

Prairie County Forests and Forest Industry, 2021

ARKANSAS CENTER FOR FOREST BUSINESS

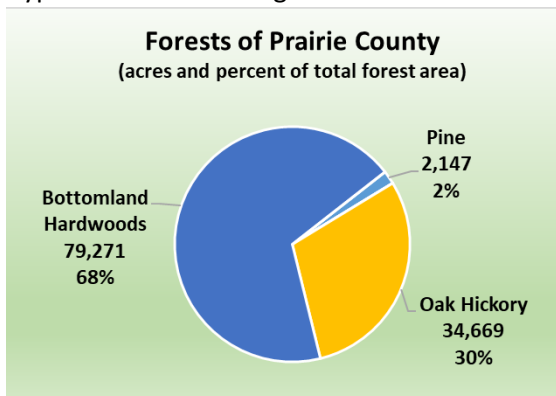
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

Report 2021-C59

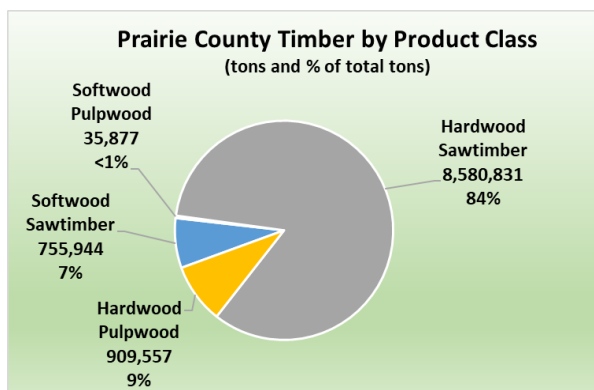


Prairie County Forest Facts

Forests occupy 116,087 acres (28%) of the land area in Prairie County; 74% of the forests are privately owned. All the pine forest are planted; only 5% of non-pine forests are planted. Overall, 93% of the forests in Prairie County are of natural origin. Forest area by covertype is shown in the figure below.



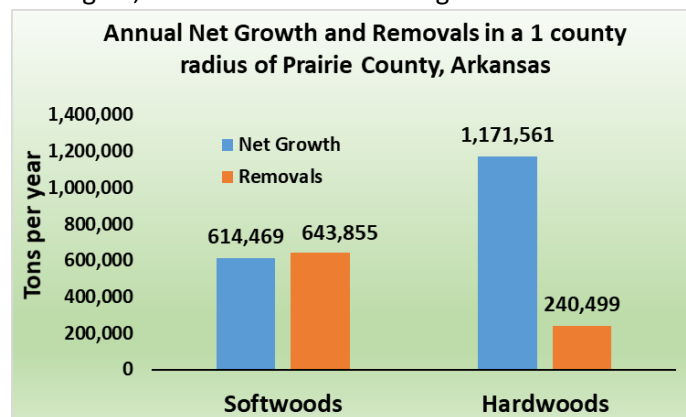
The forests of Prairie County contain 791,820 tons of softwood timber and 9,490,388 tons of hardwood timber. The forest is made up of largely hardwood saw timber trees as shown below.



Timber Supply around Prairie County

Within a 1-county radius around and including Prairie County (Arkansas, Lonoke, Monroe, White, and Woodruff) there are 12 million tons of softwood and 63 million tons of hardwood timber. In this 6 county region, annual net growth exceeds harvest by 901,676

tons, 100% of this surplus is hardwoods. Pine harvest actually exceeds net growth by 29,386 tons per year in the region, as shown below in the figure.



Economic Contributions of Prairie County Forests

Forest industries contribute \$2,225,553 annually to Prairie County's value added (GDP) which is 1.4% of the county's total economic activity, less than the state-wide average of 4.95%. Forest industries in the county include Hendry Hardwoods, Harris and Son Sawmill, and Patterson Hardwoods. There is one logging firm which operates from Prairie County. Income in Prairie County's forestry sectors is 187% of the county average. The high value for labor income in logging is that the US Bureau of Economic Analysis considers depreciation as part of labor income. The direct economic contribution of Prairie County's forest industry is shown below.

Sector	Employees	Labor Income	Value Added (GDP)
Forestry	less than 1	\$10,583	\$10,448
Logging	5	\$1,138,650	\$1,164,229
Solid Wood Products	19	\$578,583	\$1,042,491
Furniture	1	\$4,166	\$4,493
Pulp and Paper	less than 1	\$2,692	\$3,893
Forestry Totals in Prairie County	25	\$1,734,674	\$2,225,553