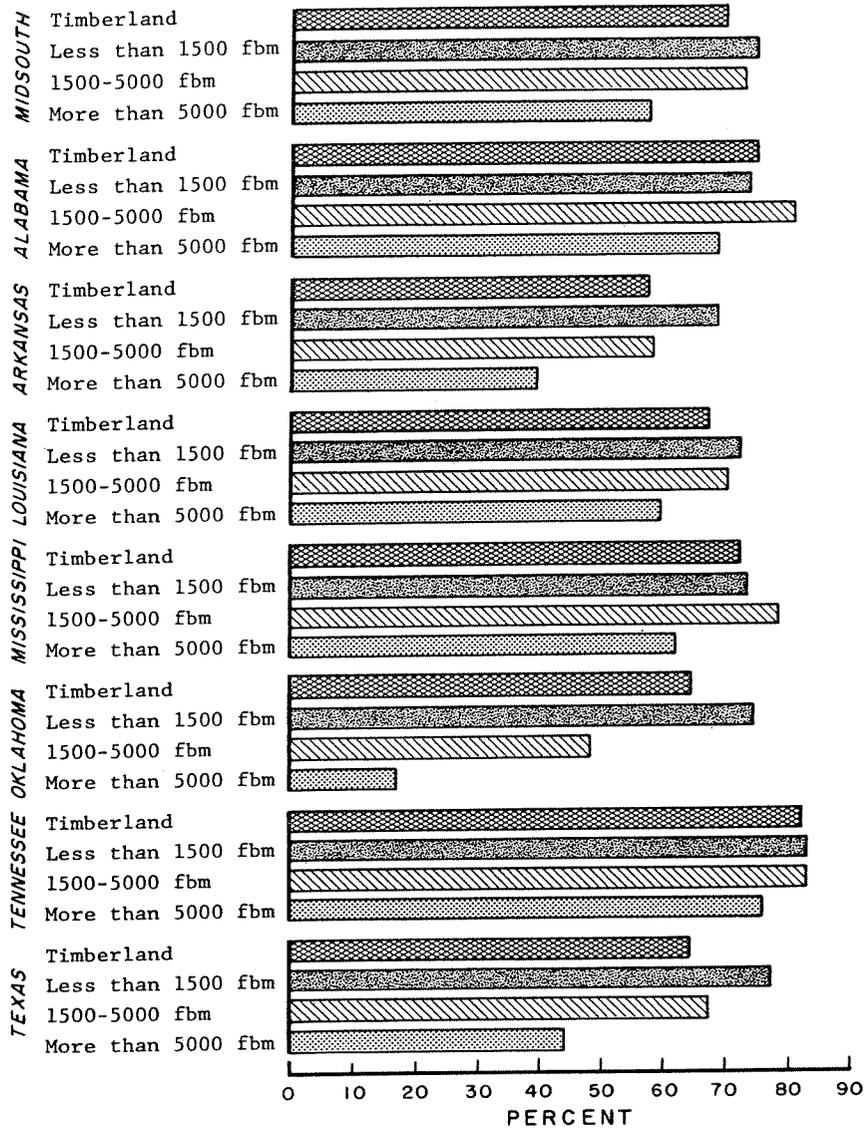


Figure 6.—Proportion of total timberland and total stand volume per acre in NIPF ownership, Midsouth States and region.

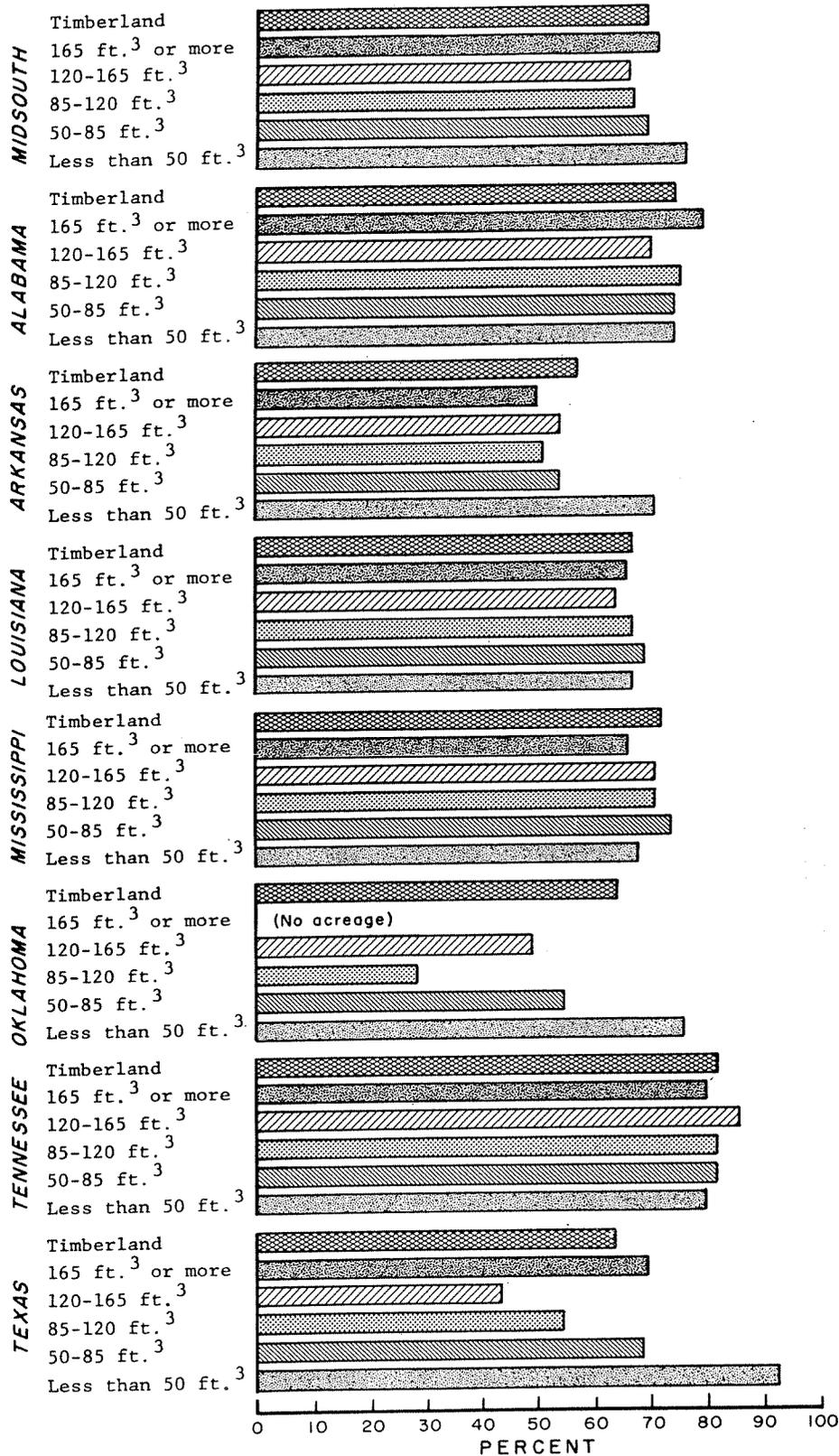


Figure 7.—Proportion of total timberland and total site-class area in NIPF ownership, Midsouth States and region.

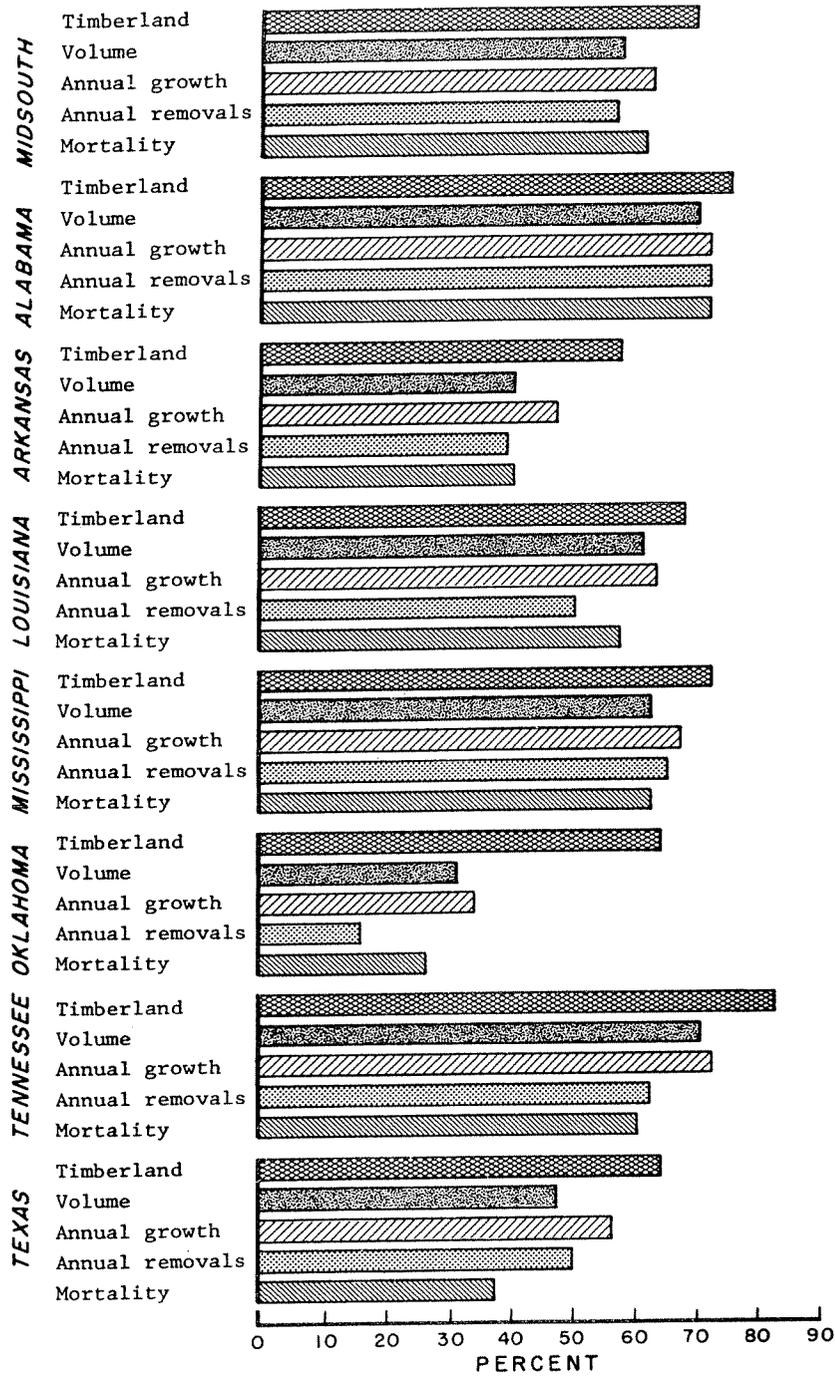


Figure 8.—Proportion of total timberland and total softwood growing-stock volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality on NIPF land, Midsouth States and region.

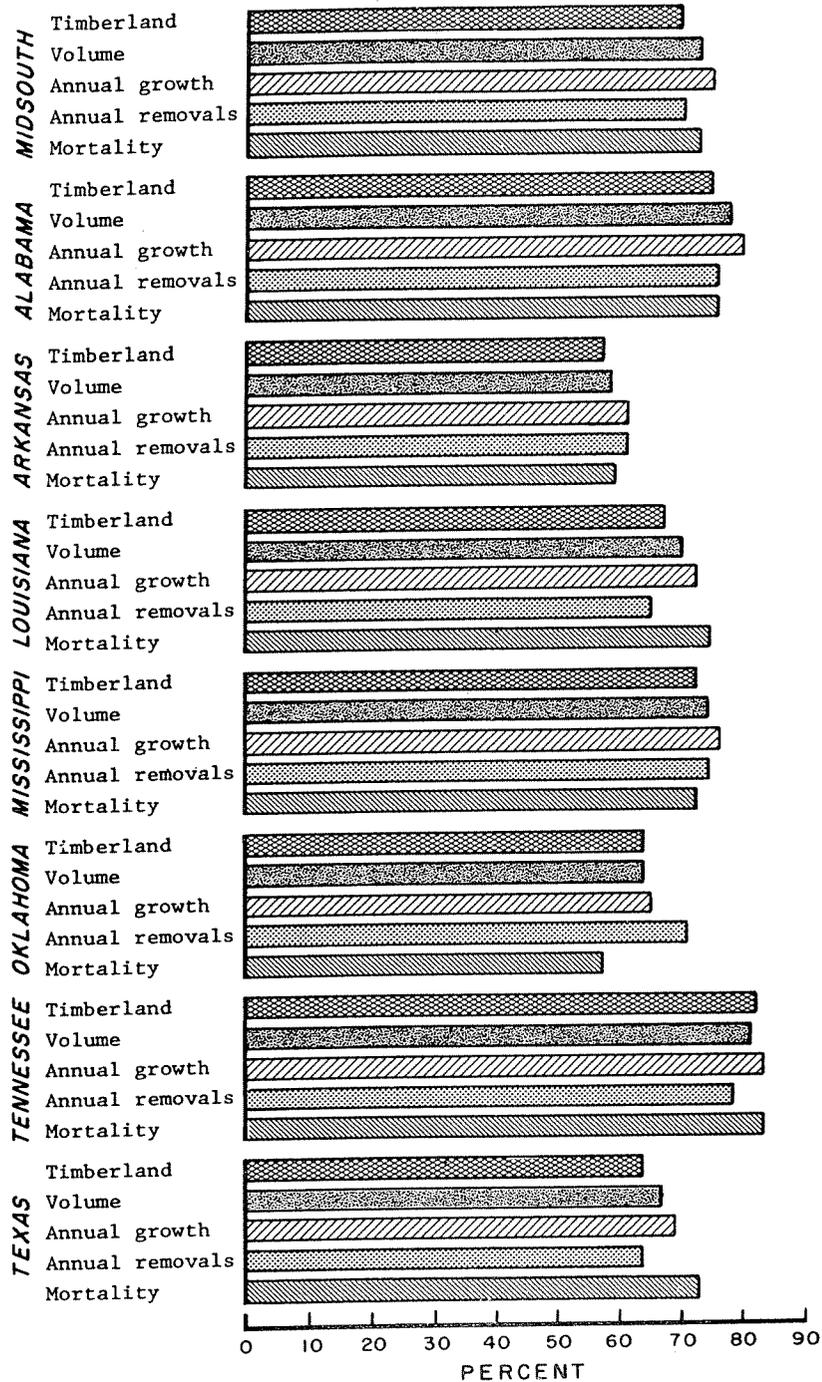


Figure 9.—Proportion of total timberland and total hardwood growing-stock volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality on NIPF land, Midsouth States and region.

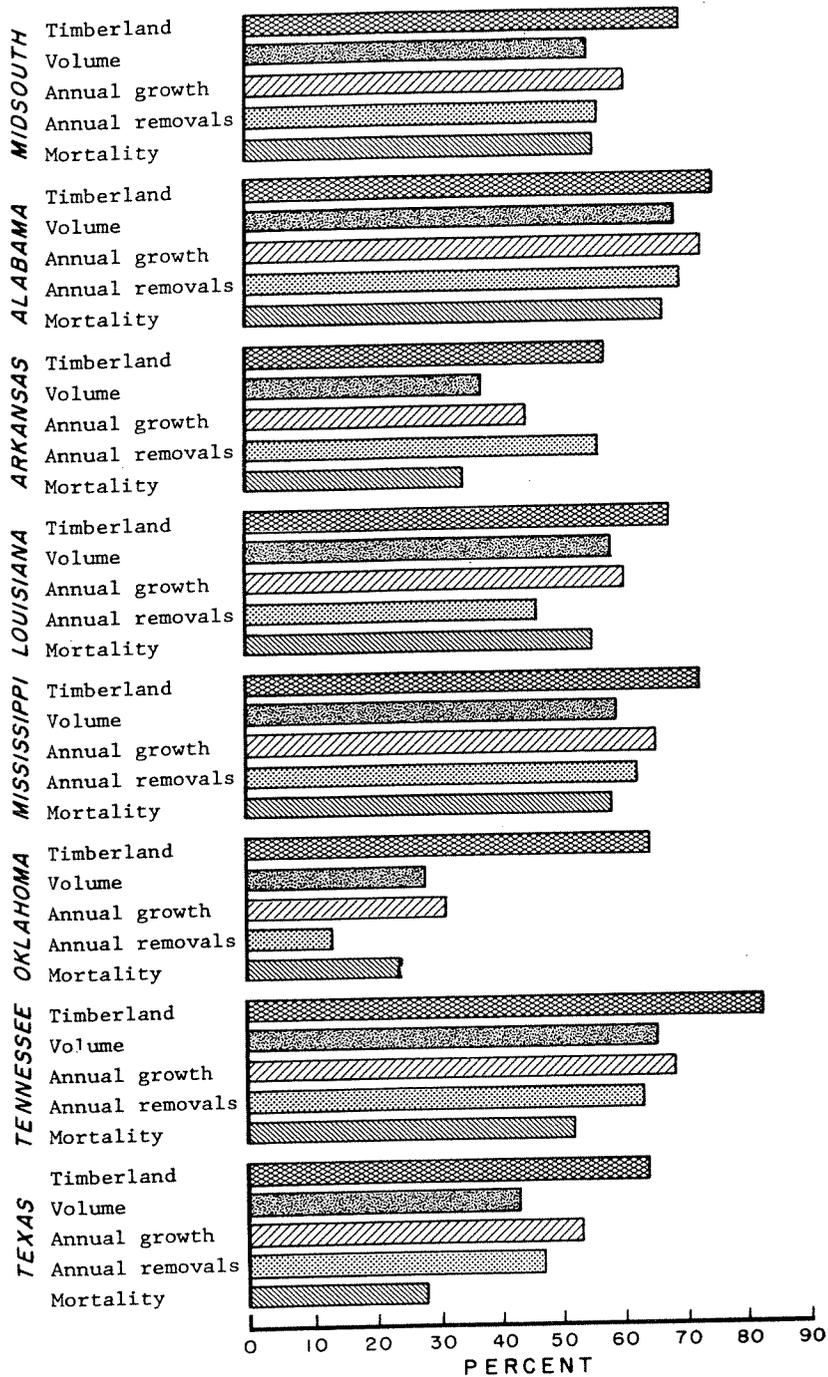


Figure 10.—Proportion of total timberland and total softwood sawtimber volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality on NIPF land, Midsouth States and region.

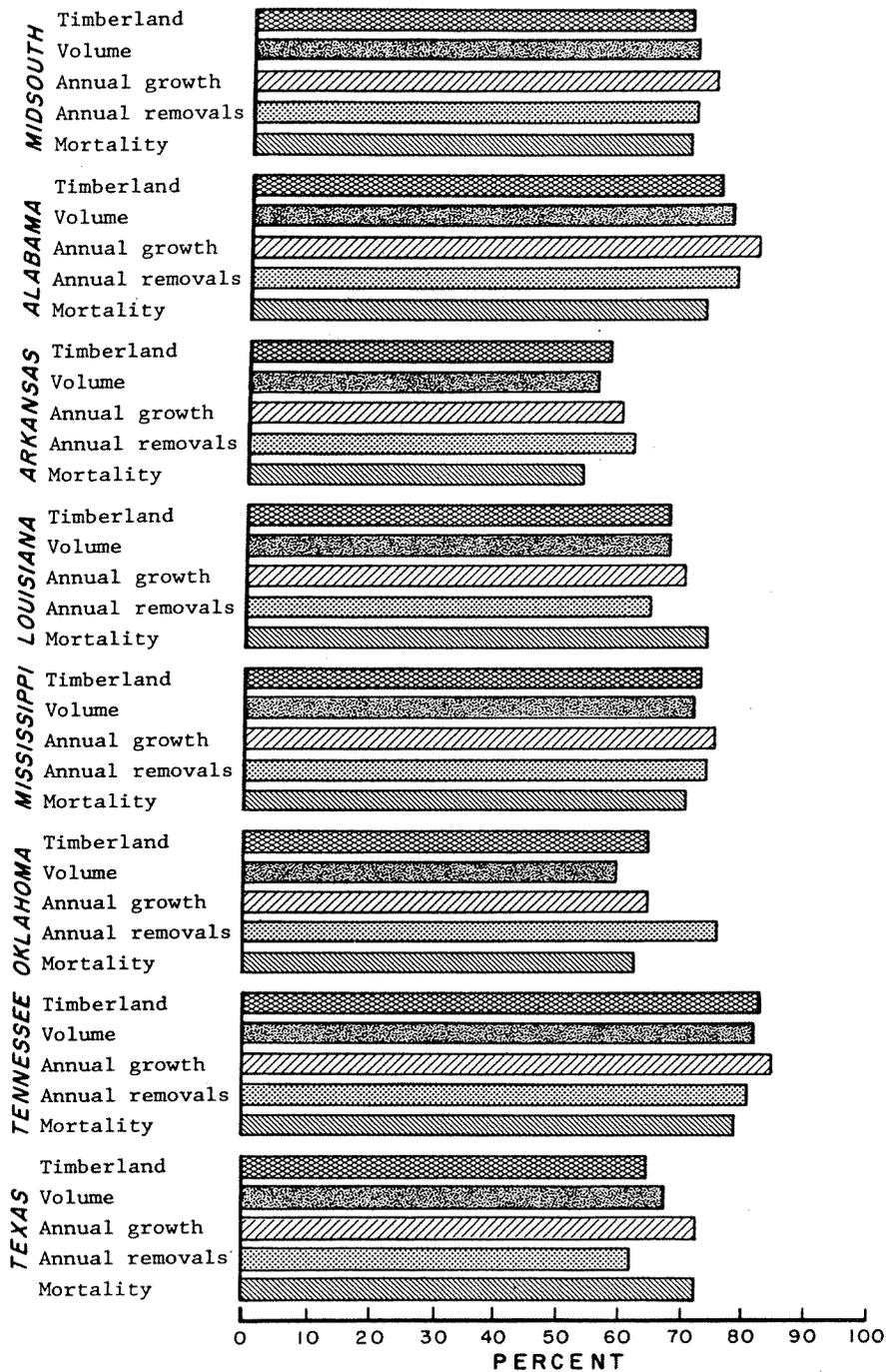


Figure 11.—Proportion of total timberland and total hardwood sawtimber volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality on NIPF land, Midsouth States and region.

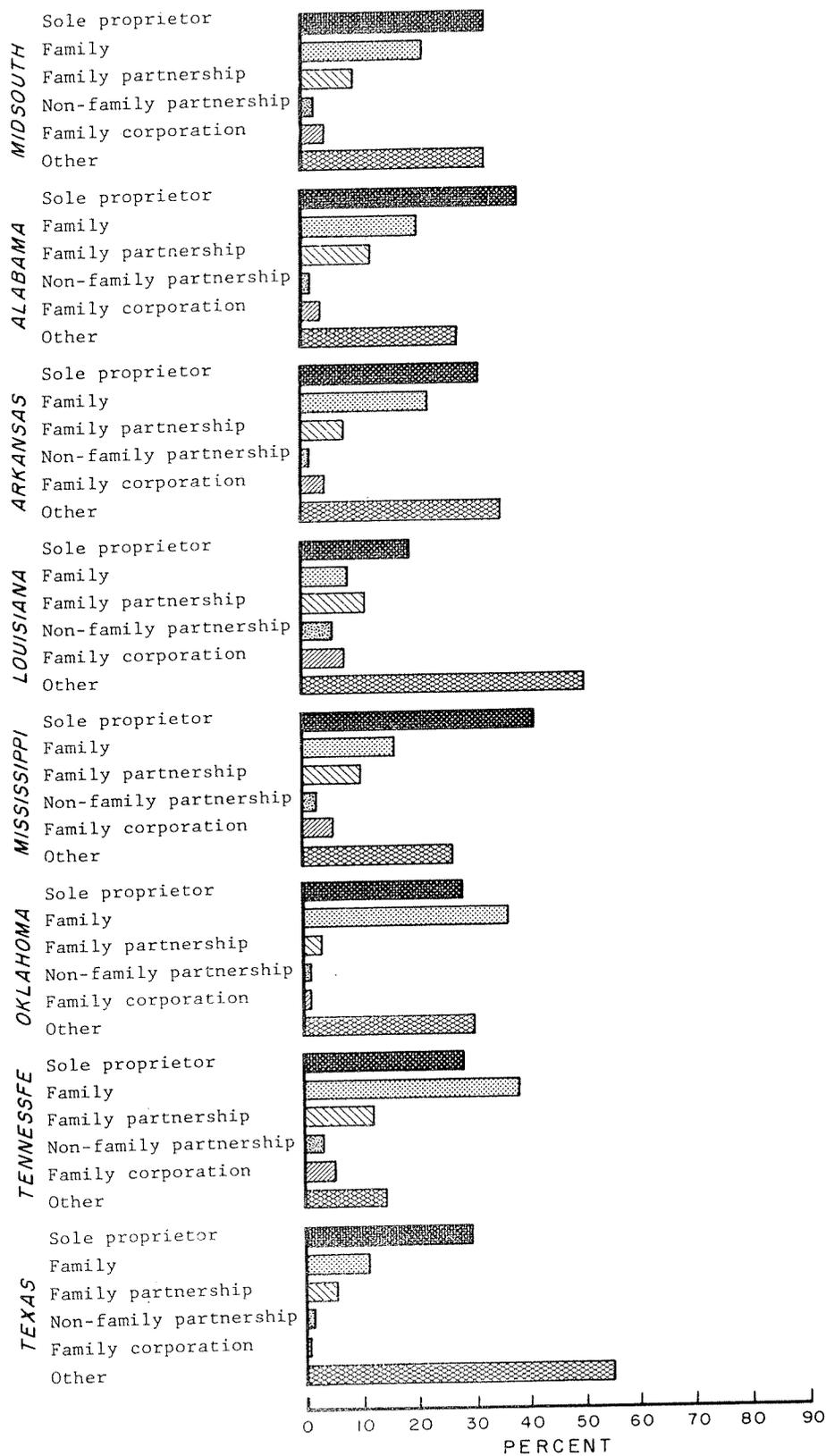


Figure 12.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by type of ownership, Midsouth States and region, 1978.

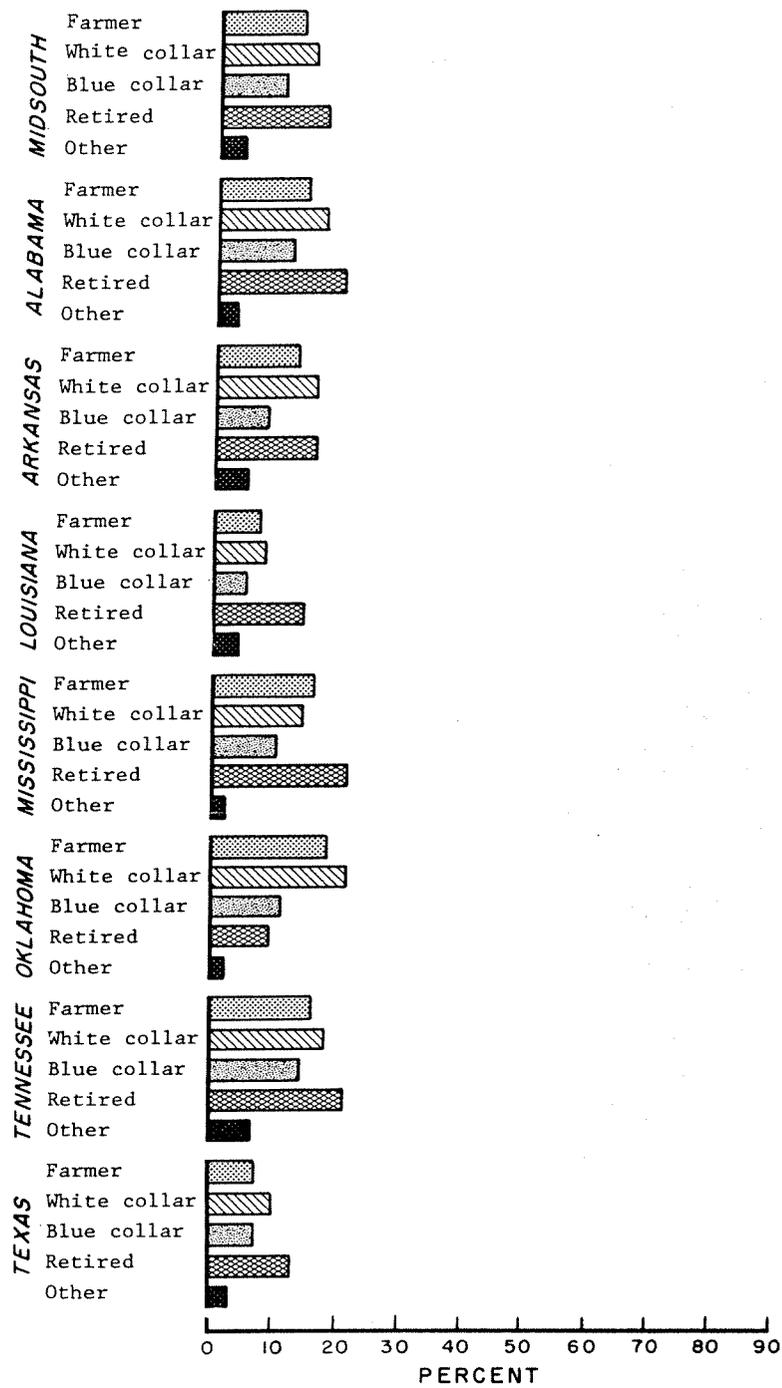


Figure 13.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by owner's occupation, Midsouth States and region, 1978.

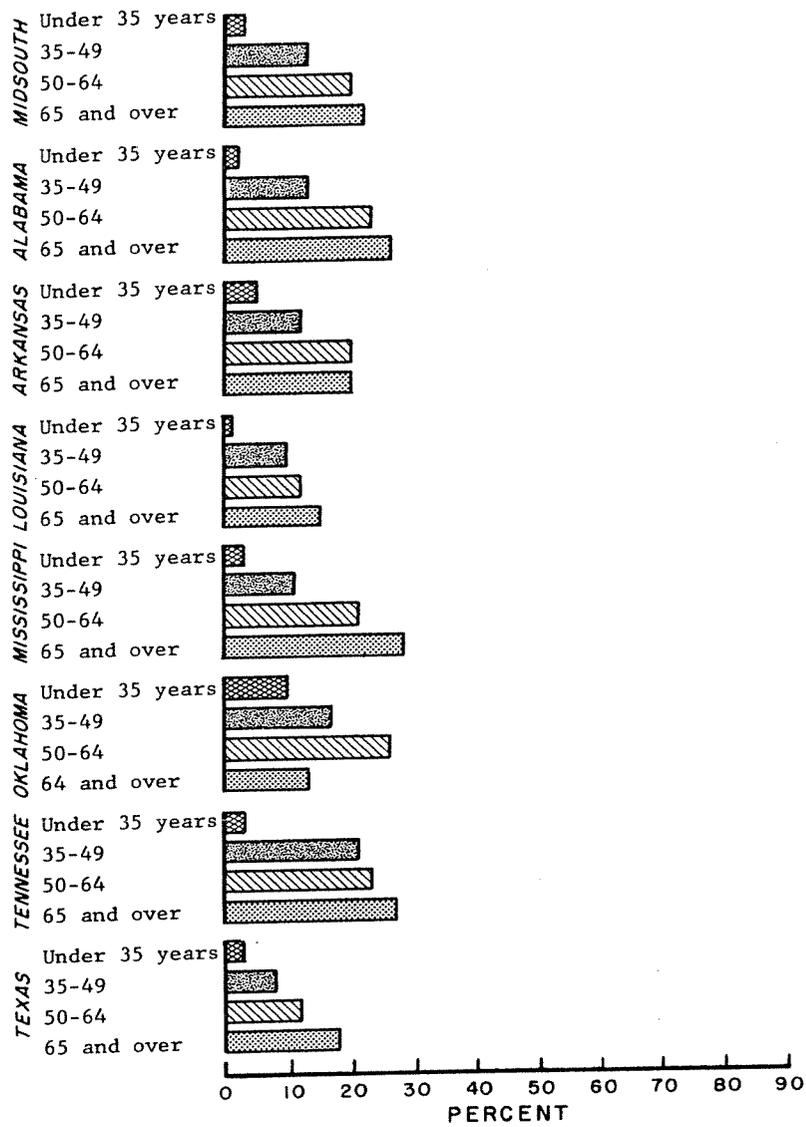


Figure 14.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by owner's age, Midsouth States and region, 1978.

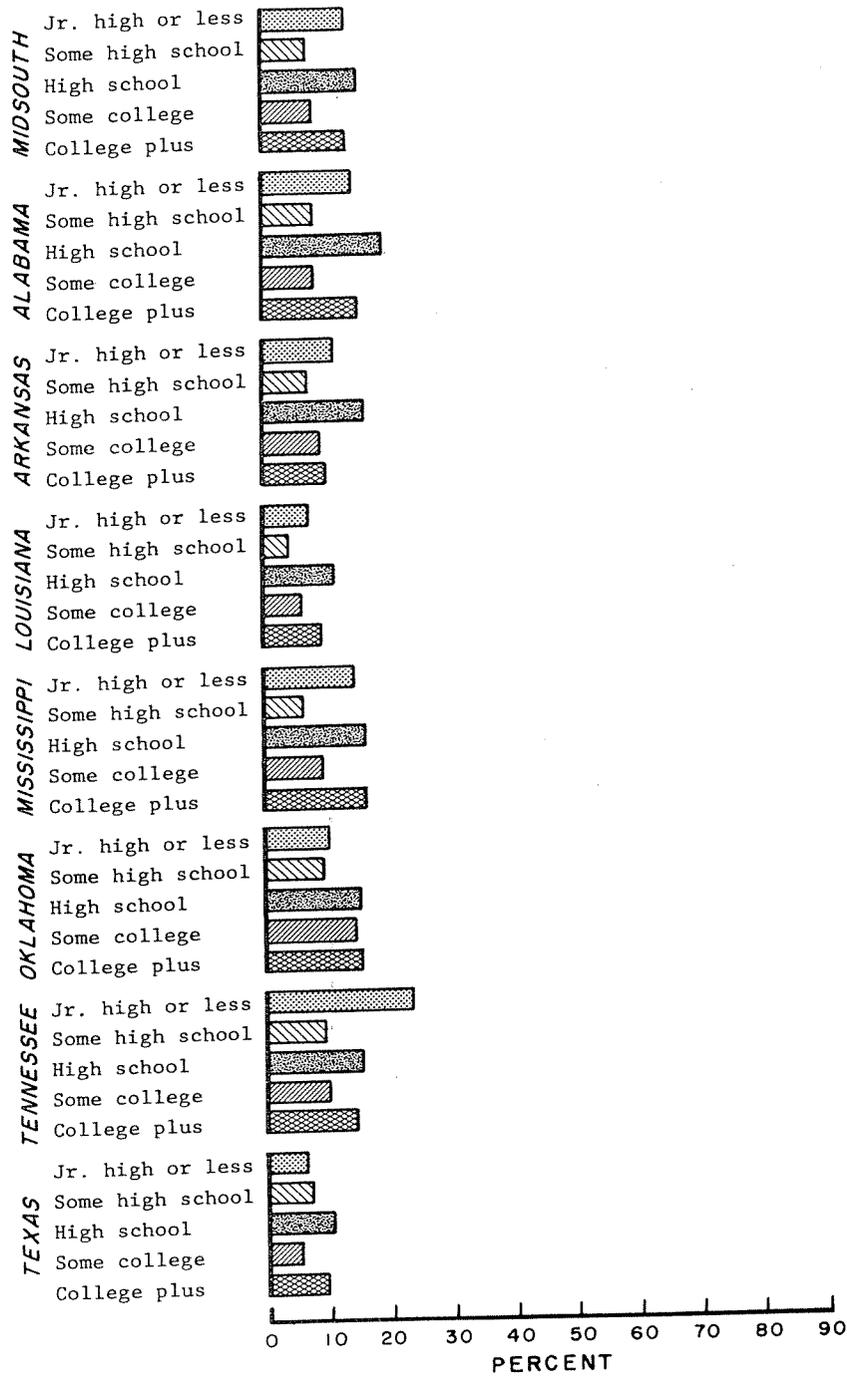


Figure 15.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by owner's education, Midsouth States and region.

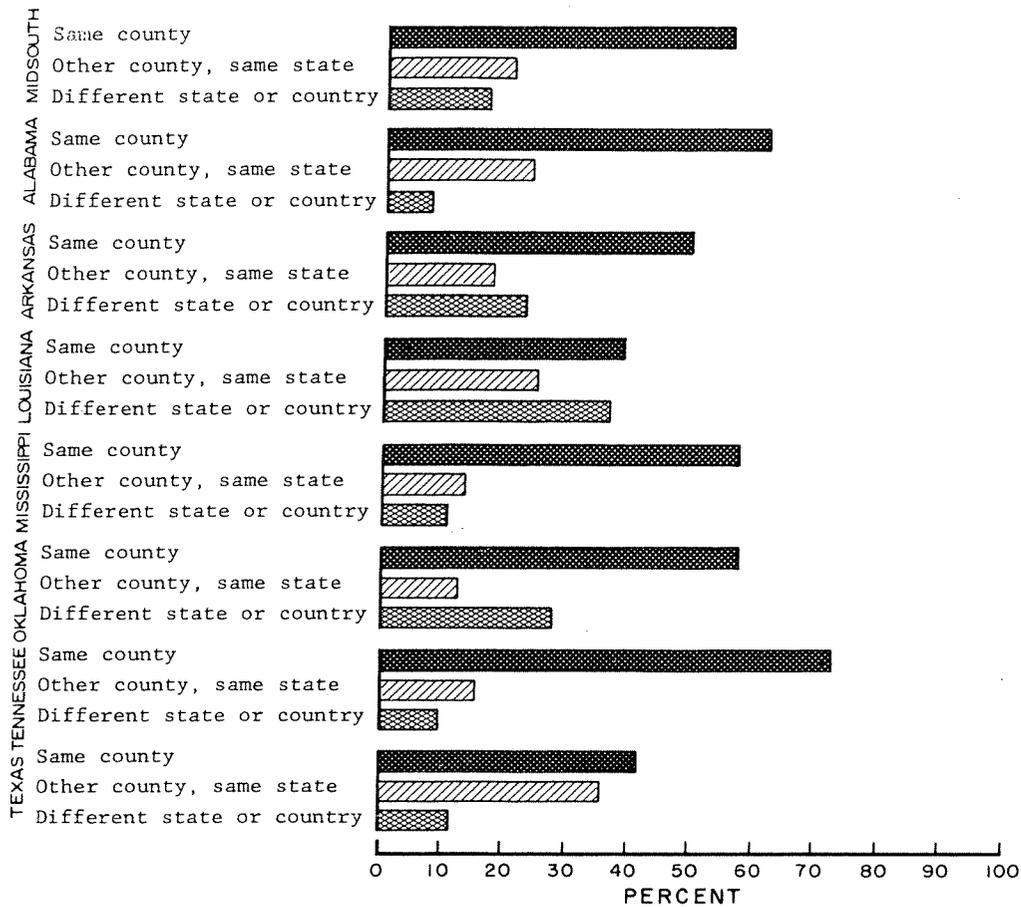


Figure 16.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by owner's residence, Midsouth States and region, 1978.

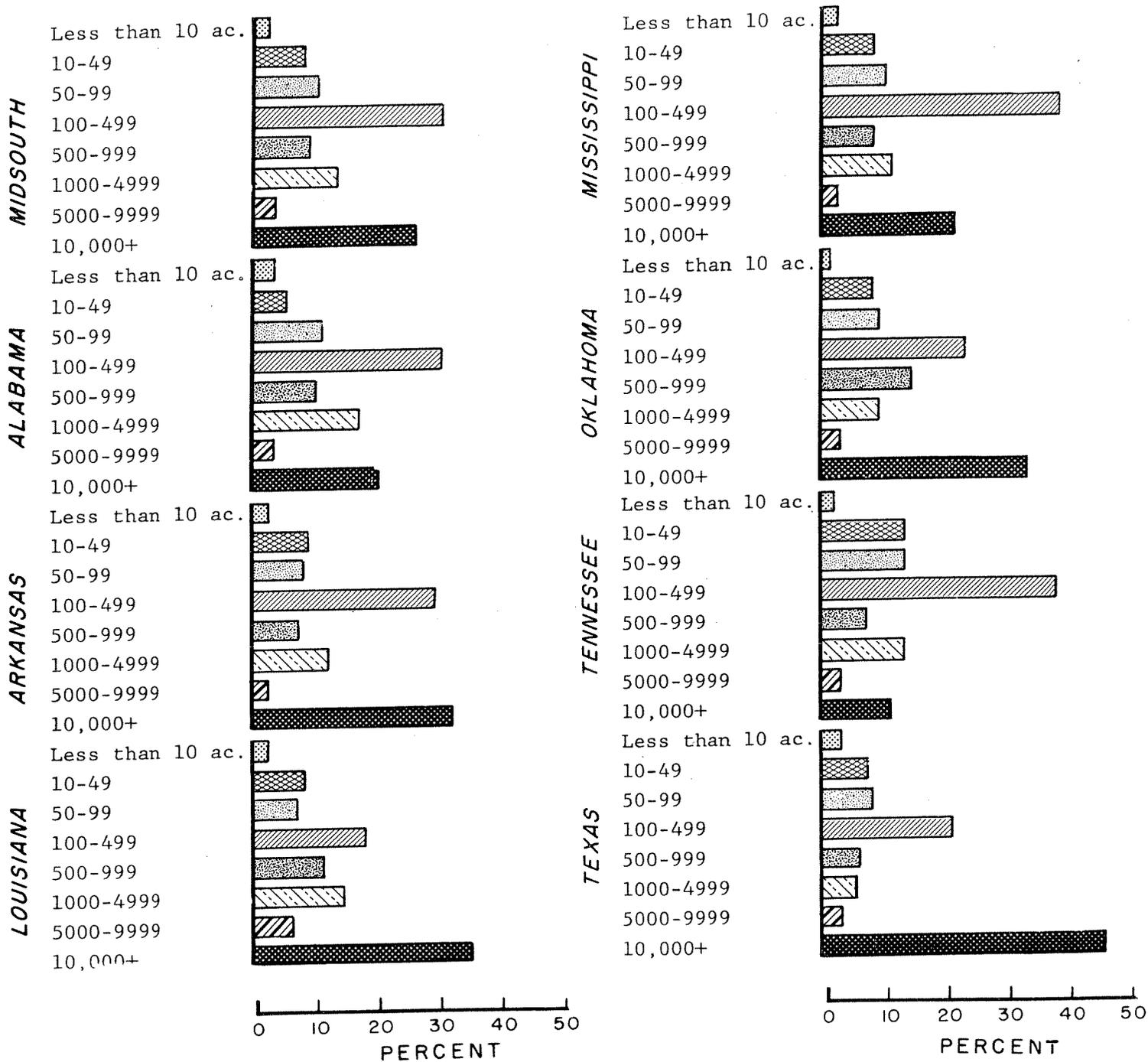


Figure 17.—Distribution of privately owned forest acres by size of holding in Midsouth States and region, 1978.

Table 1.—Area of timberland, all ownerships and nonindustrial private ownership, by State, Midsouth region

State	All ownerships		Midsouth	
	All ownerships	NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF <sup>1</sup>
----- Thousand acres -----				
Alabama (1982) <sup>2</sup>	21,658.8	16,040.4		74.1
Arkansas (1978)	16,615.6	9,466.0		57.0
Louisiana (1974)	14,526.6	9,743.2		67.1
Mississippi (1977)	16,504.3	11,831.8		71.7
Oklahoma (1976)	4,323.4	2,769.5		64.1
Tennessee (1980)	12,879.0	10,496.4		81.5
Texas (1975)	12,512.5	7,964.1		63.6
Midsouth	99,020.2	68,311.4		69.0

<sup>1</sup>NIPF acres divided by total acres  $\times$  100.

<sup>2</sup>Year in which the most recent forest survey was completed.

Table 2.—Area of timberland, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by stand-size class and by State, Midsouth region

State	Sawtimber			Poletimber			Seedlings and saplings			Non-stocked		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
Alabama	7,617.7	5,571.9	73.1	6,948.8	5,373.2	77.3	6,723.3	4,808.4	71.5	369.0	287.1	77.8
Arkansas	6,983.5	3,387.7	48.5	5,472.3	3,539.2	64.7	4,046.7	2,456.6	60.7	113.1	82.5	72.9
Louisiana	7,880.5	5,112.9	64.9	3,409.8	2,545.4	74.6	2,911.1	1,803.2	61.9	325.2	281.7	86.6
Mississippi	7,421.7	5,104.9	68.8	4,806.7	3,809.1	79.2	4,121.0	2,793.9	67.8	154.9	123.9	80.0
Oklahoma	1,028.6	460.1	44.7	1,483.1	988.0	66.6	1,642.7	1,158.7	70.5	169.0	162.7	96.3
Tennessee	4,923.6	3,968.8	80.6	5,229.6	4,348.0	83.1	2,672.2	2,138.6	80.0	53.8	41.0	76.5
Texas	6,456.9	3,701.4	57.3	3,202.3	2,326.8	72.7	2,687.6	1,782.7	66.3	165.7	153.2	92.5
Midsouth	42,312.5	27,307.7	64.5	30,552.6	22,929.7	75.0	24,804.6	16,942.1	68.3	1,350.5	1,132.1	83.8

Table 3.—Estimated area of timberland, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by forest management type and by State, Midsouth region, 1985

State	Forest management type														
	Pine plantations			Natural pine			Mixed pine-hardwood			Bottomland hardwood			Upland hardwood		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
Alabama	2,365	954	40.3	4,917	3,467	70.5	4,383	3,077	70.2	2,430	1,784	73.4	7,482	6,137	82.0
Arkansas	990	276	27.9	3,377	1,225	36.3	2,926	1,478	50.5	2,687	1,569	58.4	5,970	4,106	68.8
Louisiana	1,528	503	32.9	3,556	2,075	58.4	1,938	1,045	53.9	4,784	3,611	75.5	2,258	1,376	60.9
Mississippi	1,724	609	35.3	2,951	1,781	60.4	3,560	2,496	70.1	3,490	2,381	68.2	4,347	3,588	82.5
Oklahoma	510	21	4.1	560	284	50.7	595	365	61.3	395	263	66.6	2,210	1,724	78.0
Tennessee	318	159	50.0	1,021	826	80.9	1,298	968	74.6	819	652	79.6	9,481	7,852	82.8
Texas	1,595	356	22.3	3,063	1,719	56.1	2,447	1,569	64.1	2,012	1,385	68.8	3,001	2,450	81.6
Midsouth	9,030	2,878	31.9	19,445	11,377	58.5	17,147	10,998	64.1	16,617	11,645	70.1	34,749	27,233	78.4

----- Thousand acres -----

Table 4.—Area of timberland, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by forest type and by State, Midsouth region

State	Forest type											
	Longleaf-slash pine			Loblolly-shortleaf pine			Oak-pine			Oak-hickory		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
Alabama	1,482.7	801.9	54.1	5,853.7	4,072.0	69.6	4,562.9	3,306.9	72.5	7,275.8	5,957.5	81.9
Arkansas	.....	.....	.....	4,277.0	1,613.9	37.7	2,966.6	1,527.2	51.5	6,537.5	4,623.4	70.7
Louisiana	1,022.6	563.7	55.1	4,073.4	2,337.4	57.4	2,207.6	1,393.6	63.1	1,725.5	1,185.7	68.7
Mississippi	1,051.5	449.4	42.7	4,250.2	2,826.0	66.5	3,451.5	2,465.4	71.4	4,239.6	3,502.7	82.6
Oklahoma	.....	.....	.....	847.3	265.4	31.3	693.1	337.1	48.6	2,357.2	1,870.5	79.4
Tennessee	.....	.....	.....	1,058.3	758.3	71.7	1,007.6	699.6	69.4	9,312.6	7,809.3	83.9
Texas	258.8	67.0	25.9	4,502.9	2,352.2	52.2	2,550.5	1,525.1	59.8	3,018.7	2,444.8	81.0
Midsouth	3,815.6	1,882.0	49.3	24,863.1	14,225.2	57.2	17,439.8	11,254.9	64.5	34,466.9	27,393.9	79.5

State	Forest type											
	Oak-gum-cypress			Elm-ash-cottonwood			Other			Total		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
Alabama	2,373.5	1,814.8	76.5	74.0	63.1	85.3	36.2	24.3	67.1	.....	.....	.....
Arkansas	2,628.0	1,569.4	59.7	206.5	132.1	64.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Louisiana	4,956.6	3,840.5	77.5	540.9	422.3	78.1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mississippi	3,274.1	2,451.1	74.9	237.4	137.2	57.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oklahoma	296.3	217.1	73.3	129.5	79.4	61.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tennessee	679.7	551.4	81.1	99.2	72.1	72.7	721.6 <sup>1</sup>	618.7	85.7	.....	.....	.....
Texas	1,952.7	1,374.0	70.4	228.9	201.0	87.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Midsouth	16,160.9	11,818.3	73.1	1,516.4	1,107.2	73.0	757.8	643.0	84.9	.....	.....	.....

<sup>1</sup>Includes 651.3 thousand acres of cedar of which 580.9 thousand acres, 89.2 percent, is NIPF.

Table 5.—Area of timberland, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by stand volume and by State, Midsouth region

State	Stand volume per acre									
	Less than 1500 fbm		1500-5000 fbm		More than 5000 fbm					
	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF
Alabama	9,186.8	72.5	7,163.5	5,752.8	80.3	5,308.4	3,625.6	68.3		
Arkansas	6,419.6	68.0	5,813.9	3,384.9	58.2	4,382.1	1,714.4	39.1		
Louisiana	4,394.5	72.0	5,349.9	3,769.0	70.4	4,782.2	2,808.7	58.7		
Mississippi	6,032.0	73.4	6,013.7	4,663.9	77.6	4,458.6	2,742.7	61.5		
Oklahoma	3,026.6	73.7	1,047.6	497.8	47.5	249.2	41.4	16.7		
Tennessee	5,088.8	83.3	5,198.3	4,289.9	82.5	2,591.9	1,966.9	75.9		
Texas	4,193.7	76.7	4,759.5	3,164.3	66.5	3,559.3	1,585.1	44.5		
Midsouth	38,342.0	73.8	35,346.4	25,522.6	72.2	25,331.7	14,484.8	57.2		

----- Thousand acres -----

Table 6.—Area of timberland, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by site class and by State, Midsouth region

State	Site class														
	165 ft. <sup>3</sup> or more		120-165 ft. <sup>3</sup>		85-120 ft. <sup>3</sup>		50-85 ft. <sup>3</sup>		Less than 50 ft. <sup>3</sup>						
	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	Percent NIPF			
Alabama	974.3	770.9	79.1	3,785.4	2,648.7	70.0	8,468.7	6,367.5	75.2	7,263.8	5,393.0	74.2	1,166.5	860.3	73.8
Arkansas	235.6	116.8	49.6	1,303.1	708.2	54.3	4,636.9	2,350.0	50.7	6,509.5	3,495.0	53.7	3,930.5	2,796.0	71.1
Louisiana	419.8	275.6	65.7	1,889.3	1,204.7	63.8	5,406.4	3,594.2	66.5	6,088.4	4,183.1	68.7	722.7	485.6	67.2
Mississippi	507.8	336.9	66.3	2,542.6	1,802.3	70.9	8,230.2	5,873.4	71.4	4,877.8	3,583.5	73.5	345.9	235.7	68.1
Oklahoma	5.5	.....	.....	33.1	16.1	48.6	230.4	63.3	27.5	1,879.1	1,027.6	54.7	2,175.3	1,662.5	76.4
Tennessee	216.8	174.0	80.3	717.1	614.8	85.7	3,119.7	2,546.0	81.6	6,285.9	5,140.9	81.8	2,539.5	2,020.8	79.6
Texas	133.3	93.4	70.1	1,071.4	475.5	44.4	4,679.9	2,557.2	54.6	5,639.9	3,915.5	69.4	988.0	922.5	93.4
Midsouth	2,493.1	1,767.6	70.9	11,342.0	7,470.3	65.9	34,772.2	23,351.6	67.2	38,544.4	26,738.6	69.4	11,868.4	8,983.4	75.7

----- Thousand acres -----

Table 7.—Softwood growing-stock volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by State, Midsouth region

State	Component											
	Volume			Net annual growth			Annual removals			Mortality		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
	..... Million cubic feet .....											
Alabama	11,655.7	8,017.4	68.8	641.8	457.0	71.2	636.2	448.3	70.5	121.3	86.5	71.3
Arkansas	8,168.0	3,265.6	40.0	423.5	200.8	47.4	404.4	150.4	37.2	27.4	11.0	40.1
Louisiana	9,040.0	5,517.1	61.0	604.1	382.3	63.3	441.2	219.5	49.8	39.6	22.7	57.3
Mississippi	8,929.1	5,575.1	62.4	589.5	392.0	66.5	492.4	321.3	65.3	56.0	34.8	62.1
Oklahoma	1,010.4	316.0	31.3	55.9	18.9	33.8	46.7	7.4	15.8	1.9	0.5	26.3
Tennessee	2,405.5	1,681.6	69.9	96.8	69.5	71.8	37.6	23.2	61.7	14.3	8.6	60.1
Texas	8,161.6	3,844.7	47.1	485.2	270.2	55.7	381.5	192.1	50.4	28.1	10.5	37.4
Midsouth	49,370.3	28,217.5	57.2	2,896.8	1,790.7	61.8	2,440.0	1,362.2	55.8	288.6	174.6	60.5

Table 8.—Hardwood growing-stock volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality, all ownerships and NIPF ownership, by State, Midsouth region

State	Component											
	Volume			Net annual growth			Annual removals			Mortality		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
	..... Million cubic feet .....											
Alabama	10,050.5	7,770.2	77.3	344.5	272.0	79.0	218.6	164.7	75.3	83.6	62.9	75.2
Arkansas	9,079.9	5,295.6	58.3	369.1	224.1	60.7	210.3	127.5	60.6	56.1	32.9	58.6
Louisiana	7,657.5	5,342.2	69.8	324.7	234.6	72.3	160.2	104.3	65.1	69.1	51.3	74.2
Mississippi	8,304.6	6,158.3	74.2	423.7	323.8	76.4	241.1	178.1	73.9	65.7	47.4	72.1
Oklahoma	1,051.1	668.4	63.6	60.9	39.6	65.0	16.6	11.8	71.1	7.4	4.2	56.8
Tennessee	10,399.7	8,446.3	81.2	414.6	342.8	82.7	176.0	137.6	78.2	37.4	30.9	82.5
Texas	4,568.7	3,044.1	66.6	236.6	163.4	69.1	99.3	63.6	64.0	22.6	16.5	73.0
Midsouth	51,112.0	36,725.1	71.9	2,174.1	1,600.3	73.6	1,122.1	787.6	70.2	341.9	246.1	72.0

Table 9.—Softwood sawtimber volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality, all ownerships and NIPF ownerships, by State, Midsouth region

State	Component											
	Volume			Net annual growth			Annual removals			Mortality		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
	Million board feet											
Alabama	44,498.6	30,271.2	68.0	2,901.8	2,080.5	71.7	2,672.9	1,852.1	69.3	334.3	221.9	66.4
Arkansas	34,198.6	12,783.8	36.5	2,083.0	913.6	43.9	1,191.6	667.4	56.0	74.0	25.3	34.2
Louisiana	36,992.7	21,421.7	57.9	2,653.9	1,588.7	59.9	2,135.5	977.8	45.8	133.1	73.0	54.8
Mississippi	35,370.0	20,875.0	59.0	2,705.6	1,767.7	65.3	2,342.6	1,442.2	61.6	172.4	99.8	57.9
Oklahoma	3,575.8	996.7	27.9	242.2	75.1	31.0	222.5	28.8	12.9	5.6	1.3	23.2
Tennessee	7,684.3	4,961.5	64.6	369.3	249.2	67.5	119.0	75.4	63.4	24.8	12.9	52.0
Texas	34,892.0	14,875.1	42.6	2,323.4	1,220.4	52.5	1,831.6	857.1	46.8	103.6	29.2	28.2
Midsouth	197,212.0	106,185.0	53.8	13,279.2	7,895.2	59.5	10,515.7	5,900.8	56.1	847.8	463.4	54.7

Table 10.—Hardwood sawtimber volume, net annual growth, annual removals, and mortality, all ownerships and NIPF ownerships, by State, Midsouth region

State	Component											
	Volume			Net annual growth			Annual removals			Mortality		
	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF	All ownerships	NIPF	Percent NIPF
	Million board feet											
Alabama	27,069.8	20,546.2	75.9	1,101.3	876.3	79.6	705.7	543.2	77.0	251.5	182.1	72.4
Arkansas	25,095.7	13,889.7	55.3	1,230.2	729.6	59.3	795.6	485.8	61.1	169.2	90.3	53.4
Louisiana	23,822.7	16,049.9	67.4	1,150.5	795.8	69.2	738.0	470.3	63.7	231.4	168.0	72.6
Mississippi	25,271.6	18,049.9	71.4	1,589.4	1,173.7	73.8	1,036.1	757.7	73.1	206.0	143.6	69.7
Oklahoma	2,490.9	1,466.2	58.9	155.0	99.5	64.2	51.1	38.2	74.8	20.7	12.9	62.3
Tennessee	31,213.0	25,353.1	81.2	1,339.2	1,123.8	83.9	696.9	560.3	80.4	77.0	59.9	77.8
Texas	12,995.5	8,662.6	66.7	805.0	575.6	71.5	476.0	297.2	62.4	67.8	48.7	71.8
Midsouth	147,959.2	104,017.1	70.3	7,370.6	5,374.3	72.9	4,499.4	3,152.7	70.1	1,023.6	705.5	68.9

Table 11.—Estimated number of private ownership units and acres of timberland owned by type of ownership and by State, Midsouth region, 1978<sup>1</sup>

Type of ownership	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
----- Owners -----								
Sole proprietor	323.4	75.4	105.0	34.1	116.4	54.1	106.0	57.4
Family (husband & wife)	87.8	20.5	190.4	61.8	83.6	38.8	28.1	15.2
Family partnership	11.2	2.6	8.9	2.9	7.9	3.7	10.8	5.8
Nonfamily partnership	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.5	0.8
Family corporation	1.1	0.3	1.4	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.1
Other <sup>2</sup>	4.5	1.0	2.2	0.7	6.1	2.8	38.2	20.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>428.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>308.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>215.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>184.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Sole proprietor	7,413.9	37.5	4,496.5	30.7	2,304.9	19.4	5,760.3	41.1
Family (husband & wife)	3,868.8	19.6	3,284.6	22.4	948.1	8.0	2,288.0	16.3
Family partnership	2,407.7	12.2	1,016.6	6.9	1,251.4	10.5	1,330.0	9.5
Nonfamily partnership	273.1	1.4	115.8	0.8	555.8	4.7	333.3	2.4
Family corporation	540.2	2.7	574.4	3.9	849.4	7.2	697.9	5.0
Other <sup>2</sup>	5,251.7	26.6	5,160.3	35.2	5,959.0	50.2	3,605.2	25.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,755.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,648.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,868.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,014.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Owners -----								
	Oklahoma	Tennessee	Texas	Midsouth				
----- Owners -----								
Sole proprietor	21.0	48.6	78.5	35.0	95.9	51.8	846.2	53.2
Family (husband & wife)	20.2	46.8	130.1	58.0	60.1	32.4	600.3	37.8
Family partnership	1.6	3.7	9.2	4.1	17.9	9.7	67.5	4.2
Nonfamily partnership	a	b	3.9	1.7	0.3	0.2	7.1	0.4
Family corporation	a	b	0.7	0.3	a	b	4.1	0.3
Other <sup>2</sup>	0.4	0.9	2.1	0.9	11.1	6.0	64.6	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,589.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Sole Proprietor	1,524.0	28.4	3,907.1	28.3	2,646.4	28.8	28,053.1	31.7
Family (husband & wife)	1,953.1	36.4	5,240.0	38.0	967.7	10.5	18,550.3	20.9
Family partnership	152.6	2.8	1,658.1	12.0	415.4	4.5	8,231.8	9.3
Nonfamily partnership	52.0	1.0	370.7	2.7	83.6	0.9	1,784.3	2.0
Family corporation	57.4	1.1	654.5	4.7	14.0	0.2	3,387.8	3.8
Other <sup>2</sup>	1,633.1	30.4	1,955.2	14.2	5,058.2	55.1	28,622.7	32.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,372.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,785.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88,630.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percents may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

<sup>2</sup>Includes forest industry.

a - Fewer than 100 owners.

b - Less than 0.05 percent.



Table 13.—Estimated number of private ownership units and acres of timberland owned by owner's age and by State, Midsouth region, 1978<sup>1</sup>

Owner's age	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
----- Owners -----								
Under 35 years	52.7	12.3	25.2	8.2	32.0	14.9	2.2	1.2
35-49	90.0	21.0	34.7	11.3	52.0	24.2	35.8	19.4
50-64	126.5	29.5	41.6	13.5	35.6	16.5	28.8	15.6
65 plus	96.3	22.5	157.3	51.1	81.8	38.0	68.5	37.1
Corporate, estates, etc.	6.7	1.6	1.0	0.3	6.5	3.0	39.9	21.6
No answer	56.6	13.2	48.3	15.7	7.3	3.4	9.5	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>428.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>308.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>215.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>184.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Under 35 years	346.2	1.8	653.4	4.5	134.5	1.1	399.2	2.8
35-49	2,602.5	13.2	1,763.8	12.0	1,142.2	9.6	1,586.6	11.3
50-64	4,604.2	23.3	2,942.9	20.1	1,388.5	11.7	2,916.8	20.8
65 plus	5,116.1	25.9	2,893.7	19.8	1,725.4	14.5	3,865.4	27.6
Corporate, estates, etc.	5,708.1	28.9	5,248.0	35.8	6,641.3	56.0	4,385.9	31.3
No answer	1,378.3	7.0	1,146.4	7.8	836.7	7.0	860.8	6.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,755.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,648.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,868.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,014.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Owners -----								
----- Acres owned -----								
Owner's age	Oklahoma		Tennessee		Texas		Midsouth	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
Under 35 years	5.4	12.5	17.5	7.8	0.4	0.2	135.4	8.5
35-49	8.1	18.8	70.7	31.5	35.3	19.1	326.6	20.5
50-64	23.2	53.7	40.7	18.1	70.9	38.3	367.3	23.1
65 plus	5.0	11.6	66.9	29.8	52.6	28.4	528.4	33.2
Corporate, estates, etc.	1.0	2.3	3.6	1.6	11.7	6.3	70.4	4.4
No answer	0.5	1.2	25.1	11.2	14.4	7.8	161.7	10.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,589.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Under 35 years	512.6	9.5	350.0	2.5	93.6	1.0	2,489.5	2.8
35-49	912.9	17.0	2,819.7	20.5	709.4	7.7	11,537.1	13.0
50-64	1,408.9	26.2	3,170.9	23.0	1,089.7	11.9	17,521.9	19.8
65 plus	672.4	12.5	3,763.1	27.3	1,656.8	18.0	19,692.9	22.2
Corporate, estates, etc.	1,717.7	32.0	2,204.8	16.0	5,091.3	55.4	30,997.1	35.0
No answer	147.7	2.7	1,477.1	10.7	544.5	5.9	6,391.5	7.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,372.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,785.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88,630.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percents may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.



Table 15.—Estimated number of private ownership units and acres owned by owner's race and by State, Midsouth region, 1978<sup>1</sup>

Race	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
----- Owners -----								
White	319.3	74.5	267.9	87.0	161.0	74.8	104.3	56.5
Black	50.8	11.8	21.1	6.8	33.8	15.7	32.4	17.5
Other	0.2	<sup>b</sup>	0.3	0.1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Corporate, estates, etc.	6.7	1.6	1.0	0.3	6.5	3.0	39.9	21.6
No answer	51.8	12.1	17.8	5.8	13.9	6.5	8.1	4.4
Total	428.8	100.0	308.1	100.0	215.2	100.0	184.7	100.0
----- Acres owned -----								
White	12,287.8	62.2	8,376.3	57.2	4,398.1	37.1	8,062.8	57.6
Black	783.7	4.0	135.0	0.9	347.5	2.9	1,000.4	7.1
Other	48.3	0.2	12.3	0.1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Corporate, estates, etc.	5,708.1	28.9	5,248.0	35.8	6,641.3	56.0	4,385.9	31.3
No answer	927.5	4.7	876.6	6.0	481.7	4.1	565.6	4.0
Total	19,755.4	100.0	14,648.2	100.0	11,868.6	100.0	14,014.7	100.0
----- Owners -----								
	Oklahoma		Tennessee		Texas		Midsouth	
----- Owners -----								
White	33.0	76.4	187.5	83.5	143.7	77.5	1,216.7	76.5
Black	.....	.....	10.6	4.7	16.6	9.0	165.3	10.4
Other	8.7	20.1	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.2	0.6
Corporate, estates, etc.	1.0	2.3	3.6	1.6	11.7	6.3	70.4	4.4
No answer	0.5	1.2	22.8	10.2	13.3	7.2	128.2	8.1
Total	43.2	100.0	224.5	100.0	185.3	100.0	1,589.8	100.0
----- Acres owned -----								
White	3,092.2	57.6	10,263.0	74.4	3,434.2	37.4	49,914.4	56.3
Black	.....	.....	268.7	1.9	332.6	3.6	2,867.9	3.2
Other	390.0	7.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	450.6	0.5
Corporate, estates, etc.	1,717.7	32.0	2,204.8	16.0	5,091.3	55.4	30,997.1	35.0
No answer	172.3	3.2	1,049.1	7.6	327.2	3.6	4,400.0	5.0
Total	5,372.2	100.0	13,785.6	100.0	9,185.3	100.0	88,630.0	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Percents may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

<sup>a</sup> - Fewer than 100 owners.

<sup>b</sup> - Less than 0.05 percent.



Table 17.—Estimated number of private ownership units and acres owned by owner's residence in Midsouth States and region, 1978<sup>1</sup>

Residence	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
----- Owners -----								
Same county	359.5	83.8	220.5	71.6	187.6	87.2	130.4	70.6
Other county, same state	17.0	4.0	21.9	7.1	19.8	9.2	5.5	3.0
Different state or country	3.9	0.9	35.8	11.6	7.2	3.3	11.7	6.3
No answer	48.4	11.3	29.9	9.7	0.6	0.3	37.1	20.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>428.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>308.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>215.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>184.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Same county	12,065.7	61.1	7,109.0	48.5	4,468.8	37.7	7,947.7	56.7
Other county, same state	4,533.2	22.9	2,467.8	16.8	2,802.8	23.6	1,831.7	13.1
Different state or country	1,328.8	6.7	3,198.8	21.8	4,271.0	36.0	1,461.3	10.4
No answer	1,827.7	9.3	1,872.6	12.8	326.0	2.7	2,774.0	19.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,755.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,648.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,868.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,014.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Owners -----								
	Oklahoma		Tennessee		Texas		Midsouth	
Same county	32.7	75.7	186.2	82.9	150.1	81.0	1,267.0	79.7
Other county, same state	6.4	14.8	29.2	13.0	17.0	9.2	116.8	7.3
Different state or country	2.8	6.5	6.9	3.1	5.0	2.7	73.3	4.6
No answer	1.3	3.0	2.2	1.0	13.2	7.1	132.7	8.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,589.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
----- Acres owned -----								
Same county	3,034.0	56.5	9,864.8	71.6	3,803.2	41.4	48,293.2	54.5
Other county, same state	624.8	11.6	2,061.8	15.0	3,176.8	34.6	17,498.9	19.7
Different state or country	1,437.9	26.8	1,281.3	9.3	968.6	10.5	13,947.7	15.7
No answer	275.5	5.1	577.7	4.2	1,236.7	13.5	8,890.2	10.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,372.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,785.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,185.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88,630.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percents may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

Table 18.—Estimated number of private ownership units and acres owned by size of holding in Midsouth States and region, 1978<sup>1</sup>

Size of holding	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
----- Owners -----								
Less than 10 ac.	326.4	76.1	218.9	71.0	155.2	72.1	89.5	48.5
10-49 ac.	36.1	8.4	49.9	16.2	36.9	17.1	44.4	24.0
50-99 ac.	29.3	6.8	15.6	5.1	11.3	5.3	20.4	11.0
100-499 ac.	31.9	7.4	21.0	6.8	8.8	4.1	27.7	15.0
500-999 ac.	3.0	0.7	1.6	0.5	1.8	0.8	1.6	0.9
1,000-4,999 ac.	1.8	0.4	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.5
5,000-9,999 ac.	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>
10,000 + ac.	0.2	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>
Total	428.8	100.0	308.1	100.0	215.2	100.0	184.7	100.0
----- Acres owned -----								
Less than 10 ac.	634.1	3.2	305.1	2.1	249.1	2.1	260.3	1.9
10-49 ac.	1,049.9	5.3	1,308.0	8.9	932.6	7.9	1,080.0	7.7
50-99 ac.	2,069.1	10.5	1,128.1	7.7	798.2	6.7	1,425.2	10.2
100-499 ac.	5,980.8	30.3	4,272.3	29.2	2,103.8	17.7	5,340.0	38.1
500-999 ac.	2,018.7	10.2	1,020.0	7.0	1,247.6	10.5	1,129.7	8.1
1,000-4,999 ac.	3,413.8	17.3	1,700.3	11.6	1,671.2	14.1	1,565.6	11.2
5,000-9,999 ac.	587.5	3.0	252.3	1.7	672.7	5.7	215.4	1.5
10,000 + ac.	4,001.5	20.3	4,662.1	31.8	4,193.4	35.3	2,998.5	21.4
Total	19,755.4	100.0	14,648.2	100.0	11,868.6	100.0	14,014.7	100.0
----- Owners -----								
	Oklahoma		Tennessee		Texas		Midsouth	
----- Owners -----								
Less than 10 ac.	9.2	21.3	95.7	42.6	138.6	74.8	1,033.5	65.0
10-49 ac.	19.4	44.9	71.0	31.6	23.4	12.6	281.1	17.7
50-99 ac.	6.0	13.9	25.9	11.5	11.6	6.3	120.1	7.6
100-499 ac.	7.2	16.7	29.2	13.0	10.7	5.8	136.5	8.6
500-999 ac.	1.1	2.5	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.4	11.3	0.7
1,000-4,999 ac.	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	6.3	0.4
5,000-9,999 ac.	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	0.3	<sup>b</sup>
10,000 + ac.	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	0.1	<sup>b</sup>	0.7	<sup>b</sup>
Total	43.2	100.0	224.5	100.0	185.3	100.0	1,589.8	100.0
----- Acres owned -----								
Less than 10 ac.	49.2	0.9	245.6	1.8	309.8	3.4	2,053.2	2.3
10-49 ac.	400.6	7.5	1,761.5	12.8	660.1	7.2	7,192.7	8.1
50-99 ac.	462.5	8.6	1,762.3	12.8	773.2	8.4	8,418.6	9.5
100-499 ac.	1,253.3	23.3	5,298.0	38.4	1,954.8	21.3	26,203.0	29.6
500-999 ac.	736.8	13.7	1,011.9	7.3	516.7	5.6	7,681.4	8.7
1,000-4,999 ac.	484.8	9.0	1,800.1	13.1	464.5	5.1	11,100.3	12.5
5,000-9,999 ac.	236.9	4.4	399.4	2.9	296.7	3.2	2,660.9	3.0
10,000 + ac.	1,748.1	32.5	1,506.8	10.9	4,209.5	45.8	23,319.9	26.3
Total	5,372.2	100.0	13,785.6	100.0	9,185.3	100.0	88,630.0	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Percents may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

<sup>a</sup> - Fewer than 100 owners.

<sup>b</sup> - Less than 0.05 percent.

Table 19.—Sampling errors for type of ownership, owner's occupation, age, sex, race, education, residence, and size of holding by State, Midsouth region, 1978

Table	Alabama		Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi		Oklahoma		Tennessee		Texas		Midsouth	
	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres	Owners	Acres
-----Percent-----																
Table 11.																
Sole proprietor	24.7	4.7	28.4	7.4	34.4	6.7	31.5	5.2	38.2	9.4	25.6	6.2	33.1	5.2	17.5	3.3
Family (husband & wife)	37.3	4.5	41.8	8.6	49.7	5.3	20.5	5.3	33.0	10.2	31.9	5.8	77.6	9.8	25.7	5.4
Family partnership	20.7	9.5	22.8	13.2	29.4	19.4	51.8	7.2	43.8	7.9	23.0	11.9	90.8	7.8	34.5	7.2
Nonfamily partnership	14.8	3.0	39.2	16.9	33.9	21.8	52.6	30.1	1.5	0	82.2	20.6	19.6	9.0	47.6	13.4
Family corporation	35.6	11.7	60.4	16.8	44.0	26.7	38.2	22.8	37.3	14.2	46.9	25.6	100.0	100.0	33.3	14.4
Other	37.0	4.5	44.9	3.7	37.1	8.0	94.6	4.1	57.8	8.6	51.4	7.8	63.9	5.4	69.0	3.1
Total	20.4	2.5	27.9	3.3	27.7	4.2	26.3	3.0	24.6	5.2	20.8	3.5	32.0	2.9	14.2	1.8
Table 12.																
Farmer	54.9	2.8	18.5	10.1	88.9	19.2	15.9	9.0	33.5	10.6	17.7	8.2	86.4	10.1	42.6	4.8
White collar	55.0	7.1	36.2	11.5	40.1	10.2	29.2	4.8	35.3	11.5	54.6	7.3	85.4	6.4	32.5	4.8
Blue collar	41.8	11.7	38.6	7.2	56.0	6.5	42.2	10.6	36.3	22.3	21.4	8.1	46.5	11.0	26.1	6.0
Retired	34.4	5.7	45.7	12.0	42.8	14.5	44.8	6.4	45.3	10.6	22.9	8.3	42.1	9.4	22.4	5.0
Other	67.9	7.2	49.3	13.1	36.3	7.8	44.1	11.7	100.0	100.0	48.9	16.8	35.2	14.9	43.2	9.4
Total, individual	20.6	3.2	27.8	5.0	28.0	6.7	23.8	3.7	24.7	6.7	21.0	4.1	33.5	4.2	27.4	4.8
Corporate, estates, etc.	29.2	3.2	34.7	2.4	26.7	5.5	86.2	5.1	46.8	7.1	46.7	5.0	46.6	4.0	57.2	2.4
No answer	65.2	11.5	57.0	12.8	62.1	17.2	21.0	16.5	56.9	17.0	40.8	17.8	85.2	10.8	43.2	8.6
Table 13.																
Under 35 years	61.4	2.3	62.0	23.5	81.0	5.5	37.6	33.7	47.0	15.3	44.5	11.7	46.4	5.1	62.9	17.2
35-49	53.1	8.1	32.2	8.7	50.3	15.0	48.2	11.1	40.5	13.9	56.3	7.7	69.0	12.7	52.0	9.9
50-64	35.1	5.2	42.8	9.0	33.0	6.3	20.7	5.4	40.5	11.3	23.6	6.6	66.7	7.2	39.8	17.6
65 plus	34.4	5.0	49.3	10.0	53.5	13.7	42.4	5.2	36.4	15.1	26.4	7.0	40.5	6.4	42.4	7.4
No answer	59.3	13.2	48.8	12.1	50.2	18.5	35.8	12.9	59.4	11.5	40.4	16.8	85.8	10.4	53.7	14.2
Table 14.																
Male	23.9	3.7	35.4	5.9	32.8	6.7	13.9	4.2	19.8	7.3	27.3	4.1	42.5	5.2	29.9	4.8
Female	45.4	8.2	43.3	12.0	59.7	17.6	43.7	7.5	53.3	21.4	33.6	9.9	58.4	8.3	46.3	10.7
No answer	68.6	7.9	59.6	14.2	63.0	23.5	29.3	22.2	71.0	27.3	66.0	27.7	92.9	11.3	67.2	18.0
Table 15.																
White	23.7	3.4	30.1	5.3	32.2	7.3	28.4	4.0	23.6	7.1	24.1	3.9	39.5	4.4	28.7	4.6
Black	51.1	19.1	78.4	9.1	77.0	21.6	52.3	9.0	37.8	23.0	37.8	23.0	38.0	21.0	58.0	16.0
Other	49.4	.....	100.0	100.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	81.1	26.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	98.3	30.4
No answer	64.6	6.4	73.5	15.6	59.9	22.2	59.2	19.4	71.1	29.8	43.6	22.8	93.4	13.6	64.0	16.9

Table 16.

Jr. high or less	37.1	8.2	48.1	10.7	71.4	28.2	43.5	7.6	60.1	26.3	43.0	7.8	33.8	17.3	46.4	11.1
Some high school	55.4	11.1	42.7	19.9	75.2	6.4	17.0	8.2	40.8	22.9	44.6	11.7	44.7	12.2	54.5	12.8
High school	37.7	6.0	35.6	9.4	42.2	10.8	52.9	7.4	34.3	12.7	27.4	6.4	47.4	8.4	40.0	7.9
Some college	54.4	9.6	20.9	10.9	44.0	8.7	29.4	16.1	33.0	14.5	46.7	10.9	57.9	8.2	48.5	11.4
College plus	28.8	6.4	62.8	13.2	78.3	4.7	15.1	5.7	35.3	11.1	27.1	10.7	50.8	7.4	49.9	8.1
No answer	58.4	8.5	50.9	12.7	43.2	21.1	35.2	11.9	32.3	16.1	37.6	12.5	73.8	8.9	53.6	12.5

Table 17.

Same county	22.3	2.8	36.8	5.5	30.9	7.6	26.1	4.0	30.9	7.2	24.3	4.4	37.9	5.7	28.8	4.7
Other county, same state	25.2	6.5	43.2	8.4	43.7	8.9	19.6	10.8	43.2	18.4	36.5	8.0	41.3	3.5	37.6	7.6
Different state or county	51.7	14.0	50.4	5.1	35.5	4.0	48.0	8.3	38.2	8.1	32.2	11.4	66.9	8.9	47.5	7.1
No answer	70.0	4.0	60.6	6.0	99.7	67.1	92.3	4.3	29.2	21.5	62.9	6.4	93.9	5.6	76.1	7.8

Table 18.

Less than 10 ac.	15.7	8.7	27.5	18.2	23.5	9.2	33.1	42.8	33.3	0	37.5	17.6	28.9	11.3	24.8	15.7
10-49 ac.	8.6	5.2	22.7	19.6	11.3	12.4	16.1	8.9	34.4	24.6	12.9	9.4	20.5	21.1	16.5	12.9
50-99 ac.	12.4	11.1	12.6	11.6	7.6	6.4	8.0	7.5	21.1	22.9	10.4	9.8	13.2	10.3	11.3	10.4
100-499 ac.	6.5	5.3	8.0	7.2	11.0	15.6	6.0	5.3	12.3	10.7	8.1	5.7	10.4	6.5	7.9	6.9
500-999 ac.	8.0	8.2	12.9	10.3	14.8	15.4	9.3	11.0	18.3	15.7	9.4	9.2	10.2	10.8	11.1	11.1
1,000-4,999 ac.	6.6	6.0	9.0	9.1	19.1	15.1	8.8	8.0	21.6	14.0	19.0	14.0	20.0	13.2	12.1	10.1
5,000-9,999 ac.	5.9	2.5	29.8	34.7	15.5	12.9	13.1	7.2	26.3	23.0	16.0	13.7	12.5	12.2	20.3	13.1
10,000 + ac.	5.4	1.6	8.9	2.4	8.6	3.2	6.6	6.0	22.4	6.5	12.1	6.6	8.0	3.2	8.0	3.6



Rosson, J. F., Jr. and Doolittle, L. Profiles of Midsouth nonindustrial private forests and owners. Resour. Bull. SO-125. New Orleans, LA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Forest Experiment Station; 1987. 39 p.

This report presents state-level findings of NIPF resources for the Midsouth. Also presented are profiles of various categories of NIPF owners.

**Additional keywords:** ownership, NIPF, timberland, Midsouth, forest survey.

