

2011

## Timber Talk, Vol. 49, No. 2, June 1, 2011

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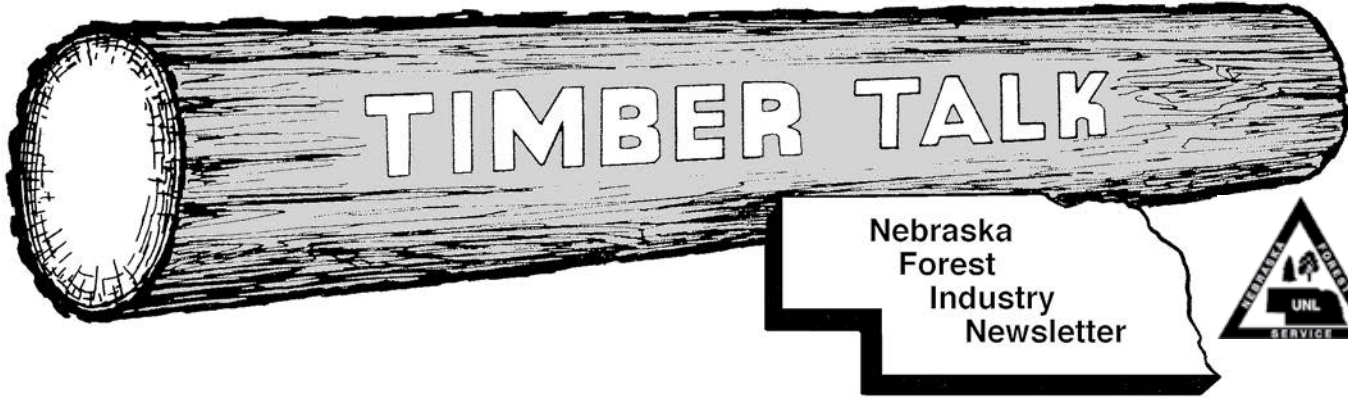
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# NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE



Nebraska Forest Service

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

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The Nebraska Forest Service publishes **Timber Talk** four times annually (February 1, June 1, September 1, and November 1) to serve the forest industry of Nebraska. All questions and correspondence concerning **Timber Talk** should be directed to: Dennis M. Adams, **Timber Talk** Editor, Nebraska Forest Service, University of Nebraska, 203E Forestry Hall, P.O. Box 830815, Lincoln, NE 68583-0815. Phone (402) 472-5822, FAX (402) 472-2964.

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## Lumber Market

### HARDWOODS



**Northern.** The volume of green lumber produced is moving at a steady rate. Each segment of the marketplace is engaged at some level — resale operations restocking inventory; export yards purchasing to cover commitments; secondary manufacturers; and ties and other industrial markets. There is greater energy in kiln dried activity, which has more to do with supply than any surge on demand. Because kiln dried lumber is typically purchased for immediate use, any gaps in supply are quickly evident.

**Southern.** For most of the region, strong storms and heavy rains were replaced by summer-like weather conditions. In areas not affected by flooding, logging activity resumed. However, it will take time to replenish depleted log inventories. Therefore, most sawmills are working at less than full production levels, and green lumber supplies remain low. Sales operations are generally shipping total green output with little difficulty. At the same time, there have been no significant improvement in use of hardwood lumber by domestic secondary manufacturers. The U.S. housing market has not regained traction, which is hampering finished goods sales. On the other hand, global consumption of North American hardwoods has remained steady and has grown as a percentage of sales for most mills and resellers. China, particularly, has solidified business with existing and new venders.

**Appalachian.** The strongest influence on market activity has been lack of supplies. Demand from U.S. customers is lethargic and confined to short term needs — a result of the sluggish economy and slow residential construction. Heavy rains over much of the area has negatively affected logging activity, log inventories, and green lumber and industrial timber production. There is concern that sawmill output will improve quickly and flood the supply stream once dry weather prevails. However, one constant has been steady sales and shipments to international customers. Regardless if mills and resale operations are dealing directly overseas or not, global markets are driving activity for U.S. hardwoods. For many, sales to foreign customers account for at least 50% of grade lumber business, with some upwards of 70% of sales volume.

(Source: Condensed from *Hardwood Market Report*, May 14, 2011. For more information or to subscribe to *Hardwood Market Report*, call (901) 767-9216, email: [hmr@hmr.com](mailto:hmr@hmr.com), website: [www.hmr.com](http://www.hmr.com))

## Hardwood Lumber Price Trends—Green

Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10
Ash	790	800	800	785	570	570	570	550	405	405	405	395
Basswood	705	705	730	730	375	375	385	385	205	205	205	205
Cottonwood	625	625	625	605	425	425	425	405	220	220	220	220
Cherry	1480	1530	1530	1530	655	655	655	655	330	330	330	330
Elm	635	635	635	635	420	420	420	420	235	235	235	235
Hackberry	475	475	475	475	455	455	455	455	265	265	265	265
Hickory	640	640	655	640	530	530	530	530	405	405	405	405
Soft Maple	870	870	930	1000	570	570	585	600	325	325	325	325
Red Oak	985	1040	1095	1135	680	680	770	770	555	555	575	575
White Oak	1020	1035	1035	1035	635	645	645	645	470	480	500	500
Walnut	2130	2105	2060	1975	1140	1125	1095	1025	755	740	675	605

Note: Hardwood prices quoted in dollars per MBF, average market prices FOB mill, truckload and greater quantities, 4/4, rough, green, random widths and lengths graded in accordance with NHLA rules. Prices for ash, basswood, northern soft grey elm, unselected soft maple, red oak and white oak from Northern Hardwoods listings. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods listings. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods listings. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report Lumber News Letter*, last issue of month indicated. To subscribe to Hardwood Market Report call (901) 767-9126, email: hmr@hmr.com, website: www.hmr.com.)

## Hardwood Lumber Price Trends—Kiln Dried

Species	FAS				#1C				#2A			
	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10	3/11	12/10	9/10	6/10
Ash	1130	1155	1165	1090	835	860	890	850	670	680	695	685
Basswood	940	950	985	1000	575	575	585	575	415	415	415	415
Cottonwood	725	—	740	740	530	—	545	520	—	—	—	—
Cherry	2140	2260	2260	2260	990	1005	990	930	625	625	615	605
Elm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hackberry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hickory	1110	1110	1110	1090	945	945	945	915	790	790	790	780
Soft Maple	1120	1140	1200	1315	760	775	830	830	585	595	595	595
Red Oak	1355	1435	1550	1535	1000	1050	1140	1140	835	865	865	850
White Oak	1560	1625	1650	1605	940	955	955	920	780	795	795	765
Walnut	3185	3110	3045	2930	1800	1765	1750	1635	1235	1235	1185	1010

Note: Kiln dried prices in dollars per MBF, FOB mill, is an estimate of predominant prices for 4/4 lumber inspected and graded before kiln drying. Prices for cottonwood and hackberry from Southern Hardwoods listings. Prices for ash, basswood, northern soft grey elm, unselected soft maple, red oak, and white oak from Northern Hardwood listings. Prices for cherry, hickory and walnut (steam treated) from Appalachian Hardwoods listings. (Source: *Hardwood Market Report Lumber News Letter*, last issue of month indicated. To subscribe to Hardwood Market Report call (901) 767-9126, website: www.hmr.com.)

## New Nebraska “Secondary Processors” Directory

The new “Nebraska Forest Products Manufacturers – Secondary Processors” directory is completed and published. It includes over 50 Nebraska forest products businesses that manufacture wood products from lumber, partially manufactured logs, or wood byproducts resulting from other wood products manufacturing. This new directory was developed from a survey of all known secondary wood products manufacturers in Nebraska. It includes only businesses that request to be listed.

The Nebraska Forest Products Manufacturers – Secondary Processors directory is conveniently available on the Nebraska Forest Service website: <http://www.nfs.unl.edu/forestproducts.asp>. For those without internet access, hard copies are also available from: Marketing & Utilization Forester, Nebraska Forest Service, 203E Forestry Hall, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583-0815; phone: (402) 472-5822; e-mail: [dadams2@unl.edu](mailto:dadams2@unl.edu).

## Sand Creek Post and Beam Named 2011 Nebraska Small Business of the Year

Sand Creek Post and Beam, located in Wayne, Nebraska, was named the Nebraska Small Business of the Year for 2011 by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The owners, Len Dickson, and his wife, Jule Goeller, have been invited to attend National Small Business Week, May 16-20, in Washington, D.C., and are eligible for selection as National Small Business Person of the Year.

More than 100 outstanding small business owners from across the country, including Sand Creek Post and Beam, will receive awards while gathering for three days at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in our nation’s capital. They will meet with top administration officials, congressional representatives and national business leaders.

Dickinson and Goeller started their business five years ago, growing into a company which blends building and selling technologically advanced pre-cut, pre-engineered kits which preserve authentic Great Plains post-and-beam barns and outbuildings. The firm offers big wood post and beam timber barns and outbuilding kits—many of which even are perfect for a one-of-a-kind rustic home. The frames are assembled on a customer’s existing foundation, and if that customer needs construction advice all the way up to turn-key construction services for the new barn, they provide that, too. Workers at their 27,000-square foot factory in Wayne, and their facility in Cleveland, Ga., mill, cut and assemble barn kits.

“Many of the barns in Nebraska years ago were built from kits from Sears or Montgomery Wards,” Goeller said. “So we brought back an old business and we’re reviving a niche. People don’t have the time these days to do things like get tools and go find people with expertise to build a barn. So if you could have something shipped already pre-packaged, wouldn’t that would work great?”

Keeping with its back-to-the-prairie environmentally-friendly business model, Sand Creek Post and Beam uses

all-natural materials, with no chemical preparations. “We pay Arbor Day to plant 10 trees for every customer we have,” Goeller added.

Four years ago, the company embarked on an expansion project which would mean more factory space, an ability to complete more orders, and more jobs for local workers. From 2006 to 2009, the company grew from \$1 million to \$5.1 million in revenue, and to 37 employees. Inc. Magazine recognized the firm by naming it the 218th fastest-growing company in the country in 2009. Goeller estimated revenues for 2010 to be between \$6 and \$7 million.

Plans for the future include placing small production units strategically around the country to cut down on shipping costs. “We would like to expand our sales network, and look at doing more international sales,” Goeller added. “We sold one barn delivered to France, another to Alberta, even people from Australia are interested in obtaining our products.

While the company continues to look toward future growth, they’re proud of their ties to the past, and a picture of rural America of days gone by.

## Poison Ivy, Oak, and Sumac

Poison ivy, *Toxicodendron radicans* (also named *Rhus radicans*), poison oak, *T. diversilobum* (also named *R. diversilobum*), and poison sumac, *T. vernix* (also named *R. vernix*) are all poisonous vine and/or shrub species belonging to the sumac family Anacardiaceae, which also includes cashew, pistachio, and mango.

Poison ivy is often inadvertently contacted out-of-doors, but is never forgotten once an outbreak of a persistent, itching skin rash occurs. It grows plentifully in parts of the U.S. and southern Canada.

Poison ivy usually grows as a vine, twining on tree trunks or straggling over the ground. But the plant also forms upright bushes if it has no support to climb upon. Species related to poison ivy include poison oak, which grows in the Pacific Northwest and nearby regions of Canada, and poison sumac, which grows in the Eastern United States. Poison oak and poison sumac both are shrubs. The tissues of all these plants contain a poisonous oil, urushiol, somewhat like carbolic acid. This oil is extremely irritating to the skin. It may be brushed onto clothing or skin of people coming in contact with the plants. Many people have been poisoned merely by taking off their shoes after walking through poison ivy. People can get poisoned by touching other people, but only if the oil remains on their skin. The eruptions themselves are not a source of infection.

The leaves of poison ivy are red in early spring. Later in the spring, they change to shiny green. They turn yellow, red or orange in autumn. Each leaf is made up of three leaflets more or less notched at the edges. Two of the leaflets form a pair on opposite sides of the leafstalk, while the third stands by itself at the tip of the leafstalk. Small greenish flowers grow in bunches attached to the main stem close to where each leaf joins it. Later in the season, clusters of poisonous, berry-like drupes form. They are whitish, with a waxy look.

Efforts have been made to destroy these plants by uprooting them or by spraying them with chemicals. But poison ivy and poison oak are so common that such methods have not been very effective in eliminating them. Contact with the plants should be avoided. After the oil has touched the skin, it usually takes some time for it to penetrate and do its damage. Before this happens, it is wise to wash the skin thoroughly several times with plenty of soap and water. Care should be taken



not to touch any part of the body, for even tiny amounts of the oil will cause irritation. If poisoning develops, the blisters and red, itching skin may be treated with dressings of calamine lotion, Epsom salts, or bicarbonate of soda. Scientists have developed a vaccine that can be injected or swallowed, but it is effective only if taken before exposure.

Although toxic to humans, these plants are an important food source for wildlife. The fruits are eaten by flickers and other woodpeckers, catbirds, chickadees, quail, pheasants, and turkeys. The “plant” the seeds and insure a continuing food supply. Deer and rabbits also browse the twigs.

(Source: Adapted from an article in *Timber Talk Newsletter*, Iowa Woodland Owners Association, May 2011.)

## The Trouble With Ethanol

In recent years, there have been many changes in gasoline available to consumers. Most of these changes have been driven by the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) quest for cleaner air.

The EPA requires gasoline sold as on-road motor fuel to be “oxygenated.” That means the fuel is enhanced with some sort of chemical compound that carries oxygen. For many years, that chemical in most of the country was methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE). MTBE was heavily used and prized as an oxygen enhancer AND as an octane enhancer. In recent years, MTBE has fallen out of favor due to its long-term effects on aquifers and its questionable carcinogenic characteristics.

The replacement of choice in most of North America, particularly in the United States, is ethanol. Ethanol is a blend of ethyl alcohol and gasoline and is authorized in quantities of up to 10% in fuel sold as gasoline motor fuel in the country today. Oxygenated fuels work by promoting a more complete combustion process. By the very nature of the fuel carrying more oxygen, the resulting emissions (especially carbon monoxide, a by-product of incomplete combustion) are reduced. This reduction is arguably of little consequence in today’s modern, computer-controlled, fuel-injected vehicles. However, there are significant emissions gains when ethanol is utilized in carbureted engines such as older vehicles, boats, and motorcycles. These same gains are also realized in the small engines powering our outdoor needs at home, or at work in the mill yard and woodlot.

### The Downside

Despite the positives of using ethanol, there are some problems as well. Ethyl alcohol is a very effective solvent. It does a great job of breaking down the years of contaminants within the fuel system of older vehicles and equipment and move them upstream to the filtration system. This includes fuel tank deposits and any nonalcohol-resistant fuel delivery components. What is not captured by the filtration system is moved to the carburetor and can restrict fuel delivery. This can result in performance issues stemming from lean operation. The solvent action of ethyl alcohol as a gasoline additive introduced to an older, small engine has most of its effect in the carburetor bowl, allowing breakdown of deposits and the subsequent restriction of the fuel delivery jet(s) resulting in additional performance issues. Fuel delivery components such as non-neoprene rubber fuel hoses degrade and begin to leak quickly. This has been particularly noted in the chain saw industry.

Ethyl alcohol is also hygroscopic, meaning it readily absorbs and disperses water. In New England and other parts of the country where 10% ethanol is standard at the fuel pumps,

there is no longer any need for fuel line antifreeze. That product is an isopropyl alcohol base. With 10% alcohol already in your tank, the product becomes obsolete.

The hygroscopic properties of ethanol are probably the leading cause of small engine problem today. Experts in the small engine field agree that between 70% and 80% of the repair work generated in their facility is attributed to ethanol-enhance gasoline and a phenomenon called “phase separation.” Phase separation occurs when moisture is introduced to the fuel. This moisture can be from accidental introduction of straight water, or more commonly from the result of condensation in the fuel system. Condensation is made possible by the normal and necessary fuel ventilation system on most small equipment.

Unlike your car or truck where the systems are tighter and fuel is typically used at a faster rate, the gasoline in a piece of power equipment that is not used for a period of weeks or months can attract moisture from the atmosphere. The moisture will combine with the ethanol and this mixture will then fall out of suspension with the gasoline and form at the bottom of the tank and/or the fuel bowl in the carburetor. The suspension often has a characteristic white milky substance between the phases. The moisture at the bottom of the mix has corrosive properties in a steel fuel tank or carburetor bowl. The resulting fuel leftovers will not operate in the engine, and will not recombine into a combustible mixture once separated. The only alternative is to drain and clean the fuel tank and lines, and additionally remove, disassemble, and clean the carburetor. This operation is becoming commonplace in the small engine world where gasoline can often sit in both equipment fuel tanks and vented gasoline containers for extended periods of time.

The third problem with ethanol has to do with its characteristics as a fuel: Fact one, ethanol has 30% less energy per unit volume than gasoline. Fact two, standard gasoline burns with an ideal ratio of 14.7 parts air to 1 part fuel, while ethanol’s preferred ratio is 9:1.

Translation, ethanol requires less air to burn per unit volume than gasoline AND will not provide the same amount of power in an engine designed for gasoline. These characteristics alone are enough reason for the federal government to limit ethanol as an additive to gasoline to 10%. Add any more than that, and the engine burning it will be operating too “lean,” that is, too much air and not enough fuel. Lean operation is not desirable because it can cause too much heat in the combustion chamber. This additional heat can be problematic ... especially when there is aluminum around the combustion chamber. A common small engine failure nowadays is in designs with “overhead” valves and pushrods. Typically, the valve pushrods are made of aluminum, and designed to bend or break in the event of any valve train problems — and bending or breaking they are! Many cylinder heads on small engines are aluminum, and the additional heat around the combustion chamber is causing valves to stick in the cylinder head. The aluminum pushrod is the component that fails. This same lean operating failure can be caused by a restriction in the fuel delivery from the carburetor as mentioned previously.

### Avoiding the Problems

So now you may be wondering what steps you can take to avoid the problems associated with ethanol. Here are some recommendations I have developed from personal experiences and from interacting with customers:

- **Fuel Treatment.** There have been fuel stabilizers on the market for decades. A fuel stabilizer is designed to

protect gasoline from degradation. However, your old standby may not offer enough protection with ethanol-enhanced gasoline. There are some stabilizers fairly new to the market. These were initially intended for the recreational marine consumer and are outstanding choices for ethanol stabilization. They work by essentially inhibiting the ability of ethanol to attract moisture. I suggest reading the label on your old favorite and doing a bit of research on its abilities relating to ethanol. I have switched to a “marine”-based product for all of my small engines, 2- and 4-stroke alike. Also, every tank of gasoline for my small equipment is now treated at time of purchase. It eliminates the question, “Was the fuel in the leaf blower treated before I put it away in November?” This has also eliminated problems I have encountered with intermittently used items like our generator. Another thing to remember is to treat your fuel immediately at time of purchase: Fuel treatment will not return a can of fuel that has already been sitting for several months to new condition!

- **Fuel Storage.** In addition to treatment store fuel in properly sealed containers, not in the old gasoline can that you bought in the 1970s that is now missing the tank vent and spout caps. The ethanol content for fuel stored in a container open to the elements is going to rapidly attract moisture and begin the separation process. All fuel cans should be vented for temperature fluctuations. Most do this through the spout/spout cap.
- **Inactive or Seasonal Equipment.** If you choose not to treat all of your fuel all of the time, at the very least be certain to add a fuel treatment to the tank in the appropriate ratio before store. The engine should be operated on this mixture to ensure the engine fuel delivery system is protected. If at all possible, seasonal equipment should be started and run to operating temperature during off season at least every 60 days. Another precaution is to keep fuel tanks near full when possible. This helps prevent atmospheric air intrusion and, therefore, water’s potential for entering the gasoline.
- **Use Caution.** One last recommendation would be to exercise caution if a piece of equipment is not running properly after an extended period of inactivity. When confronted with this situation, most people will try anything to keep the equipment running in an attempt to fix the problem. I have had many customers who have damaged their equipment by doing just this. The problem is usually remedied simply with a fuel exchange and maybe a carburetor cleaning, but if not handled properly, can result in expensive mechanical damage from overheated cylinders and stuck valve trains.

Ethanol is only the latest chapter in the evolution of gasoline as a motor fuel. In warmer climates around the world, 100% ethanol is used as a motor fuel and in our own country it is sometimes used in concentrations of up to 85%. One hundred percent ethanol or E100 does not have good cold weather starting characteristics and, therefore, E85 is used in the United States. According to some studies, it currently takes more energy to produce ethanol than you get back out of it in energy. This varies with the choice of crop to produce it. Traditionally, most of the ethanol in the United States is produced from corn, but alternative crops such as beets, switchgrass, and even general cellulosic wood waste are showing promise. No matter the source, it is likely that we

will not be seeing ethanol as anything more than a gasoline additive across the country for some time — until it can be produced more economically on a larger scale. But as a gasoline additive, it appears it will stay.

(Source: Independent Sawmill & Woodlot Management magazine, March 2009. Article written by Craig Blake, who operates a sawmill supply and small equipment business in southern Massachusetts ([www.majestystables.com](http://www.majestystables.com)) For more information or to subscribe to IS&WM, call 1-888-762-8476 or website. [www.sawmillmag.com](http://www.sawmillmag.com)).

## Trends — From One Saw Doctor’s Perspective

I have seen a number of trends in the past few years that I would definitely consider to be worth watching in the new year. For starters, just as the whole world has become more and more Internet-dependent, sawmillers have finally jumped on the bandwagon and now many of them consider the Internet to be a useful tool for finding information and potential suppliers. I wouldn’t say that all of the mills in the Northeast have caught up with other industries in their use of the Internet, but the trend is there and it is coming fast.

Some people think of trends in terms of what is likely to happen in the coming year. I think of trends more in terms of what has been happening in the last few years and therefore how much of that is likely to continue for the next few years.

Many of the larger mills in the Northeast were small or medium sized operations when I started working with them. The trend among these larger mills has been — and continues to be — to convert from mainly using a circular head rig to a band head rig. On their journey from small or medium to large, they have already added band line bar resaws and have been able to achieve real growth as a result. So it must seem natural to them to move one step further and install a band head rig.

I disagree with this move, not just because circular saws are my thing, but because I believe that the inserted tooth circular saw is better suited to the job that a head saw has to do. I certainly agree that bands are the way to go in a resaw application and I’ve been preaching for years that the head rig should only be used to square up a log enough so that it is presentable to a resaw. Having the head saw do more than that is just plain inefficient.

The head saw application is quite abusive. You have a young log that isn’t perfectly round, with all sorts of obstacles like knots and bell butts. Because the log isn’t really round, it can often move laterally or roll a little while in the cut. And because of its irregular shape, the teeth are often not seeing the cut evenly. In other words, when each tooth enters the cut, both corners don’t hit at exactly the same time because of the curvature of the log. This can cause quite a bit of instability at the rim of the saw as one corner tends to bite just a little ahead of the other corner of the tooth.

Sure, circular saws generate more sawdust than band saws, but in the head rig application that extra sawdust should be coming out of your slabs anyway.

By using a band saw on your head rig, you now have a tool that is a lot less forgiving than the average inserted tooth circular saw — not to mention the added maintenance that a band saw requires as compared to a circular saw. Of course, in the resaw application, that added maintenance is easily offset and overcome by the production you gain by making less sawdust. What do you gain at the head rig? Of course,

(continued on page 7)

# Nebraska Forestry Industry Spotlight



## THOMSON SAWMILL



Larry Thompson is a great one to make use of trees that would otherwise be left to rot or dozed into a pile and burned. For 13 years, Larry has been “salvaging” trees, including many valuable walnut trees, from such fate and turning them into lumber. He bought a used Wood-Mizer Model LT40HD bandsaw from the previous owner in Bemedji, Minnesota.

The mill now has over 4,500 hours on the 24 horsepower engine. Most of the milling that Larry did in the early years was for personal use. Lately, though he describes his sawmilling as “a hobby gone mad”, with many requests for custom sawing trees out of windbreaks, farmsteads, or other areas where trees are being removed. The majority of the trees that he mills are from landowners who are removing or clearing trees. About one half of the milling is done at his farm west of Wisner and the other half involves transporting the portable mill to the site with the trees.

One of his first big projects involved salvaging walnut logs from a burn pile after a call from a brother-in-law about walnut trees being dozed out in Pierce County. The contractor said Larry could have the trees if he removed them within several days, before the piles were burned. That contact resulted in 20 tons of walnut logs to process. To help make use of some of the walnut lumber, Larry works with Forest Products Supply in Minnesota that utilizes

walnut lumber for bar tops and other items. Last year, Larry estimates he cut over 150 walnut logs on his mill.

A favorite project of Larry’s is helping build his daughter’s, Maureen, cordwood home. The 36 foot by 76 foot house is built with all home made lumber and logs. No lumber was purchased. The walls that are made from 8

inch lengths eastern redcedar cordwood with each piece hand trimmed with a drawknife. An estimated 1,300 cedar trees were used in the building project.

Another project in which Larry was involved was helping design and then mill the cottonwood logs for the first open beam barn built and sold by Sand Creek Post & Beam. This company, from Wayne, NE (featured in TimberTalk, September, 2006) is now selling barns nationwide.

Currently, Larry is cutting Siberian elm for another building project in which the owner wants to use mostly elm lumber.

Since 1975, Larry has been managing hog units in the Wisner/Pilger area. He sees his life changing due to the current financial difficulty in the swine industry. Larry reflects that the timing may be good for a change in life activities with more time being available for saving trees from the burn pile and turning them into useable lumber.

Larry can be contacted at Thompson Sawmill, 2168 2nd Road, Wisner, NE 68791: phone: (402) 640-4785.



Larry with his band sawmill.

### Little Know Nebraska Facts

The state nickname used to be the “Tree Planter’s State,” but was changed in 1945 to the “Cornhusker State.”



# The Trading Post

**T**he *Trading Post* is provided as a free marketing service for forestry industry. Only forestry-related advertisements will be accepted with the exception of products manufactured in the normal course of your business. Please submit written ads to the *Timber Talk* editor at least 15 days before scheduled *Timber Talk* publication dates. Ads may be edited to meet space constraints.

## For Sale

**Sawmill.** Mighty Mite band sawmill. 20 horse electric motor, tandem axles with brakes on one axle, 36" x 24' log capacity, (I have cut 46" beams) hydraulic operation includes winch, knees, taper, near arm, dogging arms, far arm, dogging spike, log loading arms, and electric clutch and blade lift. Also includes automatic blade sharpener, setting machine, 12 used blades and 4 new blades. Excellent condition. Never been used commercially. \$17,500. Contact: Gary Fisher, Crawford, NE. Phone: (308) 665-1580; email: fisher@bbcwb.net.

**Tree Shear.** 14" Dymax Model 2135D1, Double grapple. Used very little. Excellent condition. Fits universal skid loader mounts. \$4,000. Contact: Gary Fisher, Crawford, NE. Phone: (308) 665-1580; email: fisher@bbcwb.net.

**Lumber Dry Kiln.** 2007 Nyle L300 Lumber Dry Kiln. 8000 bf capacity. Single phase, 100A, 220V, comes with 3 fans, 3 motors, 3 shrouds, wet and dry bulbs. Never been removed from shipping crate. \$9,800. Contact: Dave Champlin, 1842 N. 210th Rd., Concordia, KS 66901. Phone: (785) 275-2181; email: trees2trim@ncKcn.com.

**Sawmill.** Circular sawmill. Includes power unit and two 48-inch insert tooth blades. Contact: Monte Reynolds, R&R Sawmill, 75455 Rd 409, Farnam, NE 69029. Phone: (308) 569-2345.

**Planer.** 24" Goodall & Waters planer. 2 knives. Includes 5 HP electric motor. Manufactured about 1890 in Philadelphia. \$250 OBO. Contact: Carl Hinds, 450 Gulf Rd., S. Sioux City, NE 68776. Phone: (402) 494-2127 or cell (712) 281-1472.

**Lumber.** Rough cut. Air dry. Approximately 500 bf – Black Walnut, 290 bf – Pecan, 100 bf – Poplar, 500 bf – Cherry, 500 bf – Soft Maple, 100 bf – Hickory, 300 bf – Ash. Contact: R&R Sawmill, 75455 Rd 409, Farnam, NE 69029. Phone: (308) 569-2345.

## Wanted

**Belsaw Woodworking Planer.** Model 9103. 12¼". **Bandsaw Lumber Mill.** Push type. Contact: Charles Cressman, 231 Walnut St., Butte, NE 68722-3518. Phone: (402) 775-2468.

**Logs and Slabwood.** Cottonwood, cedar and pine. 4" to 26" diameter and 90"-100" lengths. Below saw grade logs acceptable. Contact: American Wood Fibers, Clarks, NE at (800) 662-5459; or email: Pat Krish at pkrish@AWF.com

**Straight Line Ripsaw.** Also, **Powder Wedge or Dynamite Wedge** for splitting large logs. Contact: Carl Hinds, 450 Gulf Rd., S. Sioux City, NE 68776. Phone (402) 494-2127 or cell (712) 281-1472.

## Services and Miscellaneous

**Woodshop Services.** Millwork made from your lumber on my planer/molder. Chris Marlowe, Butte, NE (402) 775-5000. Marlowepasture@nntc.net.

**Sawmill Service and Supplies.** Saw hammering and welding. Precision knife and saw grinding. Certified Stihl chainsaw sales and service. Contact: Tim Schram, Schram Saw and Machine, PO Box 718, 204 E. 3rd St., Ponca, NE 68770, (402) 755-4294.

**Used Portable Sawmills.** North America's largest source of used portable sawmills and equipment. Contact: Sawmill Exchange (800) 459-2148, website: [www.sawmillexchange.com](http://www.sawmillexchange.com).

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## Trends— From One Saw Doctor's Perspective (continued from page 5)

some of the mill people tell me that they do take a few boards with their band head rig, so that they can get the cant to be the right size to fit into the resaw. Well, then why didn't you just replace your current resaw with a bigger one? That would have been cheaper than putting in a new band head rig and all of the added maintenance that comes along for the ride.

Of course the bottom line is that in spite of what I think these mills went ahead and made the change and as a result, they seem to be plenty profitable. So what do I know?

I have also seen a relatively recent trend towards the real small mills. These include farm mills, some hobby mills and some small businesses who intend to stay fairly small, getting rid of their old worn out hand set circular mills to put in the newer, small portable narrow bandmills. Personally, I am not a big fan of these small portable bandmills. And of course, since many of them aren't really in it as a full-time business, it is quite hard to measure their success or lack thereof.

But I can tell you that some of these folks were plenty reluctant to invest as little as \$5,000 rebuilding worn parts of their mill and upgrading to new blades. Now they plunk much more money to buy a portable mill that is nowhere near as capable of the lumber production that even an old, worn out handset mill can do with a little bit of rebuilding.

Sure, these narrow bands take out much less sawdust, but how much money can you save with the limited production levels of these machines?

Now that leaves us a lot of small to medium size mills in our region. I am talking about mills that put out 5,000 to 20,000 board feet a day. This is probably not a surprise to anyone reading this magazine, but in the past couple of years the trends for those mills has been to partially shut down, close the doors, and/or go to the auction block. Obviously, that is an alarming trend for me because they represent the largest segment of my customer base.

What will the future bring? The current economic crisis isn't local, regional or even national. It is truly global and as such it will be with us for a while. Sawmills — large and small — are going to have to find even more ways to become more efficient and adapt to new realities in the marketplace if they want to be around to enjoy the recovery.

(Source: *The Northern Logger*, January 2009. Article written by Casey Creamer, saw doctor and president of Seneca Saw Works, Inc., PO Box 681, Burdett, NY 14818. (607) 546-5887, email: [casey@senecasaw.com](mailto:casey@senecasaw.com). To subscribe to *The Northern Logger*, call (315) 369-3078, or email: [npletter@northernlogger.com](mailto:npletter@northernlogger.com).)



# Timber Sales

The following listings are for stands of timber or logs being offered for sale by owners or persons of delegated authority. Timber was cruised and/or marked for harvest by Nebraska Forest Service or other professional foresters. Volumes in board feet (Doyle scale unless otherwise indicated) are estimates by the forester. If no volume is listed, the trees or logs were not marked by a forester and the listing is included only as a marketing service to the owner. Listings are prepared according to information at the time of publication.

Item	Forester/Date	Contact
1. <b>Black Walnut</b> (13 trees)      1,054 bf Lumber 3 -    1,054 bf	Rasmussen 3/11	Glen Ternus 82625 552 Ave. Madison, NE 68748 (402) 454-3831 (402) 640-1313 (cell) Location: Platte County
2. <b>Black Walnut</b> (25-30 trees) 10-42" diameter		Richard Beltz (402) 792-2061 email: arranch2001@hotmail.com Location: Butler County
3. <b>Black Walnut</b> (24 trees)      5,732 bf Veneer 2 -      363 bf Veneer 3 -      875 bf Lumber 1 -    1,709 bf Lumber 2 -    2,114 bf Lumber 3 -      671 bf	Karloff 5/2011	LeMar Vogler 34918 Church Road Louisville, NE 68037 (402) 234-5059 Location: Cass County

*You know you're  
from Nebraska if...*

You know the word  
"combine" is supposed  
to have the first syllable.