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Notes on Forestry and Wood Use: Price Report on Indiana Timber Products

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Notes on Forestry and Wood-use



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PRICE REPORT ON INDIANA TIMBER PRODUCTS

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Statistical Reporting Service U.S.D.A. at Purdue University

This report contains delivered prices for sawlogs, veneer logs, handle stock and pulpwood in Indiana. Prices for sawlogs and veneer logs are given for two areas namely northern and southern Indiana (Figure 1). The prices were obtained from a mailed questionnaire and were quoted for March 1966. Rates for custom sawing and logging are given also for the two areas and for that period.

In northern Indiana, all grades of sawlogs showed an increase in the average delivered price with the exception of certain grades of cottonwood, sycamore and black walnut logs. Price increases ranged from 2 to 20 percent for number one logs in this area with cherry and tulip poplar showing an advance of 20 and 14 percent respectively. The reported decline for the two upper grades of black walnut logs seems out of line since all other grades of this species showed an advance. The reason for this is believed to be that the upper grades of sawlogs fit the grades taken by the veneer industry. This influences the prices quoted for these grades by sawmill operators, many of whom purchase these grades for re-sale to the veneer industry. Others have price schedules based on the lumber that can be sawn from such logs. The increase in veneer log prices this

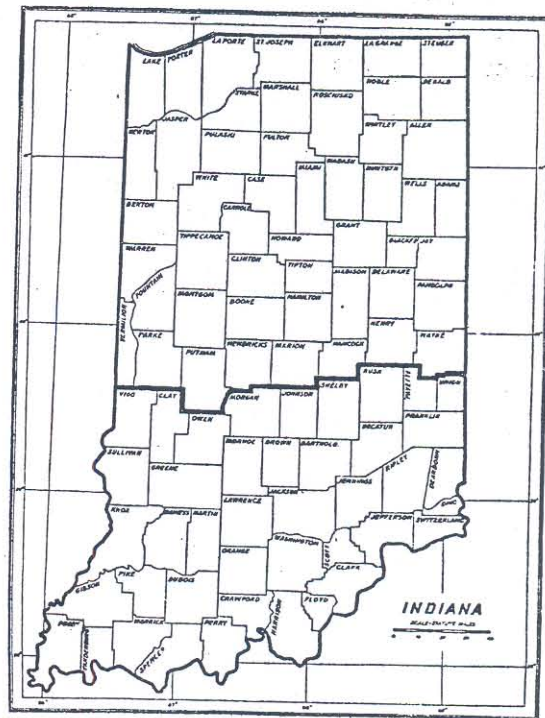


Figure 1. Dark line divides northern and southern areas.

year undoubtedly caused a great many sawmill operators to segregate these two classes of logs in their price schedules.

In southern Indiana, most all grades of all species showed an average price increase.

Using number one grade logs as an index, percentage increases were from 1 to 13 percent for all species except cherry which was down 3.6 percent. Black walnut logs, grade one, advanced 3.8 percent. Grade two logs of this species jumped 35 percent in average price above that of 1965.

The trend in veneer prices in northern Indiana was mixed with a strong advance in the average prices for white oak and black walnut, but the average price of prime red oak and sugar maple logs showed a drop this year.

In southern Indiana markets, average veneer log prices were up for all species and all grades of logs.

Figures 1 to 5 show the trend in log prices for selected species and grades for the past 9 years.

Handle Logs

Prices quoted for top grade white ash logs for handles ranged \$80 to \$105 with an average of \$95. This was an increase of \$10 over the average price of \$85 last year. Grade two handle logs ranged from \$50 to \$75 with an average of \$59.

Pulpwood

Prices for unpeeled hardwood pulpwood delivered to Indiana markets increased about 10 percent last year. Present prices vary from \$5.70 to \$7 per ton delivered. The price is prorated on the length of haul.

Some sawmills with debarkers are producing slabs for pulpwood. Delivered prices for debarked slabs range from \$4 to \$5.35 per ton green weight.

Table 1. Prices paid for delivered sawlogs, March 1966, northern Indiana.*

Species	PRIME LOGS			NO. 1 LOGS			NO. 2 LOGS			NO. 3 LOGS			
	Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average		
		1966	1965		1966	1965		1966	1965		1966	1965	
		Dollars			Dollars			Dollars			Dollars		
White Ash 46	60-150	104	91	50-100	82	74	38-90	56	50	30-50	41	39	
Basswood 41	60-130	90	82	40-100	75	72	40-70	51	49	30-50	41	41	
Beech 77	50-75	59	55	45-75	55	52	20-55	42	38	15-50	41	36	
Cottonwood 70	40-60	51	52	40-60	49	47	20-50	41	41	15-50	41	37	
Cherry 45	90-150	118	114	75-140	101	84	35-90	63	55	30-60	46	40	
White Elm 56	45-80	58	50	45-70	53	51	38-60	47	44	30-50	44	40	
Shagbark Hickory 66	45-70	55	48	45-60	50	46	38-50	46	39	30-50	44	36	
Sugar Maple 44	80-135	116	112	48-120	92	88	35-105	62	58	30-65	45	44	
Soft Maple 43	80-125	98	87	48-100	81	76	35-85	54	51	30-60	43	42	
White Oak 22	50-125	91	87	48-100	77	72	30-85	55	55	25-50	43	41	
Red Oak 35	60-125	89	76	40-100	71	66	30-80	53	51	25-50	43	42	
Black Oak 37	50-100	68	64	40-90	62	59	38-70	49	48	30-50	42	39	
Tulip Poplar 45	75-125	97	83	48-100	80	70	38-85	58	52	20-50	42	39	
Sycamore 76	50-70	55	61	45-60	51	50	38-50	47	44	30-50	44	39	
Black Walnut 11	100-560	288	333	75-400	214	218	50-220	128	116	45-105	75	68	

Table 2. Prices paid for delivered sawlogs, March 1966, southern Indiana.*

Species	PRIME LOGS			NO. 1 LOGS			NO. 2 LOGS			NO. 3 LOGS						
	Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average		Range 1966	Average					
		1966	1965		1966	1965		1966	1965		1966	1965				
		Dollars			Dollars			Dollars			Dollars					
White Ash 40	70-125	90	97	74	50-105	67	75	59	30-75	47	52	41	20-50	38	40	31
Basswood 41	65-110	83	87	78	50-80	63	69	56	40-60	51	44	35-50	42	35		
Beech 77	50-80	60	56	30-60	48	52	47	20-60	40	41	36	20-50	37	39	30	
Cottonwood 75	40-65	51	48	30-50	42	46	41	20-50	37	39	36	20-50	37	39	30	
Cherry 42	75-150	104	110	115	50-125	82	92	86	30-80	53	58	55	20-50	41	44	39
White Elm 56	40-60	51	55	47	30-60	45	49	40	20-50	39	43	34	20-50	37	41	30
Shagbark Hickory 66	40-60	50	53	48	30-60	43	47	39	20-50	39	43	33	20-50	37	41	26
Sugar Maple 44	55-150	100	108	100	40-135	79	86	72	20-100	53	58	50	20-60	39	42	34
Soft Maple 43	50-125	79	89	76	30-100	62	72	59	20-70	49	52	44	20-60	39	41	34
White Oak 22	60-135	90	91	86	50-110	70	74	69	30-80	51	53	44	20-50	39	41	35
Red Oak 35	60-100	82	86	76	40-80	61	66	58	20-70	46	50	43	15-50	37	40	35
Black Oak 37	50-100	76	80	73	30-80	57	60	55	20-60	45	47	41	15-50	38	40	34
Tulip Poplar 45	70-130	96	97	89	50-100	72	76	70	38-80	54	56	50	20-50	42	41	35
Sycamore 76	50-80	59	57	52	20-50	43	51	43	20-50	38	43	34	20-50	37	41	29
Sweet Gum 76	45-100	67	55	30-60	50	44	25-60	42	36	20-55	38	25				
Black Walnut 11	100-500	246	267	192	75-400	178	196	129	50-250	112	120	83	35-180	80	78	56

*Prices are per thousand board feet log scale.

Table 4. Delivered prices of logs purchased for face veneer, March 1966, southern Indiana.*

Log Diameter Inches	PRIME LOGS		Log Diameter Inches	PRIME LOGS		Species	Log Diameter Inches	PRIME LOGS		SELECT LOGS	
	Range 1966 Dollars	Average 1965 Dollars		Range 1966 Dollars	Average 1965 Dollars			Range 1966 Dollars	Average 1965 Dollars	Range 1966 Dollars	Average 1965 Dollars
16-17	150-250	200	167	125-200	158	80	16-17	80-175	128	105	68
18-20	125-250	193	182	150-200	167	110	18-20	85-175	146	130	86
21-23	150-250	219	209	150-200	181	139	21-23	90-200	163	162	125
24-28+	175-300	250	232	150-250	202	158	24-28+	100-350	257	183	127
16-17	150-150	150					16-17	115-125	120	91	
18-20	150-175	162	185				18-20	125-135	130	97	
21-23	150-175	162	185				21-23	125-150	138	102	
24-28+	150-175	162					24-28+	125-150	138	114	
16-17	200-400	265	300	175-350	256	217	16-17	200-350	250	213	
18-20	200-400	281	317	200-350	281	225	18-20	200-350	269	220	
21-23	200-400	281	296	200-350	281	225	21-23	200-350	269	224	
24-28+	200-400	281	325	200-350	281	225	24-28	200-350	269	234	
16-17	500-1000	743	617	400-600	508	473	16-17	500-1200	767	598	425
18-20	700-1200	920	661	200-700	550	541	18-20	600-1200	867	732	575
21-23	900-1300	1120	728	350-1000	738	565	21-23	700-1200	933	852	635
24-28+	900-1600	1189	847	450-1400	894	629	24-28+	800-1200	1040	922	639

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*Prices are per thousand board feet Doyle log scale.

Table 5. Custom rates for lumber sawing, timber cutting and hauling (per thousand feet).

OPERATION	NORTHERN INDIANA		SOUTHERN INDIANA	
	Range 1966	Average 1965	Range 1966	Average 1965
Sawing Logs				
into Lumber	20-45	31.43	15-40	27.29
Timber Cutting	8-20	10.97	6-15	8.78
Timber Hauling	10-25	16.60	6-30	13.92

*Prices are per thousand board feet Doyle log scale.

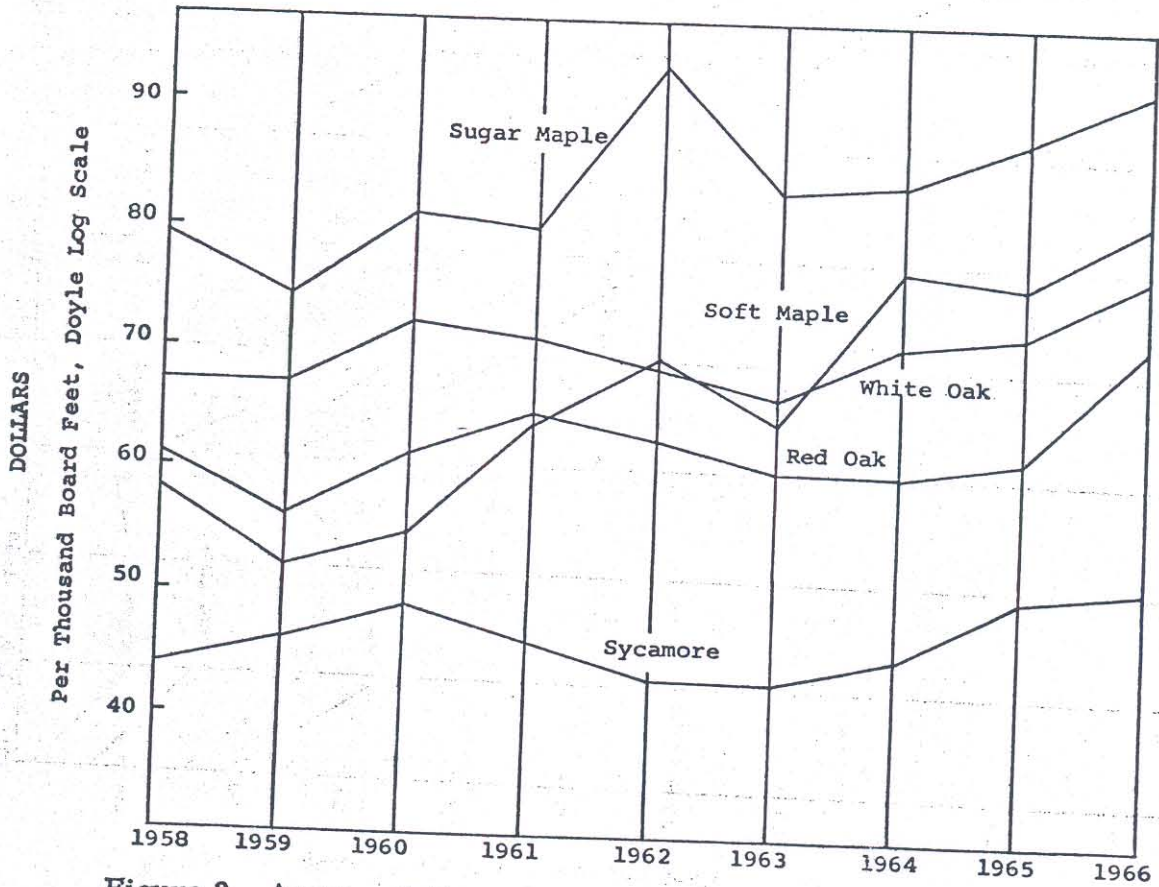


Figure 2. Average delivered prices paid for number one grade sawlogs of five species in northern Indiana (1958-1966).

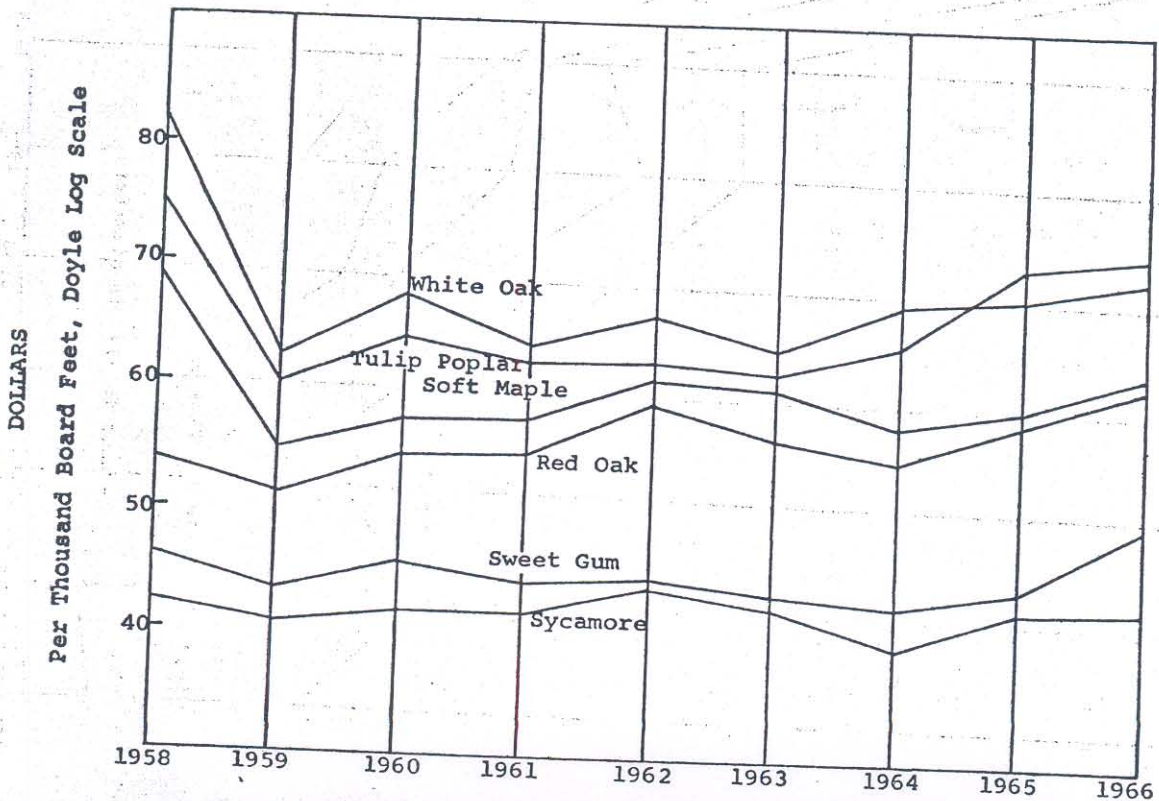


Figure 3. Average delivered prices paid for number one grade sawlogs of six species in southern Indiana (1958-1966).

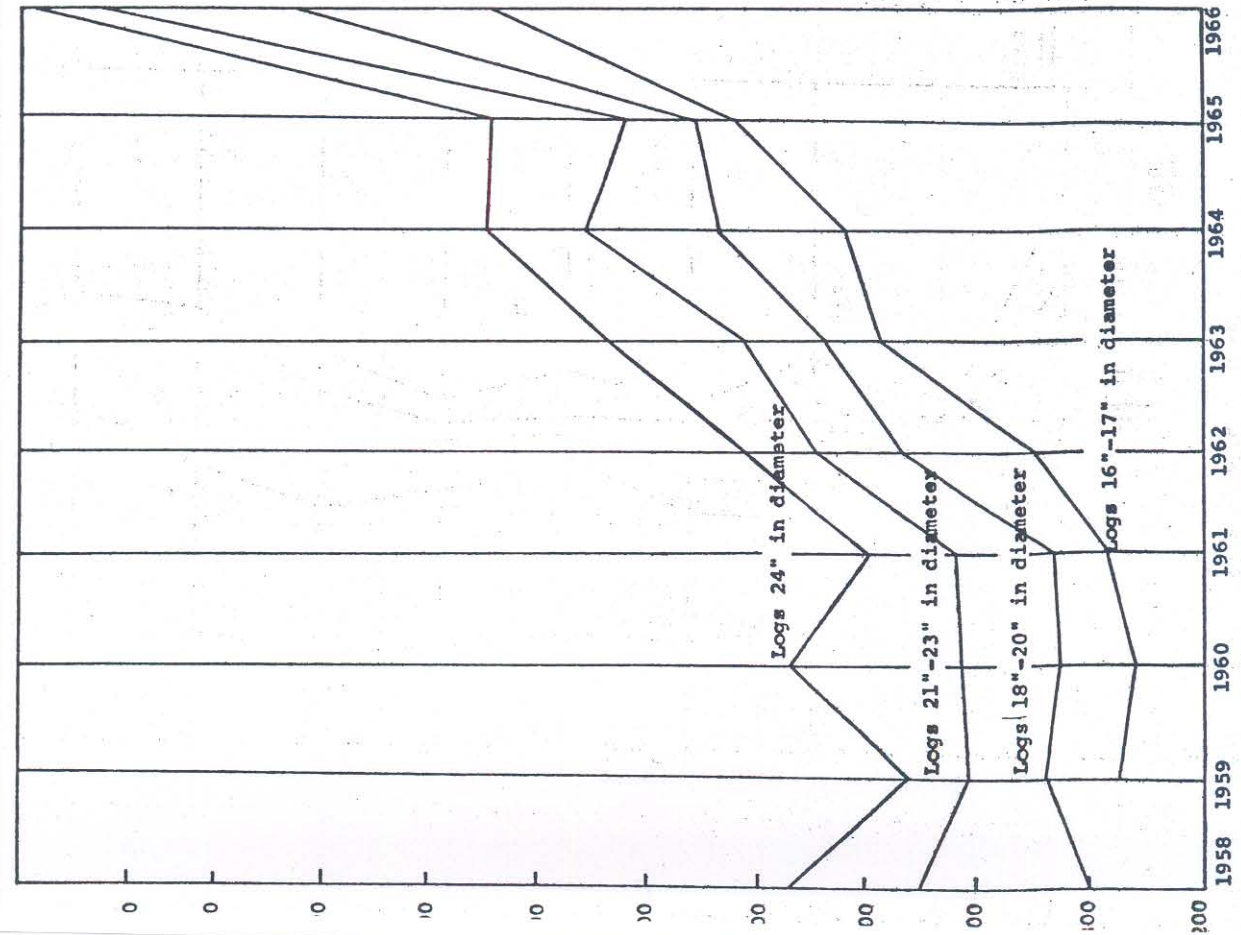


Figure 4. Average delivered prices paid for prime Black Walnut veneer logs in northern Indiana (1958-1966).

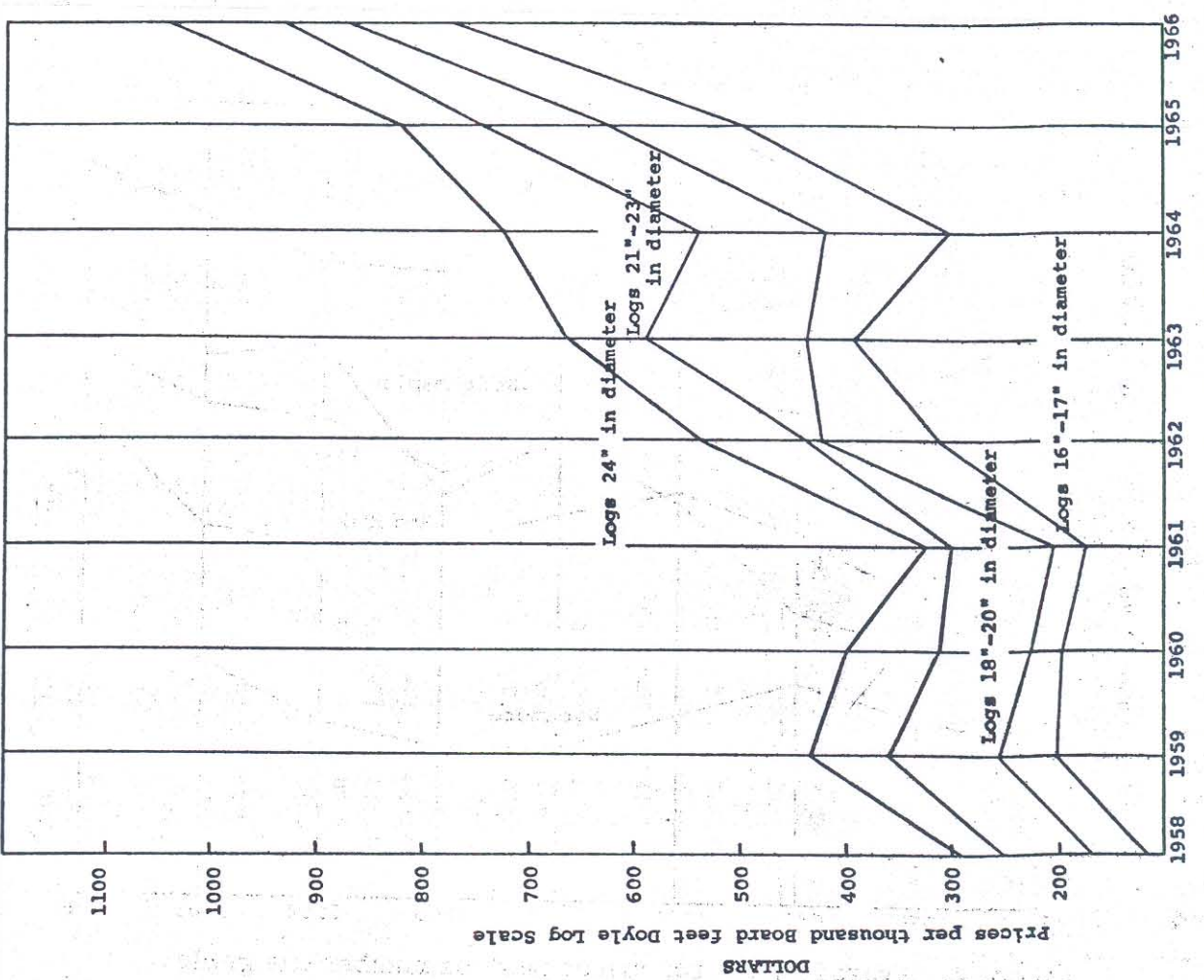


Figure 5. Average delivered prices paid for prime Black Walnut veneer logs in southern Indiana (1958-1966).

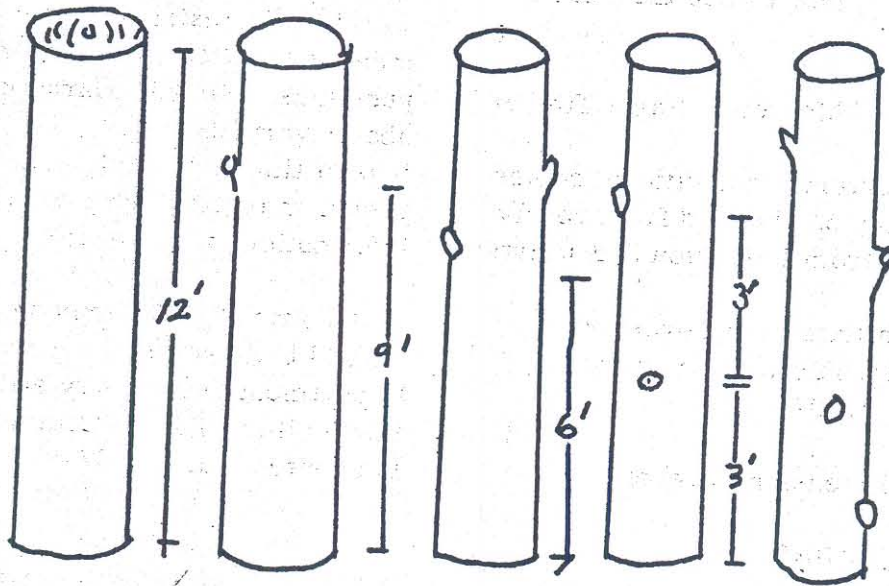
Purdue Saw Log Grades 1/

Prime: Practically (90 percent) surface clear on three visible faces. (A face is any one-quarter of the surface of a log.) Must be 16 inches or more in diameter inside bark at the small end.

No. 1: At least three-fourths (75 percent) of the log length on the three visible faces must be surface clear in one section. Must be at least 14 inches in diameter inside bark at the small end.

No. 2: At least one-half (50 percent) of the log length must be surface clear on the three visible faces in two sections, neither of which can be less than 3 feet long. Must be at least 10 inches in diameter inside bark at the small end.

No. 3: Will not meet No. 2 specifications.



Prime
16" or
larger
90% clear

No. 1
14" and
larger
75% clear

No. 2
10" in
Diameter
and larger
50% clear

No. 2

No. 3

1/ Log quality depends to a large degree on log size, and the number and location of surface defects. A detailed discussion of grading saw-logs is given in Agricultural Extension Bulletin #346, How to Grade Hardwood Sawlogs. This can be obtained from county agents or by writing to the Cooperative Extension Service at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

Publications on timber marketing are as follows:

Extension Bulletin No. 283, "Wooden Fence Posts"

Extension Bulletin No. 293, "How to Measure a Woods"

Extension Leaflet No. 384, "Recommended Minimum Timber Cutting Practices for Indiana"

Mimeo F-4, "How to Use the Tree Measuring Stick"

Mimeo F-8, "Marketing Farm Timber"

These publications or additional copies of this mimeo may be obtained from county agent's office or from Extension Specialists:

E. J. Lott, State Extension Forester
Horticulture Bldg. Purdue University,
Lafayette, Ind. 47907

A. N. Liming, Extension Forester
Tyson Library
Versailles, Ind. 47042

Larry Frye, Extension Forester
Court House
Albion, Ind. 46701

W. L. Fix, Extension Forester
Federal Building
Jasper, Ind. 47546

F. T. Miller, Extension Forester
Court House
Greencastle, Ind. 46135

The Extension Service of the Department of Forestry and Conservation also publishes a Timber Marketing Bulletin about every 10 weeks. This contains listings of timber for sale or items that the timber markets desire to purchase. For information on this service write to:

R. C. Brundage, Extension Specialist in
Wood Utilization
Department of Forestry and Conservation
Horticulture Bldg., Purdue University
Lafayette, Ind. 47907

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