

FORESTRY RESEARCH NEWS



PACIFIC NORTHWEST
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Log exports from Pacific Northwest total 528 million board feet in third quarter 1968

Third quarter 1968 softwood log exports from Oregon and Washington totaled 528 million board feet, Scribner scale, according to data being assembled by the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station for its quarterly marketing report, "Production, Prices, Employment, and Trade in Northwest Forest Industries." The third quarter export volume represents a decrease of 4.8 percent from second quarter 1968 shipments. The volume for the first three quarters of 1968 totals 1,524 million board feet or 30.9 percent above the same period in 1967.

Log shipments from the Oregon Customs District totaled 169 million board feet, down 5.9 percent from the previous quarter but up 21.1 percent from third quarter a year ago. In the Washington Customs District, exports were down 4.2 percent from the second quarter to 359 million board feet but up 14.8 percent from third quarter 1967.

Japan received 95 percent of the total shipments or 499 million board feet. Canada received 2 percent or 10 million board feet, and the remaining 3 percent, 18 million board feet, went to South Korea.

Douglas-fir made up 18.5 percent of the shipments, Port-Orford-cedar 1.0 percent, and other softwood species, primarily western hemlock and true firs, 80.5 percent.

Average value of all log exports in the third quarter rose to \$100.52 per thousand board feet from a second quarter figure of \$99.27. Douglas-fir prices declined from \$97.40 to \$95.50, while the prices of Port-Orford-cedar and other softwoods increased to \$323.69 and \$98.91, respectively.

The total value of all log exports from Oregon and Washington ports was \$53 million in the third quarter.

Lumber exports from Washington and Oregon dropped from 109 million board feet in the second quarter to 85 million board feet in the third quarter of 1968. Plywood exports totaled 8,574 thousand square feet, about the same as second quarter shipments. Chip exports from the Oregon Customs District increased to 277.3 thousand cords in the third quarter, 19.1 percent above the previous quarter's total. In the Washington Customs District, third quarter chip exports totaled 26.4 thousand cords, a drop of 31.6 percent from the second quarter level of 38.6 thousand cords.

Third quarter log shipments from northern California increased 76 percent over second quarter shipments to a total of 76.5 million board feet. Chip exports from the same area totaled 17.4 thousand cords, a drop of 24.9 percent from the previous quarter.

Alaska log shipments were down 39 percent from second quarter to a level of 12,468 thousand board feet.

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