

Desha County Forests and Forest Industry, 2021

ARKANSAS CENTER FOR FOREST BUSINESS

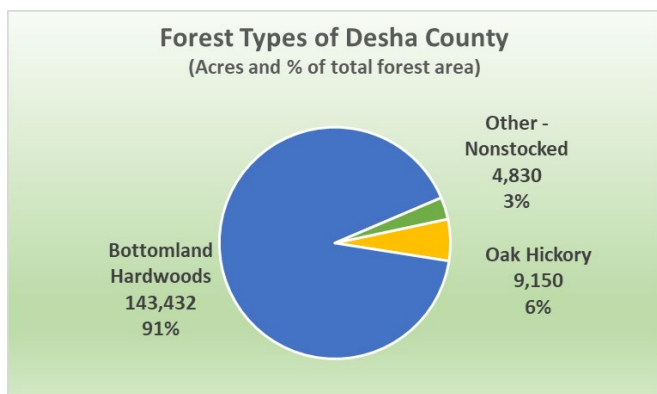
Report 2021-C21

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

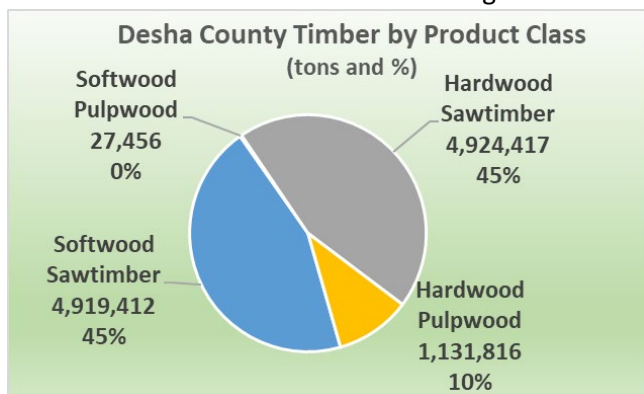


Desha County Forest Facts

Forests occupy 157,412 acres (32%) of the land area in Desha County, and 80% of the forests are privately owned. Planted forests account for 8% of the forests in the county 92% of Desha County's forests are natural in origin. Forest area by coertype is shown in the figure below.



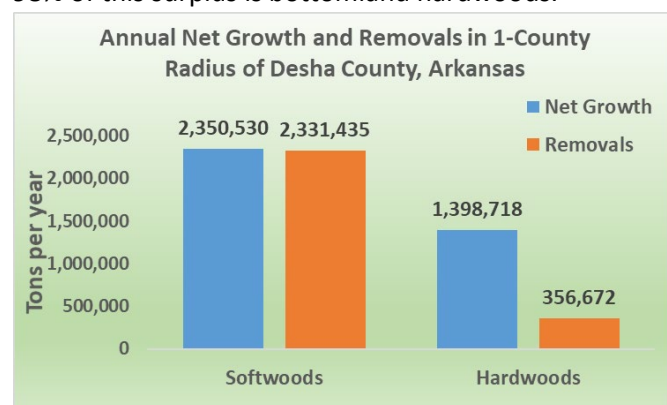
The forests of Desha County contain 4,949,868 tons of softwood timber which is largely cypress and some natural pine in hardwood stands and 6,056,234 tons of hardwood timber. The forest is made up of largely sawtimber sized trees as shown in the figure below.



Timber Supply around Desha County

Within a 1-county radius around and including Desha County (Arkansas, Bolivar, Chicot, Drew, Lincoln and

Phillips) there are 29 million tons of pine and 56 million tons of hardwood timber. In this 7 county region, annual net growth exceeds harvest by 1 million tons. 98% of this surplus is bottomland hardwoods.



Economic Contributions of Desha County Forests

Forest industries contribute \$41,117,792 to Desha County's GDP which is 8.4% of the county's total economic activity. This is a much higher percentage than the state-wide average of 4.95%. Clearwater Paper and Pennington Inc.'s chip mill are the major industries. Desha County imports most of the wood fiber used at those facilities from surrounding counties, including counties in Mississippi. There are 2 logging firms in Desha County. Income in Desha County's forestry sectors is 126% of the county average. The direct economic contribution of Desha County's forest industry is shown in the table below by sectors.

Sector	Employees	Labor Income	Value Added
Forestry	20	\$288,661	\$362,750
Logging	1	\$22,005	\$21,226
Solid Wood Products	32	\$1,790,583	\$3,189,049
Furniture	112	\$3,879,484	\$4,740,330
Pulp and Paper	114	\$12,136,215	\$32,804,436
Forestry Totals in Desha County	277	\$18,116,948	\$41,117,792