

Florida's Timber Industry— Timber Product Output and Use, 2011

FOREST INVENTORY & ANALYSIS FACTSHEET

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Introduction

This science update contains the findings of a 2011 canvass of all primary wood-using plants in Florida, and presents changes in product output and residue use since 2009. It complements the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) annual inventory of volume and removals from the State's timberland. The canvass was conducted to determine the amount and source of wood receipts and annual timber product drain, by county, in 2011 and to determine interstate and cross-regional movement of industrial roundwood. Only primary wood-using mills were canvassed. Primary mills are those that process roundwood in log or bolt form or as chipped roundwood. Examples of industrial roundwood products are saw logs, pulpwood, veneer logs, poles, and logs used for composite board products. Mills producing products from residues generated at primary and secondary processors were not canvassed. Trees chipped in the woods were included in the estimate of timber drain only if they were delivered to a primary domestic manufacturer.

A 100-percent canvass of all wood processors in Florida was conducted in 2012 to obtain information for 2011. In addition, roundwood from out-of-State mills known to be using logs or bolts harvested from Florida timberland was incorporated into Florida production estimates. Each mill was canvassed by mail or through personal contact at plant locations. Telephone contacts followed mailed questionnaire responses when additional information or clarification of a response was necessary. In the event of a

nonresponse, data collected in previous surveys were updated using current data collected for mills of similar size, product type, and location. Surveys for all timber products other than pulpwood began in 1958, and are currently conducted every 2 years.

Pulpwood production data were taken from an annual canvass of all southern pulpmills. Medium density fiberboard, insulating board, and hardboard plants were included in this survey.

The FIA Research Work Unit of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture developed the Timber Product Output (TPO) Database Retrieval System to help customers answer questions about timber harvesting and use in the southern region. This system acts as an interface to a standard set of consistently coded TPO data for each State and county in the region and Nation. The database is well documented and easy to use. The retrieval system allows the user to select the TPO variables of interest and generate a standard set of timber products, removals, and mill residue tables for the specified resource area, State, or region. The system is available through the FIA Web site: <http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/>. The Excel® core tables and figures that complement this science update are available on the TPO database.

The Southern Research Station gratefully acknowledges the tremendous cooperation and assistance provided by the Florida Forest Service in collecting mill data. Appreciation is also extended to forest industry and mill managers for providing timber products information.



Buckeye Florida, LP.
(photo by Roy Lima,
Florida Forest
Service)





All Products

- Industrial timber product output from roundwood decreased 7.3 million cubic feet, or 2 percent, to 467.3 million cubic feet.
- Output of industrial softwood roundwood products dropped 2 percent to 447.5 million cubic feet, while output of industrial hardwood roundwood products decreased 1 percent to 19.8 million cubic feet (fig. 1).

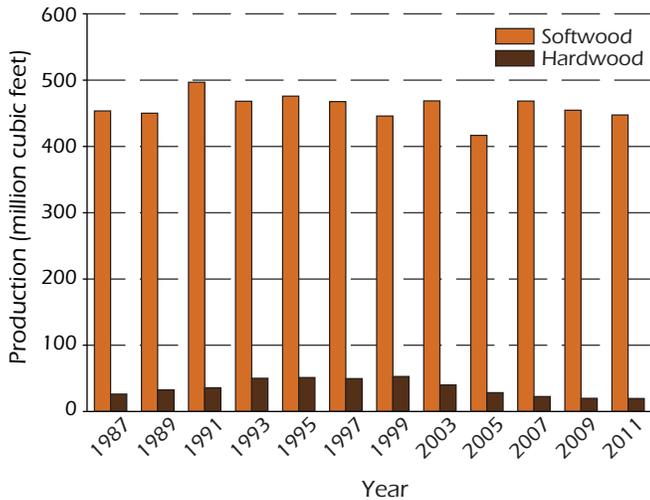


Figure 1—Roundwood production for all products by species group and year, Florida.

- Pulpwood and saw logs were the principal roundwood products in 2011. Combined output of these two products totaled 381.8 million cubic feet and accounted for 82 percent of the State's total industrial roundwood output (fig. 2).

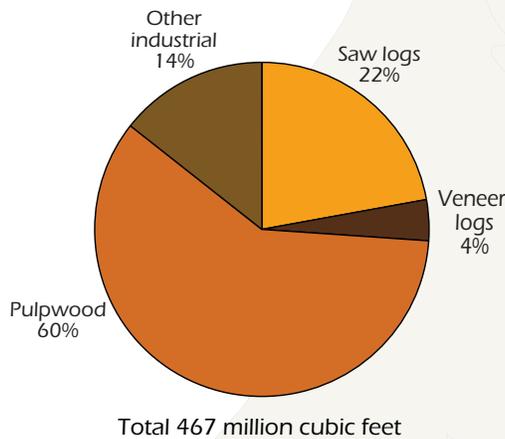


Figure 2—Roundwood production by type of product, Florida, 2011.

- Total receipts at Florida mills, which included roundwood harvested and retained in the State and roundwood imported from other States, was up 4 percent from 505.4 million cubic feet to 523.8 million cubic feet.
- At the same time, the number of primary roundwood-using plants in Florida declined from 59 in 2009 to 52 in 2011 (fig. 3).

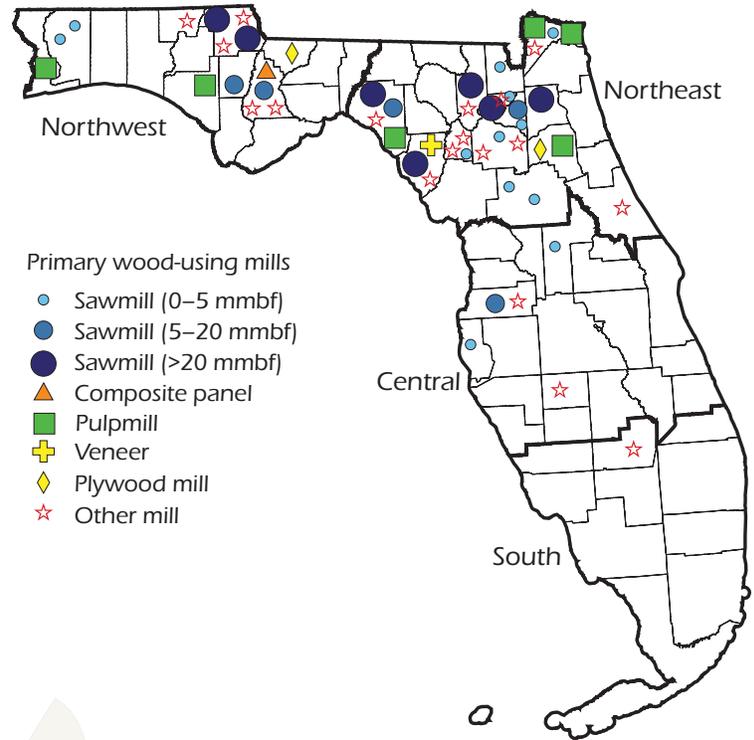


Figure 3—Primary wood-using mills by region, Florida, 2011.

- Across all products, 86 percent of roundwood harvested was retained for processing at Florida mills. Exports of roundwood to other States amounted to 64.3 million cubic feet, while imports of roundwood amounted to 120.8 million cubic feet making the State a net importer of roundwood.

Pulpwood

- Total pulpwood production increased 5 percent to 278.2 million cubic feet and accounted for 60 percent of the State's total roundwood TPO compared to 56 percent of total TPO in 2009. Softwood output was up 6 percent to 264.4 million cubic feet; hardwood output decreased 13 percent to 13.9 million cubic feet (fig. 4).

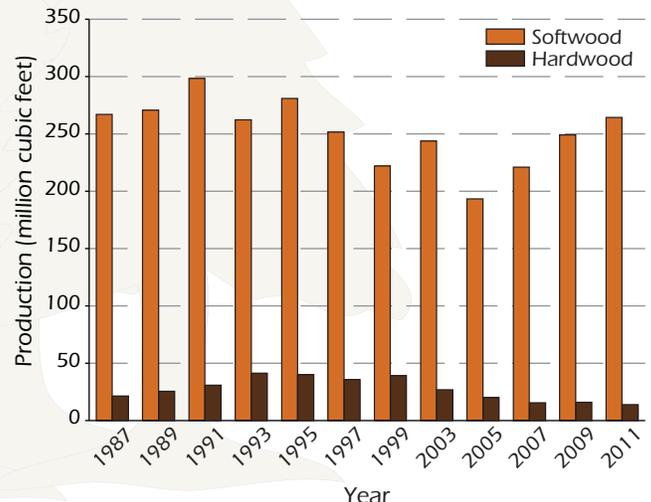


Figure 4—Roundwood pulpwood production by species group and year, Florida.



- Six pulpmill facilities were operating and receiving roundwood in Florida in 2011, the same since 1999. Total pulpwood receipts for these mills increased to 336.3 million cubic feet, accounting for 64 percent of total receipts for all mills.
- Eighty-five percent of roundwood cut for pulpwood was retained for processing at Florida pulpmills. Roundwood pulpwood accounted for 67 percent of total known exports and 84 percent of total imports.

Saw Logs

- Saw logs accounted for 22 percent of the State’s total roundwood products. Output of softwood saw logs decreased 14 percent to 101.5 million cubic feet, while that of hardwood saw logs was up 10 percent to 2.1 million cubic feet (fig. 5).

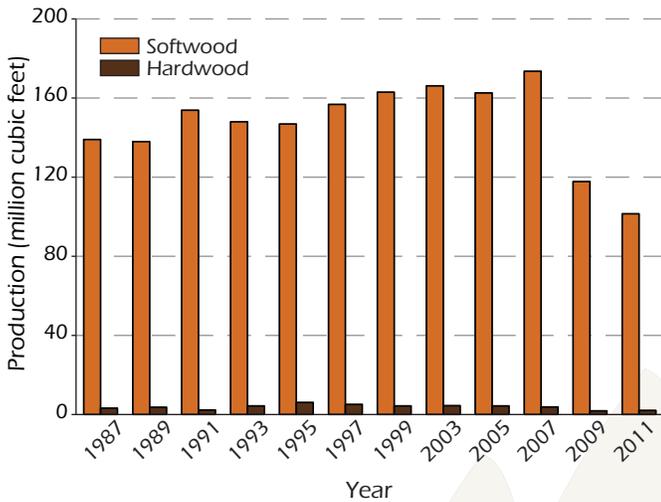


Figure 5—Roundwood saw-log production by species group and year, Florida.

- In 2011, Florida had 24 sawmills, 4 fewer mills than in 2009. Total saw-log receipts dropped 21.9 million cubic feet to 100.3 million cubic feet. Softwood saw-log receipts decreased 18 percent to 98.7 million cubic feet, while those of hardwoods were up 14 percent to 1.6 million cubic feet.
- Florida retained 87 percent of its saw-log production for within-State manufacture, with saw-log exports exceeding imports by 3.2 million cubic feet in 2011.

Veneer Logs

- Output of veneer logs in 2011 totaled 18.4 million cubic feet, an 8-percent decrease since 2009, and accounted for 4 percent of the State’s total roundwood TPO volume (fig. 6).
- The number of veneer mills operating in Florida remained stable at three for 2011, unchanged since 2003. Receipts of veneer logs decreased 1 percent to 24.6 million cubic feet.

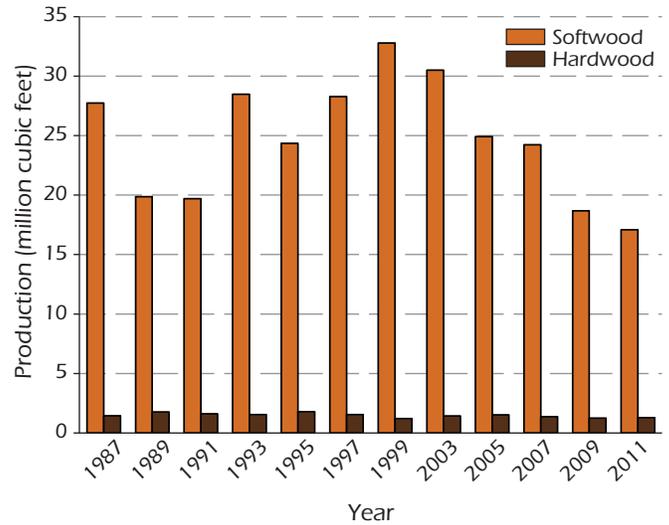


Figure 6—Roundwood veneer-log production by species group and year, Florida.

Other Industrial Products

- Roundwood harvested for other industrial uses such as poles, posts, mulch, residential firewood, industrial fuel, logs for log homes, composite panels, and all other industrial products totaled 67.2 million cubic feet. Softwood made up 96 percent of the other industrial products volume.
- The number of plants producing other industrial products totaled 19 in 2011. Combined receipts of other industrial products from softwood and hardwood totaled 62.5 million cubic feet. Industrial fuel accounted for 27.1 million cubic feet, or 43 percent, of receipt volume for this category.

Plant Byproducts

- In 2011, processing of primary products in Florida mills generated 117.3 million cubic feet of wood and bark residues. Coarse residues from all primary products amounted to 39.3 million cubic feet, while bark volume totaled 46.3 million cubic feet. Collectively, sawdust and shavings made up 27 percent of total residues, or 31.8 million cubic feet (fig. 7).

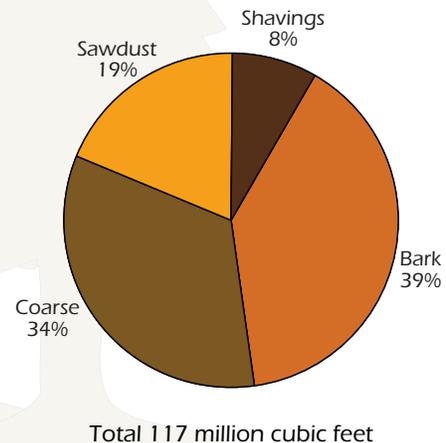


Figure 7—Primary mill residue by residue type, Florida, 2011.



- The processing of saw logs generated 66.3 million cubic feet of mill residues, accounting for 57 percent of the total residues produced (fig. 8).

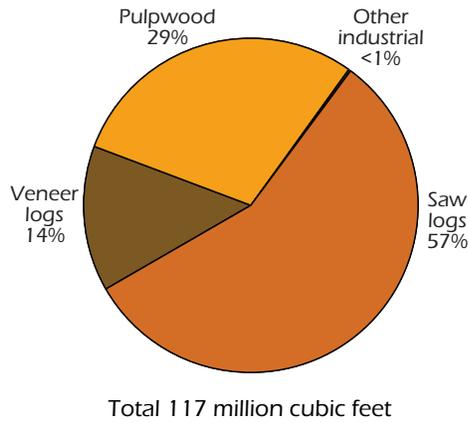


Figure 8—Primary mill residue produced by roundwood type, Florida, 2011.

- Nearly 100 percent, or 117.3 million cubic feet, of the wood and bark residues were used for a product. While <1 percent of the residues were not used for a product, 51 percent of the residues were used for industrial fuel and 29 percent were used for fiber products (fig. 9). Eighty-seven percent, or 34.0 million cubic feet, of the coarse residues were used for fiber products. Seventy-eight percent of the bark was used for industrial fuel, while 73 percent of the sawdust and shavings were used for industrial fuel.

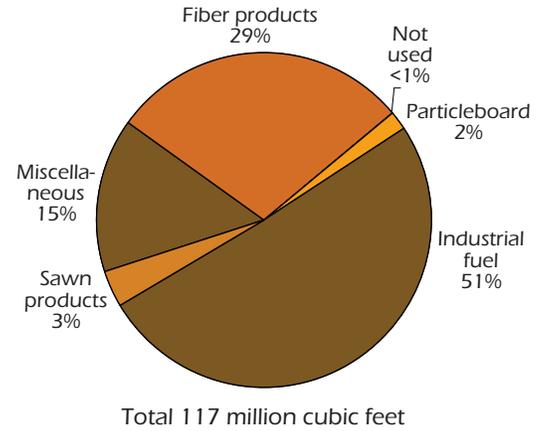


Figure 9—Disposal of residue by product, Florida, 2011.



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Load of pulp logs headed to pulpmill.
(photo by James Bentley)

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