

TCFLOA General Meeting Summary

The Tyler County Forest Landowner Association met at 9:30 AM, Saturday, April 29, 2017, in Woodville.

Tyler County Chief Appraiser, David Luther, explained the 2017 timberland tax valuations for which you probably received your appraisal this month. Timberland valuations are calculated each year by the State Comptroller's Office using a formula defined by the 1978 State Legislature. One of the factors in the formula is the five-year average stumpage price for sawtimber and pulpwood. While the stumpage prices for 2017 were lower than the prices for 2016, the five-year average price for 2017 is higher than the five-year average price for 2016. This is because the unusually low prices recorded in 2011 are now outside the five-year formula range. This "increase" in stumpage prices along with other factors in the formula effect higher timberland valuations for most landowners. Estimated 2017 taxes per acre in Tyler County are as follows.

	2016	2017	Change	% Change
Pine, Soil Type 1	\$10.44	\$11.20	\$.76	7.3%
Pine, Soil Type 2	6.54	7.09	.55	8.4%
Pine, Soil Type 3	5.16	5.60	.44	8.6%
Pine, Soil Type 4	4.87	5.03	.16	3.2%
Mixed, Soil Type 1	6.94	7.12	.18	2.6%
Mixed, Soil Type 2	4.42	4.48	.05	1.2%
Mixed, Soil Type 3	2.64	2.64	-	0%
Mixed, Soil Type 4	1.78	1.68	(.10)	-5.9%
Hardwood, Soil Type 1	2.72	3.19	.47	17.3%
Hardwood, Soil Type 2	1.15	1.26	.10	9.1%
Hardwood, Soil Type 3	.65	.73	.08	12.0%
Hardwood, Soil Type 4	.13	.13	-	0%

Brady Riche, Woodflow Manager for Roy O Martin Lumber Company, described the new Oriented Strand Board (OSB) facility near Corrigan which will begin operation this fall, providing 165 new jobs for the area and consume 140 truck loads of wood a day — 7 days a week. The plant will also be buying wood from Tyler county. Mr. Riche showed a video of how the wood would flow through the new plant.

Jeff Cravey, Genetic Investment Advisor for International Forest Company, explained the advantages of container seedlings and improved tree genetics. Choice of seedling genetic level can increase per acre revenue from 32% to 55%. The high survival potential of container seedlings permits lowering of the number of seedlings planted per acre. Mr. Cravey emphasized the advantages of planting container grown seedlings vs bare root seedlings. Capitalizing on all opportunities by making the right seedling choice can increase revenues by 68%. Late summer or early fall planting could result in an additional 8-10% increase in yields.

Master Bee Keeper, Scott Martin, highlighted opportunities for landowners. He requested that if you have a problem with bees, call a bee keeper rather than an exterminator to handle the problem. If the

bees in your home or building are killed, the remaining honey will deteriorate and the honey will over time flow and damage your walls – and other unwelcome bees will find the honey. A bee keeper's process removes both the bees and the honey to a new location and the bees typically do not return to your home or building.

Bee keepers are always looking for new locations to place their bee boxes. The location should be in an open area, away from neighbors, and accessible in wet weather conditions. Right of ways, pastures, and tree lines are ideal. Since bees do their work around a short distance from their hive, the ideal location should provide a variety of vegetation and a water source within ¼ mile.