Species Spotlight: Poplar

Poplar supply will be steady, as will demand from domestic furniture, millwork and moulding manufacturers. Both will work to keep FAS/1F prices firm in the months ahead.

KD common-grade Poplar prices have leveled in Appalachia and risen in the South, and could gain some strength from renewed export growth to China, Vietnam and the UK, as well as traditionally stronger exports in spring/summer.

However, currency weakness in large export markets like China, Mexico and the European Union makes it unlikely that Poplar exports will bounce back easily from 2015’s losses.
Corrugated Pallet Bill Defeated In Oregon

In February, the Oregon wood community joined together and successfully used the powerful message of wood’s strong environmental credentials to defeat an initiative proposed by an out-of-state corrugated pallet manufacturer. The bill would have mandated that state agencies give a purchasing preference for corrugated pallets over wood pallets.

When it became obvious the bill would not pass, the bill’s proponent sought to bypass the legislature with an executive order from the Governor’s office. The last-minute maneuver has one state agency, the Oregon Department of Corrections, committing to explore the potential of a pilot project that would seek to have, by 2021, up to 10% of in-bound freight received on cardboard pallets.

Patrick Atagi, NWPCA VP of advocacy & external affairs, traveled to Oregon and worked with two firms NWPCA hired to help lead the coalition and support the grassroots campaign. NWPCA continues to talk with the Governor’s office regarding the life safety risks, material handling challenges, and environmental impacts of any potential pilot project.

practices are not responsible for the decline of the NLEB or any other bat species. This decline is directly linked to White Nose Syndrome, and our forest industry activities do not aid in its cause or spread.

We will be advocating for increased funding and coordinated research to cure this terrible disease.