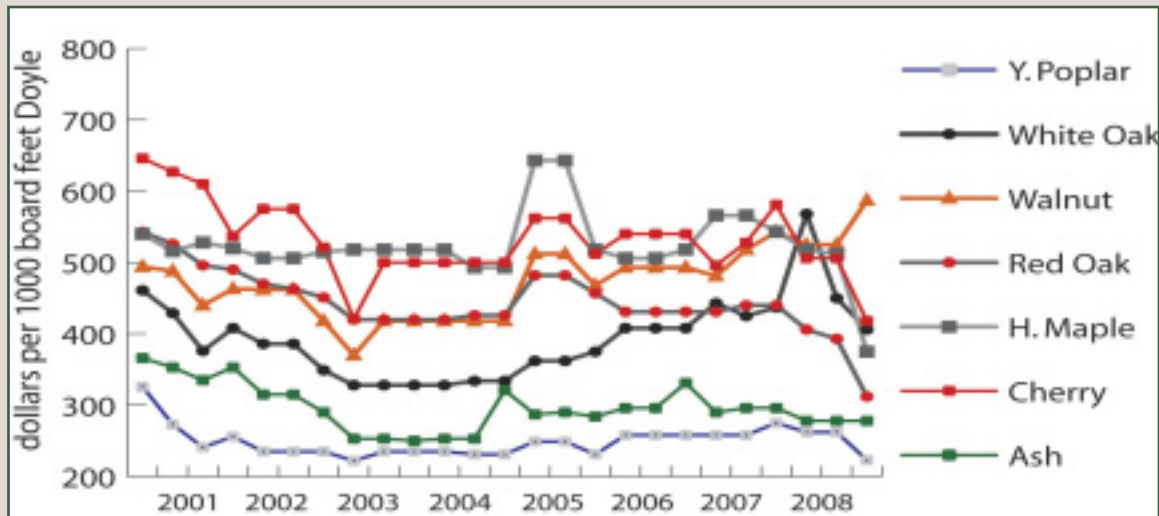


# Kentucky Delivered Log Prices

## Statewide Average - US Forest Service Grade Two

Prices reported are averages for medium quality (grade 2) logs delivered to sawmills across Kentucky through the third quarter of 2008\*. Values are dollars per thousand board feet (Doyle scale). Stumpage value (the value of logs in the tree) are typically one-half to one-third of log values.



\*Data collected by Chris Nevins, Kentucky Division of Forestry Timber Harvest Compliance and Forest Resource Utilization Section. Analyzed by Jeff Stringer, University of Kentucky, Department of Forestry Extension. In depth log price reporting can be found in "Growing Gold" by the Kentucky Division of Forestry at [www.forestry.ky.gov](http://www.forestry.ky.gov)

## Southern Pine Beetle in Kentucky

The southern pine beetle (SPB) is the most highly destructive bark beetle found in the southeastern United States. The beetle attacks and kills all species of yellow pine. In Kentucky, the preferred host trees are mature and overmature shortleaf, loblolly and Virginia pines. In cases of intense outbreaks, the beetle is also known to attack eastern white pine.

Populations of SPB occur naturally in forests but usually in low numbers. However, when adverse environmental conditions such as drought or storms create stress in trees, beetle populations can explode. Beetle attacks are cyclical and usually short in duration, lasting two to three years. However, major outbreaks seem to occur every 10 years. Most recently, beetle attacks intensified in 1999, 2000 and 2001 with epidemic conditions existing throughout south central, southeastern, eastern and northeastern Kentucky.

Trees that have been attacked by SPB can be easily identified. Infested trees demonstrate faded foliage, with yellow or

red needles. Other symptoms of beetle attack can be found by examining the bark closely. Adult beetles bore directly



The southern pine beetle (small inset image) is a serious pest of pine trees. The pine tree above shows the exit holes and associated pitch tubes that are evidence of a southern pine beetle infestation. The larger photo shows some of the scope of the most recent infestation. Photos courtesy - U.S. Forest Service, Southern Region.

through the outer bark into the living cambium. At this point of attack, the tree exudes resin through the bore hole, forming a pitch tube. These pitch tubes are initially white and resemble kernels of popped corn. Older pitch tubes are reddish-brown in color. Adult beetles also carry a fungus known as blue stain which streaks the sapwood. This fungus clogs the conductive tissues of the tree, causing further damage and eventually death.

When beetle populations are at normal levels, natural enemies, such as weather extremes, disease and insect predators,

prevent outbreaks from occurring. Also the implementation of sound forest management practices, primarily thinning mature pine stands, keeps beetle populations in check. Three methods are highly effective in controlling SPB: salvage cutting, cut and leave, and chemical control.

If you notice any of the symptoms occurring in your pines, please contact your local Division of Forestry office.

-- Diana Olszowy, Kentucky Division of Forestry