



## VENEER LOG PRODUCTION AND RECEIPTS IN THE SOUTHEAST, 1969

Abstract. --In 1969, production of veneer logs was almost 657 million board feet in the Southeast, while receipts of domestic logs at the 136 mills in the area were over 690 million board feet. Pine log production now amounts to 40 percent of the total, while hardwood log production is down 17 percent from that of 1963.

A canvass of mills which received veneer logs produced in the Southeast during 1969 was conducted in 1970, and the results of the study are summarized in this report. Some of the findings are compared with those of a similar study conducted 6 years earlier.<sup>1</sup>

The Southeast produced about 657 million board feet of veneer logs in 1969 (table 1). This was an increase of 36 percent over the production in 1963. The increase in production can be attributed to the birth and development of the southern pine plywood industry. Pine production was in excess of 268 million board feet in 1969, whereas it was less than 9 million in 1963. On the other hand, hardwood veneer log production has declined 17 percent in the past 6 years. The production of hard hardwood logs was up by 11 million board feet; however, the production of soft hardwood logs was down by 92 million board feet. There are two factors affecting the production of hardwoods: (1) there is a scarcity of high-quality soft hardwood logs in the Southeast, and (2) a great amount of hardwood plywood and veneer is being imported from foreign countries.

About 97 percent of the veneer logs produced in the Southeast were retained in the 5-state area. In addition, volume of domestic imports from states outside the area was 2.8 times greater than exports to outside states. Volume of domestic receipts at the 136 mills in the Southeast, therefore, totaled 690 million board feet, or 5 percent more than the volume of logs produced in the area. Although there were 30 fewer mills operating in 1969 than there were in 1963, receipts were up by 37 percent. This situation is largely attributed to the fact that the new mills in the area, particularly the new pine mills, have a greater capacity than the mills that have stopped operating.

Over 35 million board feet, or 69 percent, of the domestic imports were hardwoods. This points out the scarcity of high-quality logs of preferred hardwood species in the Southeast. Imports of pine totaled 16 million board feet, primarily because the procurement areas of some border plywood mills overlap into other states.

By state, North Carolina continued to lead in both the production and receipts of veneer logs, followed by Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, and Florida, in that order (table 2).

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<sup>1</sup>Knight, H. A., and Nichols, A. C. Veneer log production and consumption in the Southeast, 1963. Southeast. Forest Exp. Sta., U. S. Forest Serv. Res. Note SE-37, 4 pp. 1964.

Table 1.--Total production and receipts of domestic veneer logs in the Southeast, by species group, 1969

Species group	Log production			Log receipts	
	Retained in Southeast	Exported to states outside Southeast	Total	Imported from states outside Southeast	Total
----- Thousand board feet <sup>1/</sup> -----					
Pine	257,091	11,375	268,466	16,100	273,191
Other softwood	406	--	406	--	406
Soft hardwood	322,416	6,582	328,998	26,794	349,210
Hard hardwood	58,490	571	59,061	8,712	67,202
All species	638,403	18,528	656,931	51,606	690,009

<sup>1/</sup> International 1/4-inch rule.

Table 2.--Production and receipts of domestic veneer logs in the Southeast, by state and species group, 1969

State and species group	Log production			Log receipts	
	Retained in the state	Exported to other states	Total	Imported from other states	Total
----- Thousand board feet <sup>1/</sup> -----					
<b>Florida:</b>					
Pine	16,590	9,100	25,690	722	17,312
Other softwood	66	--	66	--	66
Soft hardwood	41,570	10,949	52,519	942	42,512
Hard hardwood	8,557	1,277	9,834	217	8,774
All species	66,783	21,326	88,109	1,881	68,664
<b>Georgia:</b>					
Pine	57,448	722	58,170	37,722	95,170
Other softwood	55	--	55	--	55
Soft hardwood	81,605	5,890	87,495	7,819	89,424
Hard hardwood	10,843	482	11,325	1,447	12,290
All species	149,951	7,094	157,045	46,988	196,939
<b>North Carolina:</b>					
Pine	78,882	6	78,888	--	78,882
Other softwood	262	--	262	--	262
Soft hardwood	88,950	6,882	95,832	34,180	123,130
Hard hardwood	11,247	749	11,996	5,291	16,538
All species	179,341	7,637	186,978	39,471	218,812
<b>South Carolina:</b>					
Pine	32,789	12,622	45,411	6	32,795
Other softwood	--	--	--	--	--
Soft hardwood	66,042	1,918	67,960	3,604	69,646
Hard hardwood	16,330	950	17,280	469	16,799
All species	115,161	15,490	130,651	4,079	119,240
<b>Virginia:</b>					
Pine	49,032	11,275	60,307	--	49,032
Other softwood	23	--	23	--	23
Soft hardwood	15,813	9,379	25,192	8,685	24,498
Hard hardwood	7,811	815	8,626	4,990	12,801
All species	72,679	21,469	94,148	13,675	86,354

<sup>1/</sup> International 1/4-inch rule.

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