



Volume 42, Number 3 July - September, 2016

Prepared Quarterly by the Forest & Business Analytical Services Unit
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<http://tn.gov/agriculture/topic/forest-businesses>

MUJI Company Forestry Tour of Tennessee

A delegation of representatives of Ryohin Keikaku Company, based in Tokyo, Japan, visited Tennessee from September 26th through October 5th looking for suppliers of white oak for furniture lines.



Left to right: Bert Xu, Takaaki Ozora "Yao", Aboodje Chen "Ken", Wang HuiZhi "Zoel", John Burch, Kerry Livengood, Takashi Uchikawa "Tak", Mike Tummins and Jonathan Boggs.

MUJI, the shortened name of the company, was originally founded in Japan in 1980. They offer a wide variety of products including household goods, apparel and food. Mujirushi Ryohin, MUJI in Japanese,

translates as “all value no frills” or “no-brand quality goods.” If you check their website (www.muji.com/us/), MUJI has three core principles:

1. Selection of materials
2. Streamlining of processes
3. Simplification of packages

There are about 700 MUJI stores in 32 countries worldwide. In North America there are stores in New York, New Jersey, and California. The company’s principles manifest in their interest in product detail starting on the ground, through production and on into the store. In my conversations with Takaaki Ozora, the general manager of global sourcing based in Singapore, I learned that he had traveled to Tanzania to visit the farms where MUJI’s cotton was grown and also to New Zealand to meet the shepherds and see the sheep where wool was obtained. Now, he has come to Tennessee visiting landowners, and sawmills that grow and process white oak logs- that could be sold to Muji to make furniture.

The delegation spent the first day with John Burch, 2015 Tree Farmer of the Year. John’s property on the Humphrey - Dickson county line west of Dickson was a great place for them to begin learning about hardwood silviculture. John has been working with Tennessee Division of Forestry Area Foresters for many years and also employs Jonathan Boggs of Arbor Springs Forestry for management advice. They spent a day with Stacie Bates of Curvey Road Sawmill, Charlotte, TN, another day with Bill Joyce of Middle Tennessee Lumber in Dickson, ate barbeque at Puckett’s in Leiper’s Fork on the way to see the Hassell & Hughes plant in Collinwood guided by Tony Hunt. They then walked across the mill yard and talked with Parkes Hughes of Hughes Hardwood International. Hughes exports lumber all over the world. One of the high points of the trip was the morning spent at the West Highland Rim Forestry Association Forestry Field Day on Saturday, October 1st at Ann and Loic Gerville-Reache’s farm near Dickson. Brian Hughett, Area Forester with the Division of Forestry, presented the use of “hack and squirt” for removing low quality hardwoods. The Natural Resources Conservation Service Dickson Field Office District Conservationist, Wynne Luter, walked everyone through an example of a cost share practice to control erosion. They also saw two recent harvest sites, one a recommended silvicultural practice and the other known as a “high grading” on a neighboring property that is not recommended. High grading removes valuable timber but leaves low quality trees in the forest. The group also traveled to South Pittsburg near Chattanooga to see the saw mill and kilns of Cardin Forest Products, LLC. Bob Hughes of Cardin led the tour of the mill.

We have reports that MUJI bought lumber during their trip to Tennessee and are looking for local suppliers of furniture parts for coffee and dining tables.

**Delivered Forest Products Prices in Tennessee
April – June, 2016**

Cedar Logs	Length-6' to 12' and min DIB 4" at small end	\$85.00/ton \$330.00/MBF Cedar Rule) Chipper logs \$40/ton	II & III
Crosstie Logs	Length-8' 8"min DIB 11" and up Must be sound on both ends	<u>Oak</u> Grade 1: \$396-/MBF Doyle Grade 2: \$245/MBF Doyle \$57 per ton <u>Mixed Hardwoods</u> Grade 1: \$298-/MBF Doyle Grade 2: \$210-/MBF Doyle \$57 per ton	I, II & III
Hickory Handle Logs	Each mill will have their own requirements.	Grade 1: \$250/MBF Doyle Grade 2: \$175/MBF Doyle	I & II
White Oak Stave Logs	White Oak-Length: 8 ½' min and add on 2' increments (allow 1 knot per 3' of length", and min. DIB 12"at small end)	Grade 1: \$957/MBF Doyle Grade 2: \$743/MBF Doyle	I & II
Paulownia Logs	Min. length 2 meters + trim allowance (6' 6"+trim) and Min. DIB 8" at small end (Must be slow grown – prefer 8-10 growth rings per inch); season Oct- April	Grade 1 \$850	I, II & III
Pine Pulpwood	Pine: Diameter, length, and species may vary with purchasing company. Consult firm first before cutting	\$23/ton or \$62/cord Some suppliers are reporting quotas (5350 lbs/ cord)	II & III

<p>Hardwood Pulpwood</p>	<p>Hardwood: Diameter, length, and species may vary with purchasing company. Consult firm first before cutting</p>	<p>\$25/ton or \$72/cord (5800 lbs/ cord)</p>	<p>I, II & III</p>
<p>Softwood Logs</p>	<p>Length: 8'-16' and min DIB 6" at small end</p>	<p>Prices are dated. No mills surveyed currently list softwood prices. SY Pine: \$200/MBF Doyle White Pine: \$250/MBF Doyle Hemlock: \$180/MBF Doyle SY Pine CNS: \$25/ton</p>	<p>I & II</p>
<p>Veneer Logs</p>	<p>Prime logs only (specifications vary with buyer).</p>	<p>Red Oak: Average \$748/MBF Doyle White Oak: Average \$1,184/MBF Doyle Walnut: Average \$2,024/MBF Doyle Cherry Average \$833/MBF Doyle Poplar Average \$528/MBF Doyle</p>	<p>I, II & III</p>

*Information is taken from a survey of wood-using industries in Tennessee

**Specifications vary with industries

***All prices are regional averages and are delivered prices per MBF Doyle unless otherwise indicated. They are subject to change and will vary locally. ("+" indicates an increase since our last bulletin; "-" indicates a decrease)



Hardwood Sawlogs*

Species	Region I	Region II	Region III
Red Oak	Grade 1: \$416-- Grade 2: \$325 Grade 3: \$154	Grade 1: \$515 Grade 2: \$398 Grade 3: \$300-	Grade 1: \$573 Grade 2: \$457 Grade 3: \$371-
White Oak	Grade 1: \$478 Grade 2: \$331 Grade 3: \$152	Grade 1: \$630 Grade 2: \$429 Grade 3: \$303	Grade 1: \$645 Grade 2: \$529 Grade 3: \$363
Ash	Grade 1: \$363 Grade 2: \$246 Grade 3: \$126	Grade 1: \$479 Grade 2: \$337 Grade 3: \$291	Grade 1: \$542 Grade 2: \$483 Grade 3: \$350
Yellow Poplar	Grade 1: \$303 Grade 2: \$208 Grade 3: \$130	Grade 1: \$362 Grade 2: \$274 Grade 3: \$230	Grade 1: \$345 Grade 2: \$294 Grade 3: \$240
Walnut	Grade 1: \$506 Grade 2: \$322 Grade 3: \$175	Grade 1: \$1,030 Grade 2: \$625 Grade 3: \$544	Grade 1: \$1,083 Grade 2: \$850 Grade 3: \$533
Cherry	Grade 1: \$356 Grade 2: \$259 Grade 3: \$149	Grade 1: \$455 Grade 2: \$323 Grade 3: \$274	Grade 1: \$467 Grade 2: \$358 Grade 3: \$323
Hard Maple	Grade 1: \$419 Grade 2: \$294 Grade 3: \$141	Grade 1: \$498 Grade 2: \$380 Grade 3: \$317	Grade 1: \$550 Grade 2: \$200 Grade 3: \$300
Hickory	Grade 1: \$308 Grade 2: \$246 Grade 3: \$134	Grade 1: \$345- Grade 2: \$309- Grade 3: \$188-	Grade 1: no data Grade 2: \$408 Grade 3: \$325
Misc. Hardwoods	Average: \$169	Average: \$211	Average: \$332-

Increase from last quarter (+); Decrease from last quarter (-)

**Specifications: (Length: 8'-16'; and Min. DIB 8 " at small end) Delivered Price*

Prices quoted are per thousand board feet (MBF) Doyle Rule delivered to mill. Prices will vary greatly depending on many factors such as weather and mill inventories. Prices received for standing timber will be less than the delivered price based on harvest cost, haul cost and buyer profit:

Standing timber (stumpage) price = delivered price - harvest cost - haul cost - buyer profit



Wanted to Buy:

- ❖ **Hardwood Sawmill:** Foreign company with offices in Taiwan, China and Southeast Asian is looking to expand and is interested in purchasing a hardwood mill in the States. For more information, contact Cleo Fu, Agricultural Marketing Specialist with the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service: +886-2-2705-6536 ext. 242; fucwy@state.gov
- ❖ **Loblolly or shortleaf pine for utility poles:** 36 foot to 76 foot in length (length is determined by diameter). Roadside pricing. Call Doug Curry, Bell Timber for specifications and details. 715-418-9333.
- ❖ **Logs for Export:** An exporting company based out of Southern Illinois is interested in buying veneer logs for export. Any information or bid proposals can be e-mailed to swsveneer@gmail.com or call Derek Wilson at 618-559-7568.
- ❖ **Bark:** Garick, LLC is buying bark for mulch production. Contact Earl Funderburk, General Manager, Decaturville Bagging Plant, 9745 Hwy 641 S, Decaturville, TN. 731-852-2058

For Sale:

- ❖ **SCHAEFER ENTERPRISES OF WOLF LAKE, INC** –Rely on our experience, established in 1967. Used Parts Shipped Daily for Log Skidders, Crawlers, Loader Backhoes, Excavators, Wheel Loaders and Skid Steers. We have many reconditioned engines and transmissions that are Dyno-Tested. Rebuilt winches, final drives and used tires. If we do not have a part – we can locate it for you on one of our three nationwide parts locators
- ❖ **Parts for:** Allis Chalmers, Athey, Bantam/Koehring, Bobcat, Case, Clark, Daewoo, Dresser, Drott, Fiat Allis, Franklin, Hitachi, Hough, Hyundai, International, John Deere, Kobelco, Komatsu, Leihberr, Linkbelt, Michigan, Mitsubishi, New Holland, New Process, Pettibone, Samsung, Timbco, Timberjack, TreeFarmer, VME, Volvo
- ❖ We have many reconditioned engines and transmissions that are dyno-tested, rebuilt winches, final drives and used tires.
- ❖ Contact a parts professional at: (618) 833-5498 or (800) 626-6046. Ask for Andy, Brad Jill, Joe, Kevin, or Matt if buying. Ask for Jerry or Tom if selling.
- ❖ We are located at 4535 State Route 3 North, Wolf Lake, IL 62998.
- ❖ Check out our inventory at – www.sewlparts.com or you may send email requests to parts@sewlparts.com.

Components from a biofuel thermal treatment plant used to make biochar and other products

A partial listing of what is available: Wood chip/sawdust dryer with cyclone; NG/#2 fuel oil/propane furnace; motors, auger assemblies with motors, stainless steel flue gas ducting, conveyors, airlocks, condensers, air handler, flowmeters and other instruments, electrostatic precipitator, stainless steel storage tanks; climate controlled 16' control room trailer with VFDs, HMI, PLC, kWh meters, circuit breakers, considerable power and sensor wiring, etc.

The skinny on this equipment:

- ❖ Biofuel plant used intermittently for research and development over two years
- ❖ All equipment was in good condition and fully operational upon shutdown, and all equipment with the exception of the dryer cyclone and control room trailer have been kept under roof.
- ❖ Pictures and more detailed information available
- ❖ Arrangements can be made to view and inspect the equipment. Location NW Alabama
- ❖ **Buyer pays no sales commissions**

Owner is anxious to sell so make an offer. This is an unusual opportunity for the right party. Seller lost his lease and must move. Lots of good, useful items in good shape and ready to load out. These items can be used in a variety of ways for a variety of purposes.

Contact Phillip Badger, cell phone 256-762-2886, email: pbadger@bioenergyupdate.com

Other:

- ❖ **“Logs, Chips and Lumber Trucking Company:** West Tennessee company specializes in providing trucking services for area loggers, sawmills and papermills located within a 100 mile radius of Paris, TN. We currently have 20 trucks and over 60 trailers in our fleet for quick “drop and hook” service. Flatbed Trailer and Live Floor Chip Trailer services also available. Fully licensed, bonded and insured. Competitive rates. References available. Call Revel Logging, LLC at 731-642-3944 for more information. ”
- ❖ **“ATTENTION LOGGERS!** “Waverly Wood, LLC” of Waverly, TN is looking to employ additional logging crews, to log their timber tracts; long-term employment possible. All prospective contractors must have workers’ compensation and general liability insurance. Also, wanting to buy white oak stave logs and tie logs. Please contact: Mike Phillipi, Timber Procurement Manager or Todd Richardson (Office: 931-296-1455; Mobile: 615-418-0276)

The Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin welcomes those items that you are looking to buy or sell in The Trading Post. Contact Kerry Livengood (email: Kerry.R.Livengood@tn.gov); (Fax: 615-837-5003) with your submissions.