Forestry in Guyana

Quarterly Market Report

1999/3

Economics Section
Planning and Development Division
Guyana Forestry Commission

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1. *INTRODUCTION*

The Market Report is produced quarterly by the Economics Section of the Planning and Development Division. The purpose of the Quarterly Market Report is to provide a brief overview of trends in production and trade, and current issues affecting markets for Guyana's forest products.

The report is based primarily on the production, export and price data of the Guyana forest industry, which are monitored by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC). Data are obtained from producers, GFC forest officers, exporters and merchants, and compiled at the GFC Headquarters.

The third quarter market report (1999/3) begins with a summary of sector performance, production, exports and prices are then reviewed and finally a summary of the key calendar events that occurred within the sector are presented.

2. *SUMMARY*

Relative to 1998, in the third quarter of 1999:

- Production of primary timber forest products showed mixed signs of recovery. There were increases in the production of logs, chainsaw lumber, and firewood while roundwood, and splitwood decreased

- Plywood production increased

- Non-timber forest products exhibited increases with the exception of manicole palm which recorded a decrease as a result of shrinking export market

- Royalty on production on timber products increased

- The volume of exports increased for most forest products however total export value decreased

- Average domestic prices remained fairly stable for most species

- An index of average F.O.B export prices for selected products showed fluctuating trends for most products with the exception of dressed lumber which exhibited rising prices

Table 1: Production of Forest Products

PRODUCTS	Unit	3rd Quarter (Jan-Sep)			98-99	Cumulative (Jan-Sep)			98-99
		1997	1998	1999	% chg.	1997	1998	1999	% chg.
TIMBER PRODUCTS									
Logs									
Greenheart	m3	24,909	16,910	24,254	43	58,101	60,346	60,789	0.7
Special Class	m3	…	6,700	8,801	31	…	22,143	24,155	9
Class 1	m3	…	21,706	27,077	25	…	61,348	81,322	33
Class 2	m3	…	46,271	56,344	22	…	138,046	143,169	4
Class 3	m3	…	4,010	10,587	164	…	15,471	27,016	75
Total Logs	m3	151,389	95,597	127,063	33	385,460	297,354	336,450	13
Chainsaw Lumber (CL)									
Greenheart	m3	…	649	1,038	60	…	3,393	2,095	-38
Special Class	m3	…	243	328	35	…	1,359	696	-49
Class 1	m3	…	2,809	3,480	24	…	9,528	8,775	-7
Class 2	m3	…	798	958	20	…	2,320	2,386	3
Class 3	m3	…	676	646	-4	…	1,743	1,794	3
Total CL	m3	8,165	5,175	6,449	25	23,082	18,343	15,747	-14
						…			
Roundwood (RW)						…			
Greenheart Piles	m3	1,530	3,223	1,890	-41	5,267	9,500	6,116	-36
Kakaralli Piles	m3	220	414	234	-43	318	639	245	-62
Mora Piles		…	0	0	-		0	55	-
Wallaba Poles	m3	1,306	624	436	-30	3,462	3,369	1,156	-66
Posts	m3	1,451	758	712	-6	4,353	2,651	1,955	-26
Spars	m3	20	5	9	80	50	33	25	-24
Total RW	m3	4,527	5,024	3,281	-35	13,450	16,192	9,552	-41
Splitwood (SW)									
Paling Staves	m3	643	393	273	-31	1,690	1,197	630	-47
Vat Staves	m3	0	4	0	-68	0	4	4	0
Shingles	m3	22	56	18	-36	28	104	49	-112
Total SW	m3	665	453	291		1,718	1,305	683	-48
Fuelwood					-28				
Charcoal	Kg	300,000	126,305	91,428	4	479,913	347,533	158,269	-54
Firewood	cord	549	647	678		2402	1,534	2,178	42
Plywood	m3	13,891	17,854	23,868	34	44,076	58,577	63,839	9
Sawmill Lumber	m3	…		15,711			n.a.	19,140	
NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCT									
Wattles	piece	4,780	230	1,425	520	9,256	4,346	3,460	-20
Mangrove Bark	kg	0	10,841	12,655	17	0	14,288	52,993	270
Manicole Palm	stem	2,171,000	2,093,898	1,824,586	-13	5,134,772	5,490,422	3,323,715	-39
Processed Manicole Palm (Heart of Palm)	cartons								

Source: Guyana Forestry Commission, Amazon Caribbean Limited for Processed Manicole Palm

Notes:
1. For Fuelwood Production we have reverted to the original measurements of Charcoal and Firewood until conversion rates are clarified.
2. % chg is the percentage change in production.
3. n.a. – not available.

3. Domestic Production

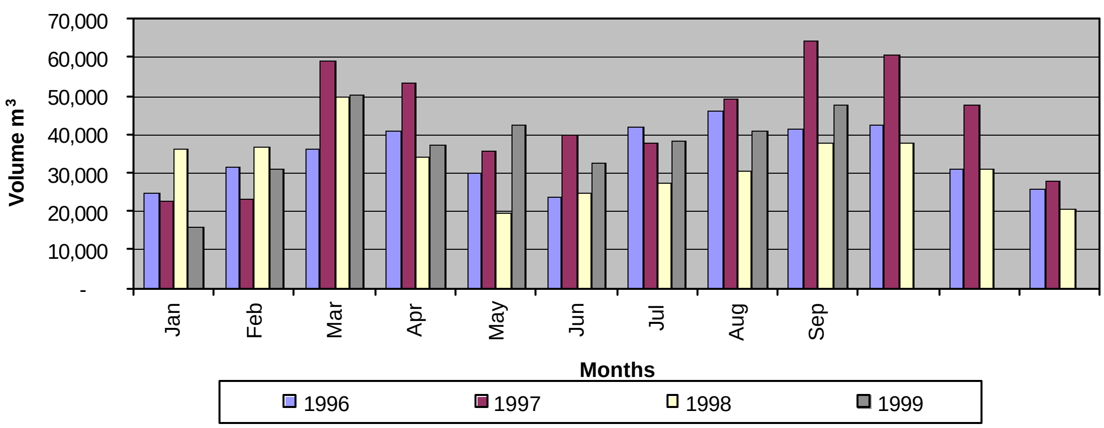
3.1 Primary Production

3.1.1 Timber

Timber production comprises logs, chainsaw lumber, roundwood, splitwood and fuelwood. Roundwood comprises piles, poles, posts and spars, while splitwood includes paling staves, vat staves and shingles. Fuelwood includes charcoal and firewood.

Logs

Graph 1: Monthly Log Production, 1996-1999



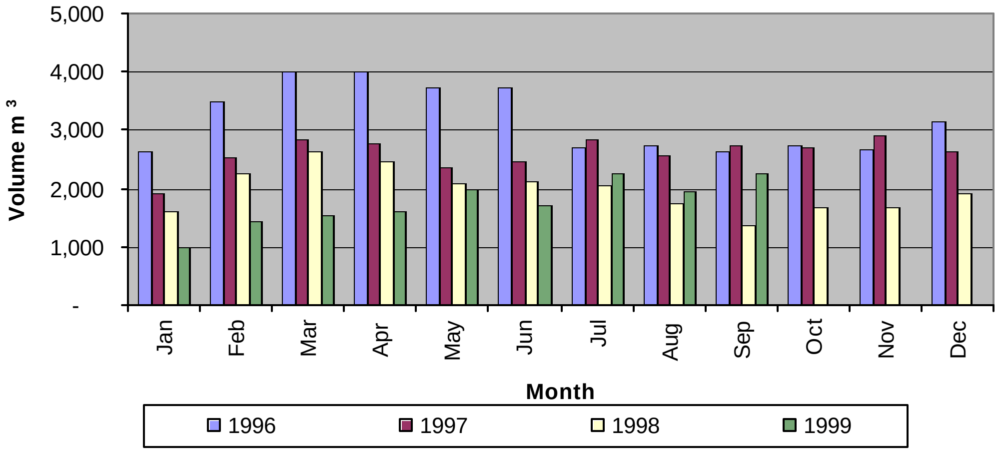
Log production in 1999 recovered from the decline experienced last year, but output was still lower than the levels achieved in 1997. Cumulative log production for the period January to September 1999 was 336,450m^3, an increase of 13.1 % from September 1998. This compared to a decline of 23 % at the end of the third quarter of 1998 relative to 1997.

Log production for the period of July to September 1999 was 127,063 m^3, 33 per cent higher than the level at the corresponding period in 1998. The level in the third quarter of 1998 was 37 per cent down from the corresponding period in 1997.

Table 1 shows that there has been increased production in all classes of logs. The most significant increase of 164% came form the class 3 species. Within this class, the growth was mostly accounted for by Futui, Halchiballi, Huruasa, which was used for plywood manufacturing. Other reasons for such the significant increase were an improvement in the construction industry and an increase in the volume of these species being exported

Chainsaw Lumber

Graph 2: Monthly Chainsaw Lumber Production, 1996-1999



Chainsaw operations are mainly accounted for by State Forests Permits (SFP). In 1999, there were 344[1] SFP operations in Guyana, mostly concentrated in the Demerara region. Chainsaw lumber operations primarily supply the domestic market as they provide a cheaper alternative to sawmill lumber due to lower costs of production.

For the second consecutive year chainsaw lumber declined. Between January and September production of chainsaw lumber was 15,747m^3, a decline of 14% relative to the same period in 1998. For the corresponding period in 1998 relative to 1997, there was a decline of 11.7 per cent.

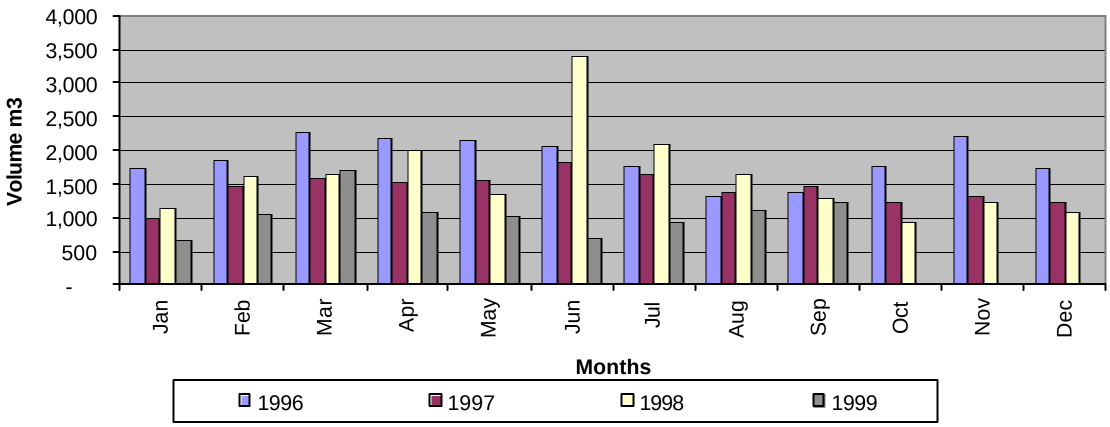
In the third quarter, however, there was a turn around with chainsaw lumber increasing by 25 % relative to the third quarter in 1998 to 6449 m^3. At the corresponding period in 1998 relative to 1997, there was a 37 % decline in chainsaw lumber.

Graph 2 depicts a lower level of production chainsaw lumber when compared to previous years. In the third quarter however, production has surpassed 1998's output for the first time.

[1] includes those under consideration for conversion to larger concessions, i.e. TSA and WCL

Roundwood

Graph 3: Monthly Roundwood Production, 1996-1999



Cumulative roundwood production between January and September of 1999 totaled 9,552m^3, a 41% decrease relative to 1998. This compared to a 20% increase in production in the corresponding period of 1998 relative to 1997.

In the third quarter of 1999, roundwood production was 3,281m^3 representing a 35 % decline relative to 1998. For the third quarter of 1998 relative to 1997, there was an increase of 11% in production.

In the third quarter of 1999 Greenheart piles decreased by 41%, Kakaralli piles by 43%, poles by 30% and posts by 6%, which accounted for the decline in this period. There was however, an 80% increase in the production of spars.

Graph 3 depicts a lower level of level of production in all but one month, up to September 1999. Production, however, was approaching 1998 levels at the end of September.

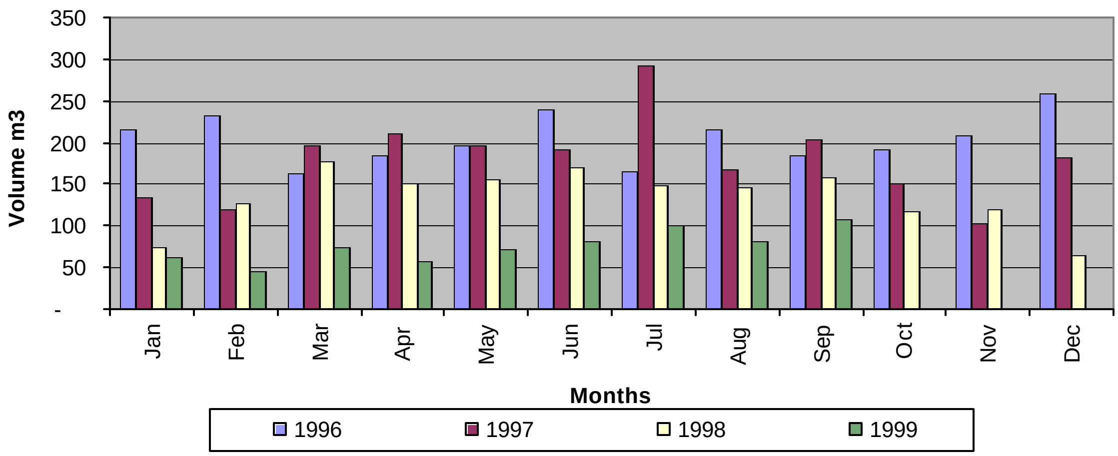
Splitwood

Cumulative splitwood production was 683m^3 between January and September 1999, a decrease of 48% relative to 1998. There was a 32% fall in production for splitwood in 1998 Relative to 1997.

Splitwood production was 291 m^3 in the third quarter of 1999, 36% lower than it was in 1998. This compared to a 32% decrease in the third quarter of 1998 relative to that of 1997. In the third quarter of 1999, there was a 31% decrease in the production of paling staves. Paling staves accounted for 94% of total splitwood production during this period. Shingles production decreased by 68% to amount to 18 m^3. There was no recorded production of vat staves in this period

Graph 4 indicates that the splitwood market is in decline compared to the previous years. This has been brought about by the collapse of paling staves production, which has accounted for the majority of splitwood. Paling Staves are gradually being replaced by substitutes such as concrete and chain link fencing materials.

Graph 4: Monthly Splitwood Production, 1996-1999



Fuelwood

Fuelwood is being slowly replaced by other means of cooking such as propane and electric cookers. Charcoal production totaled 158,269kgs between January and September of 1999, a decline of 54% relative to 1998. At the corresponding period in 1998 relative to 1997 there was a 28% decrease in production

In the third quarter of 1999 charcoal production totaled 91,428kgs, a 28% decrease relative to the same period in 1998. Production in 1998 fell by 58% relative to the corresponding period in 1997.

Firewood production between January and September of 1999 totaled 2,178 cords, an increase of 42% relative to 1998. This compared to a 36% decrease in production in 1998 relative to 1997 in the same period.

Firewood production in the third quarter of 1999 amounted to 678 cords, remaining consistent with production in the same quarter of 1998. Production grew by 18 % in 1998 relative to 1997.

3.1.2 Non Timber Forest Products

Wattle

A wattle is a sapling less than 3 inches (8cm) in diameter and is used mainly in agricultural / farming activities for supporting young plants.

Wattle production totaled 3,460 pieces between January and September of 1999, a 20% fall in production relative to 1998. This compared to a 53% decrease in 1998 relative to 1997
Wattle production totaled 520 pieces in the third quarter of 1999, a 126% increase from the corresponding period in 1998. The El Nina phenomenon is over and agricultural activities have resumed resulting in an increase in wattle production. This turnaround reflected increased activities in the agriculture sector.

Mangrove Bark

Mangrove bark is used in the leather craft industry in the tanning of leather.

Cumulative mangrove bark production between January and September was 52,993 kg, a 270% increase relative to the corresponding period in 1998.
In the third quarter of 1999, mangrove bark totaled 12,655 kgs, a 17% increase from the corresponding period in 1998.

Manicole Palm

Manicole palm (*Euterpe oleracea*) is processed and canned in Guyana and largely exported as a delicacy to markets in Europe. The sole producer in Guyana is Amazon Caribbean Ltd. that began production in 1990. A very small percentage of the end product is sold on the domestic market.

Manicole palm production totaled 3,323,715 stems between January and September of 1999, a decrease of 39%. This compared to a 7% increase in production in 1998 relative to 1997

Production of manicole palm in the third quarter amounted to 1,824,586 stems, a decline of 12.9% from the corresponding period in 1998. Production in the 1998 third quarter decreased by 4% relative to the to 1997.
The fall in production of manicole palm was reported to have resulted from a loss in market share of Amazon Caribbean Ltd. to the Costa Rican producers.

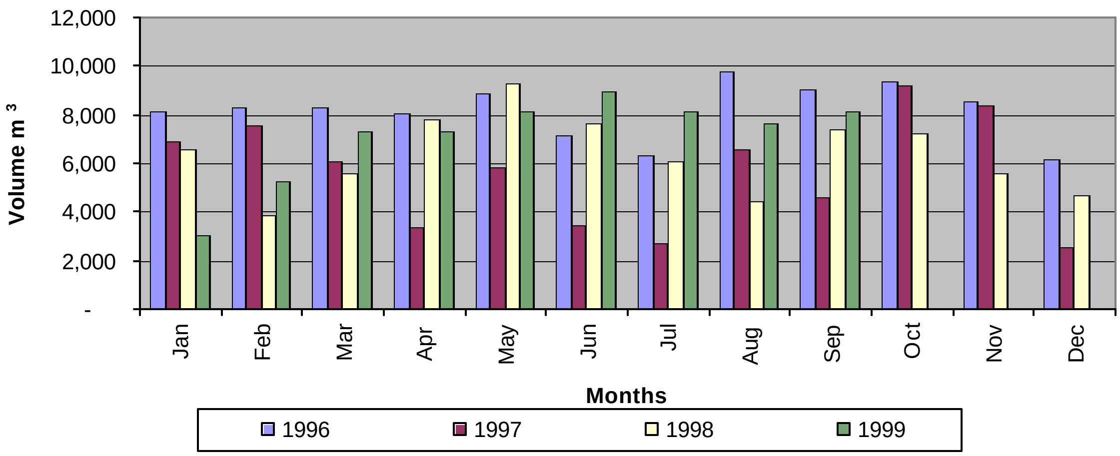
3.2 Secondary Production

Plywood

Plywood production totaled 63,839 m^3 between January and September 1999, an increase of 9% relative to 1998. This compared to a 33% increase in 1998 relative to 1997

There was a 34% increase in the production of plywood from the third quarter in 1998 to 23,868 m^3. In 1998 there was an increase in production by 28% relative to 1997 third quarter. This is a reflection of firming international markets for plywood in the third quarter with demand healthy and prices recovering from its 1998 decline. Plywood exports accounted for 81% of total plywood production in the third quarter.

Graph 5: Monthly Plywood Production, 1996-1999



Sawmill lumber

Due to data gaps in 1998 we are unable to compare production between years. However, production in the third quarter was 15,711.02 m3.

4. ROYALTY ON PRODUCTION

Royalty is levied on the volume of primary forest products harvested from Guyana's State forest by concessionaires.

Royalty on production in the third quarter was G$40.22 million, an increase of 19.2% from the previous quarter. Royalty in this quarter also surpassed the corresponding period in 1998 by 6.2%. This increase is due to the increase in production as well as the tightening of the monitoring division of Guyana Forestry Commission

Table 3 gives a breakdown of royalty on production of the various products in the third quarter of 1999 with logs accounting for 63.6% of total royalty, chainsaw lumber 23.7%, roundwood 7.3%, splitwood 0.3%, fuelwood 0.5% and non-timber forest products 4.6%. Relative to the last quarter breakdown, the percentages have remained fairly consistent.

Graph 6 Monthly Royalty on Production, 1997-1999

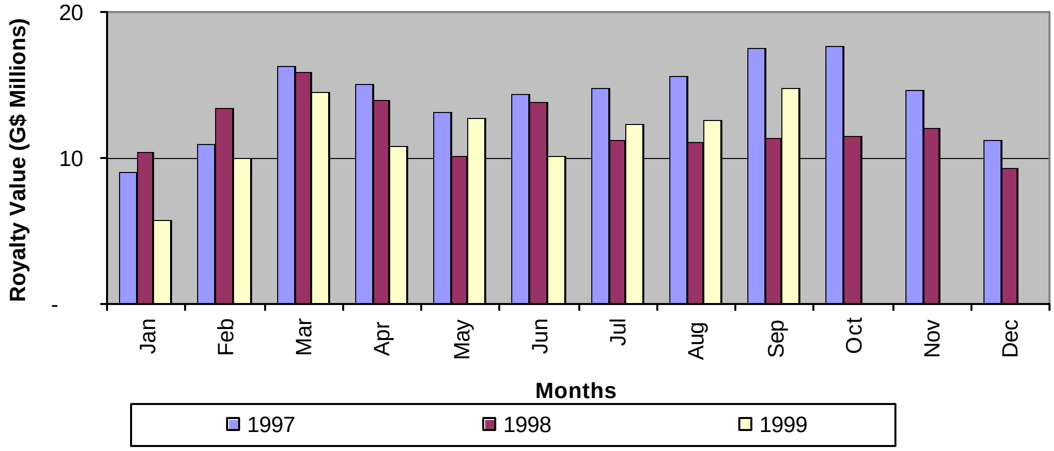


Table 3: Breakdown of Royalty on Production (Jul-Sep 1999)

PRODUCTS	Royalty on Production G$
TIMBER PRODUCTS	
Logs	
Greenheart	9,432,178
Special Class	3,025,731
Class 1	5,795,811
Class 2	6,466,488
Class 3	856,594
Total Logs	25,576,802
Chainsaw Lumber (CL)	
Greenheart	2,571,411
Special Class	811,782
Class 1	4,928,245
Class 2	848,802
Class 3	367,204
Total CL	9,527,444
Roundwood	
Greenheart Piles	2,223,825
Kakaralli Piles	142,857
Mora Piles	
Wallaba Poles	423,672
Posts	125,769
Spars	30,438
Total Roundwood	2,946,561
Splitwood	
Paling Staves	115,676
Vat Staves	
Shingles	16,325
Total Splitwood	132,001
Fuelwood	
Charcoal	120,938
Firewood	74,635
NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS	
Wattles	4,275
Mangrove Bark	13,950
Manicole Palm	1,824,586
TOTAL ROYALTY	**40,221,192**

Source: Guyana Forestry Commission

5. *EXPORTS*

5.1 Export: Volume and Value

Table 4: Export Volume of Forest Products

PRODUCTS	Unit	2nd Quarter (Apr-Jun)			3rd Quarter (Jul-Sep)			Cumulative (Jan-Sep)		
		1998	1999	% change	1998	1999	% change	1998	1999	% change
Logs	m^3	19,136	25,343	32	12,097	6,762	-44	47,108	40,965	-13
Sawnwood	m^3	7,925	5,868	-26	4,497	4,535	0.85	16,195	16,123	-0.44
Roundwood	m^3	2,335	909	-61	1,061	1,899	79	6,257	3,950	-37
Splitwood	m^3	267	164	-39	210	147	-30	594	461	-22
Charcoal	KGB	18,752	9,546	-49	58,885	16,329	-72	109,716	64,558	-41
Plywood	m^3	23,451	17,102	-27	17,792	19,348	9	51,692	53,910	4
Heart of Palm (Manicole)	Carton	46,157	28,307	-39	41,727	37,333	-11	132,233	88,520	-33

Source: Guyana Forestry Commission
Note: Sawnwood includes dressed lumber, undressed lumber, sleepers and pallets
Roundwood includes hewn, piles, poles and posts
Splitwood comprises shingles and paling staves

Table 5: F.O.B. Export Value of Forest Products ('000 US$)

PRODUCTS	2nd Quarter (Apr-Jun)			3rd Quarter (Jul-Sep)			Cumulative (Jan-Sep)		
	1998	1999	% change	1998	1999	% change	1998	1999	% change
Logs	1,123.73	1,652.51	47	715.47	422.59	-41	3,172.67	2,623.36	-17
Sawnwood	3,060.27	1,201.99	-60	1,670.16	1,731.49	4	6,202.58	4,523.43	-27
Roundwood	419.99	140.12	-67	198.55	289.24	46	1,136.35	622.86	-45
Splitwood	78.65	78.89	0.3	66.66	72.50	9	181.78	226.89	25
Charcoal	3.65	0.72	-80	4.04	5.89	46	13.87	9.33	-33
Plywood	5,720.14	5,291.94	-7	4,004.30	6,281.66	55	12,197.92	16,441.77	35
Heart of Palm (Manicole)	784.13	576.83	-26	853.21	522.72	-39	2,438.33	1,560.74	-36
TOTAL	11,190.56	8,943.00	-20	7,512.39	9,326.09	24	25,343.50	26,008.38	3

Source: Guyana Forestry Commission
Note: Sawnwood includes dressed lumber, undressed lumber, sleepers and pallets
Roundwood includes hewn, piles, poles and posts
Splitwood comprises shingles and paling staves
***** Correction from last issue.

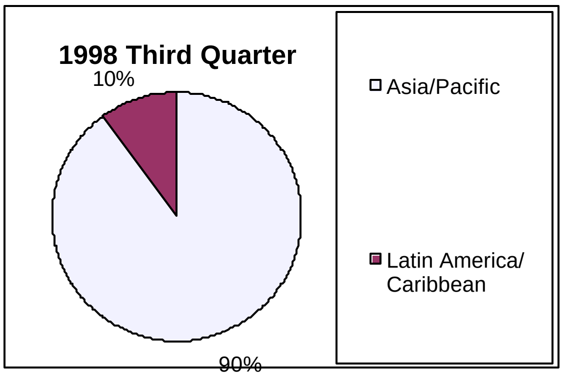
The third quarter of 1999 showed mixed signs in the volumes of all forest products exports. Total export earnings increased to US$9.3 million from US$7.5 million in the corresponding period in 1998.

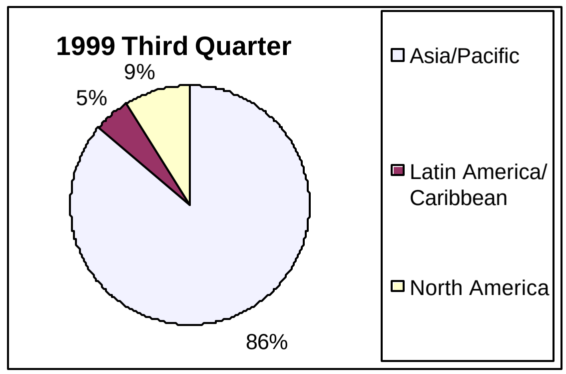
5.2 Export: Destination

The exports by destination are based on volumes.

Logs

Log exports accounted for 18.1% of total volume exported of forest products and 5%of total production. At 6,732 m^3 log export volume was 44% lower than the 1998 third quarter level. The value of exports was US$0.42 million , a 41% fall from the corresponding period in 1998. In addition to the volume of logs exported declining, there was also a change in the composition of the destinations exported to.



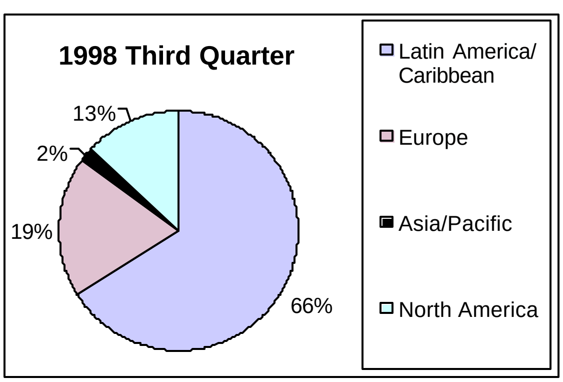


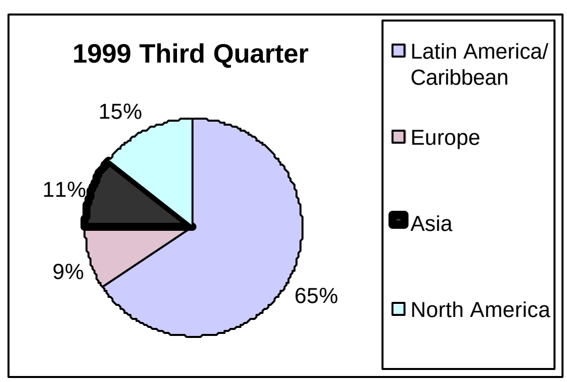
North America became an importer of logs from Guyana while the Asia/Pacific and Latin America/Caribbean shares declined by 4% and 6% respectively. The Asia/Pacific region remained the biggest importer of logs from Guyana accounting for 86% of Guyana's log exports.

Sawnwood

At 4,535m^3 sawnwood export volume in the third quarter of 1999 was 0.85% higher than 1998 levels and accounting for 70% of total production. Export value stood at US$1.73 million, 3.7% higher than the 1998 levels.

Latin America/Caribbean and North America have maintained their share of imports of Sawnwood

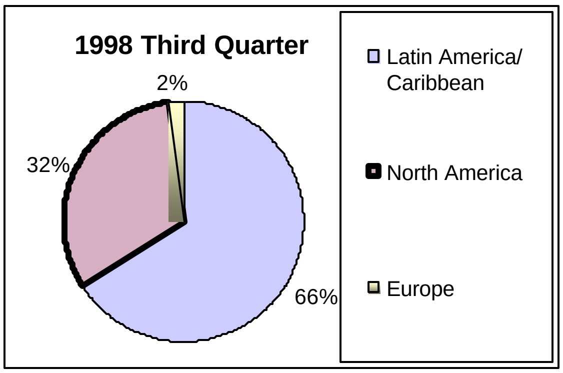


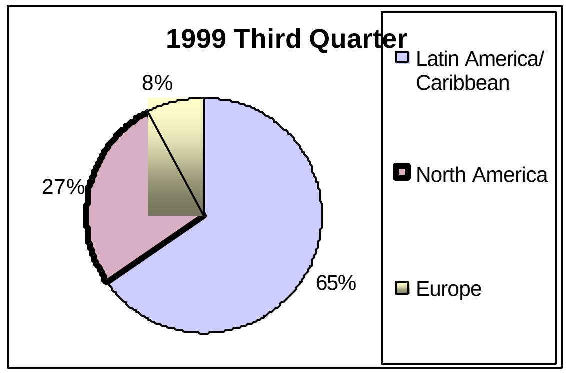


from Guyana in the third quarter of 1999. In comparison to 1998 third quarter, the Asia / Pacific market increased their market share by 9% and the European market share declined by 10%.

Roundwood

Roundwood export volume in the third quarter of 1999 was 1,899m^3, 79% higher than the corresponding period in 1998 and representing 58% of total production. Of the total volume exported poles constituted 68.3% of total roundwood export, posts 16.6% and piles 15.1%. The value of export in the third quarter totaled US$0.29 million, 46% higher than 1998 levels.

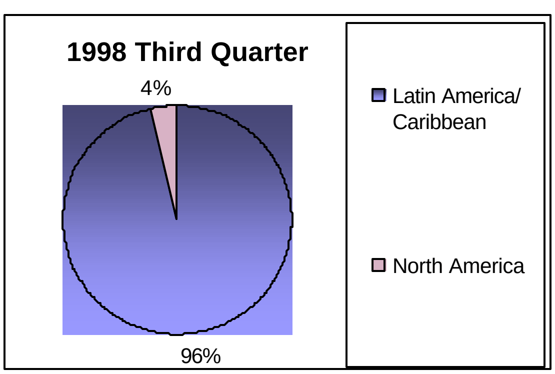


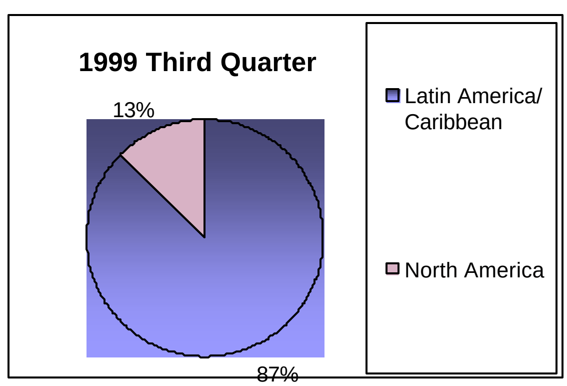


Latin America maintained their strong market share just 1% below the 1998 level. The North American market share of roundwood decreased in this quarter by 5%due to the stringent buying practices of importers. The New York City Council maintains that Greenheart (Chlorocardium rodiei) from Guyana is pending elimination from the list of approved species. NYC is one of Guyana's largest buyers of Greenheart piles and the impact of their action is becoming apparent. Europe increased its market share of roundwood by 6% from the corresponding period in 1998.

Splitwood

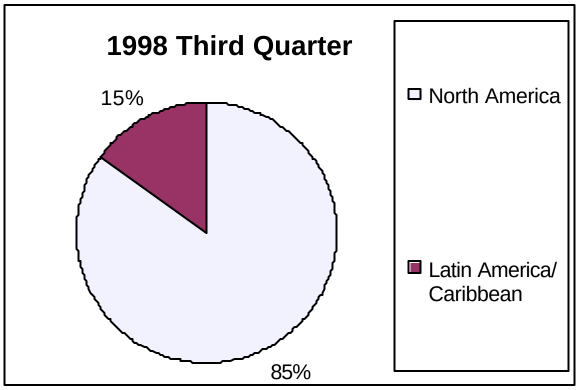
Splitwood exports in the third quarter of 1999 comprised of shingles only. At 147m^{3,} shingles export volume was 30% lower than the 1998 levels. Export value stood at US$0.072 million, 9% higher than the levels in the corresponding period in 1998. Better prices are accountable for the higher value despite the lower volume exported in this period.

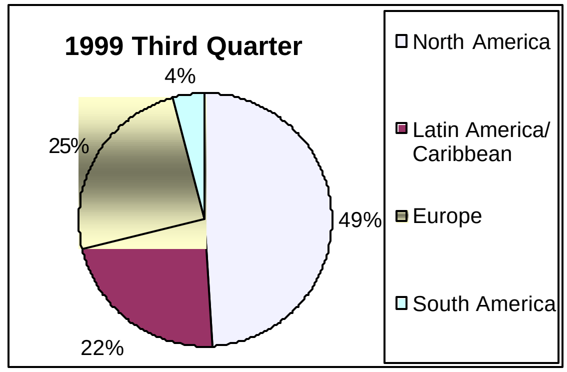




Latin America / Caribbean and North America remain the only buyers of splitwood from Guyana in the third quarter of 1999. As in the previous quarter of 1999 however, splitwood comprised of shingles only. 13% went to North America while 87% went to Latin America/Caribbean in this quarter. In comparison to the corresponding period in 1998, North America increased their market share by 9% while the Latin America/Caribbean market shrunk by the same amount.

Plywood





Plywood international markets continue to recover. Export volume in the third quarter increased by 9%, relative to the corresponding period in 1998 totaling 19,348m^3 and representing 81% of total production. Export value increased by 55% to US$6.28 million from the same period in 1998.

Plywood is now being exported to Europe, with 25% of the market and South America, with 22% of the market. Latin America/Caribbean experienced a 7% increase in market share in this period. The European market is growing steadily, with World Wide Wood in the UK reporting that plywood producers in Guyana are said to be reasonable competitive.

6. PRICES

6.1 Domestic Prices

Prices quoted in this section are countrywide average domestic prices. The average regional prices will vary depending on location of sale; i.e. prices in Georgetown are significantly higher than the prices in the outlying regions such as Berbice and Essequibo given supply constraints such as transportation. The Minimum band represents the lowest price the product is sold at while the maximum is the highest price for the product. The percentage change represents the change in the average price of January 1999 with that of September 1999.

Average Domestic Prices (minimum and maximum) for 3rd Quarter 1999

Logs G$

Note: Species	Jan 99		Sep 99		% Chg
	Min / m3	Max / m3	Min / m^3	Max / m^3	of average
Baromalli			6,223	8,000	
Crabwood	9,722	9,722	9,723	10,111	2
Greenheart	11,888	11,888	10,418	11,000	-10
Locust	11,888	11,888	10,000	10,695	-13
Mora	7,500	7,500	7,223	7,223	-4
Purpleheart	11,888	11,888	10,612	13,807	3

Dressed Lumber G$

Species	Jan 99		Sep 99		% chg
	Min / m3	Max / m3	Min / m^3	Max / m^3	of average
Crabwood	44,530	44,530	31,782	36,020	-24
Greenheart	53,011	53,011	49,136	55,513	-1
Locust	46,650	46,650	38,136	52,970	-2
Mora	29,686	29,686	25,426	29,686	-7
Purpleheart	53,011	53,011	49,156	52,152	-4
Shibadan	36,047	36,047	33,072	36,047	-4
Tauroniro	36,047	36,047	33,072	36,047	-4

Undressed Lumber G$

Species	Jan 99		Sep 99		% chg
	Min / m3	Max / m3	Min / m^3	Max / m^3	of average
Crabwood	42,408	42,408	29,680	40,704	-17
Greenheart	48,770	50,890	42,400	47,912	-9
Locust	44,529	44,529	29,680	46,640	-14
Mora	27,566	27,566	23,320	25,440	-11
Purpleheart	48,770	50,890	41,976	46,216	-11
Shibadan	31,806	33,927	30,528	35,616	1
Tauroniro	31,806	33,977	35,192	38,160	12

Other Products

Product		Jan 99		Sep 99		% Chg of
	Unit	MinG$ / unit	MaxG$ / unit	Min G$ / unit	MaxG$ / unit	averageG$
Greenheart Piles <=55’	m3	24,000	29,000	25,300	33,850	12
Kakaralli Piles <=55’	m3			150,000	25,000	
Greenheart Piles >55’	m3	36,500	60,000	41,550	57,750	3
Wallaba Poles <=50’	m3	35,820	44,776	35,821	52,239	9
Wallaba Posts 10’	Post	750	900	750	900	-
Wallaba Posts 8’	Post	300	300	300	300	-
Shingles	Piece	14	16	12	17	-6

Note:

For conversion into imperial measurement, see page 28

Plywood

Prices have remained static for plywood for the third quarter of 1999.

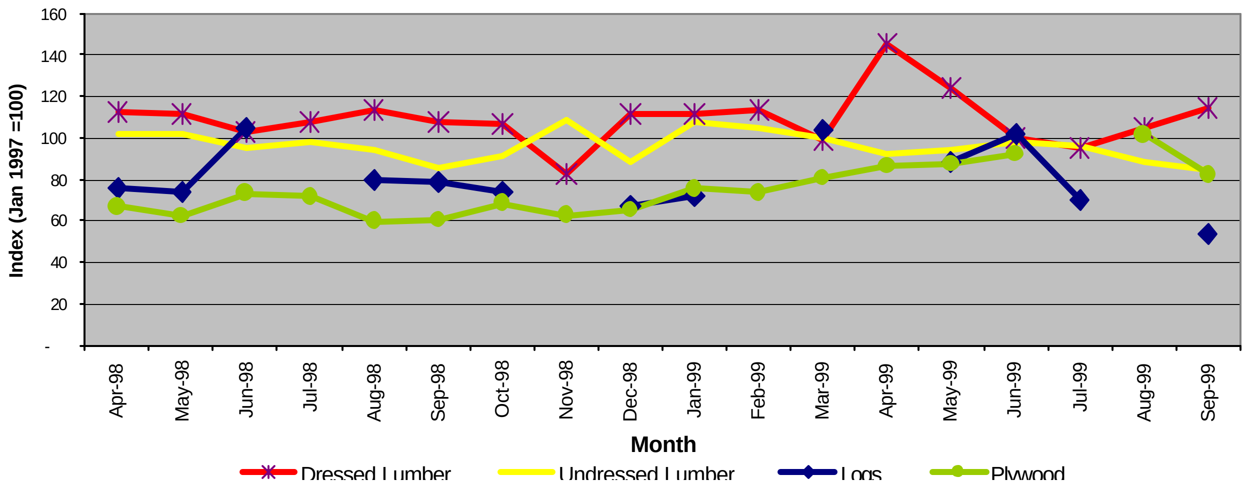
G$/4'x8' Average Retail Price

Width	Min Price	Max Price
5.2 mm	1,145	1,230
9 mm	1,945	1,958
12 mm	2,545	2,587
15mm	3,100	3,100
18 mm	3,800	3,850

Plywood Prices from the mill

Width	G$/4'x8'	G$/$m^3$
5.2 mm	914	59,047
9 mm	1,522	56,809
12 mm	2,011	56,296
15 mm	2,525	56,548
18 mm	2,925	54,588

Graph 7: Average F.O.B. Prices for Selected Products



6.2 Export Prices

Graph 7 above shows movement of average export prices for logs, dressed lumber, undressed lumber and plywood with January 1997 as the base period (Jan 1997=100)

Despite fluctuations between October 1998 and June 1999for dressed lumber, the prices in the third quarter of 1999 have been fairly stable ending marginally higher than 1997 levels.

Undressed lumber prices have gradually been decreasing in the third quarter of 1999 but has remained the most consistent relative to the other selected products.

Trends in log prices show, in contrast to the previous quarter of 1999, a downward movement. Prices were well below the 1997 levels. The gaps in the trend line are a result of no exports of logs for those periods.

Plywood prices were increasing up until the end of September when it started to decline. This decline was not only evident in Guyana but also in Southeast Asia. The better prices urged producers to increase their supply however the market began to saturate, causing the fall in prices.

7. CALENDAR OF KEY ISSUES IN GUYANA'S FORESTRY SECTOR

July

The informal ban still stands in North America. State governments of New York and New Jersey are "discouraging the use of Geenheart *(Chlorocardium rodiei)* and other species in some major projects for which they would have normally been the wood of choice". The reason for this is the belief that unsustainable forest management is practiced in Guyana.

Mr. Kurt Kisto of Caribbean Resources Ltd. became the new president of the Forest Products Association (FPA), succeeding Mr. David Persaud of Toolsie Persaud Ltd.

August

The UNDP and the government of Guyana signed the ISO 14000 agreement, which will establish environmental standards for products and services traded internationally. Minister Clement Rohee signed the agreement on behalf of the government. ISO 14000 looks to bring a certification that as a consequence of products produced there was no damage to the environment.

North American resources Inc. Ltd. (NARIL) commenced gold mining operations after completing exploratory work in a 75,000-acrea concession.

September

The Work Bank team came to Guyana to resolve the difference in opinion between themselves and the government of Guyana in the protected areas project. The project is worth some US$10 million however the Amerindian Peoples' Association (APA) is lobbying for their Land Rights issues to be settled as a condition for the project going ahead.

The EPA announced that the German government is providing 5 million German marks for the Kaieteur national park development.

Supplies of cement are reportedly short and importers and dealers attributed this to the commercial building boom in Guyana and gaps between shipments.

Tropenbos Guyana Programme has undertaken a repeat of the last large forest inventory of 1964 in a two-month exercise, which will begin this month. Willems Timber, Toolsie Persaud Ltd. and Caribbean Resources Ltd. will be involved and the fieldwork will be carried out with assistance from the Guyana Forestry Commission and Iwokrama with funds from the European Union. The data collected will be analyzed to find out how Guyanese forests change over time.

Barama Company Ltd. announced an increase in investment in Guyana by US$32 million bringing the total investment to in excess of US$132 million. The additional investment is made to facilitate the establishment of an integrated wood industry complex on the left bank of the Essequibo River. Production is expected to start in8 months time. The complex would comprise of sawmill with kiln-dryers, marine spillway, wharfing facilities, a housing complex and 100 km of newly constructed roads.

CLASSIFICATION OF TIMBERS 1996

Ref: First Schedule, Forest Act. Amendments, 1996

Classification	Species (Local Names)	Species (Scientific Names)
Special Category	Greenheart	Chlorocardium rodiei
	Purpleheart	Peltogyne venosa
	Brown Silverballi	Licaria cannella
	Red Cedar	Cedrela odorata
	Letterwood	Brosimum guianense
	Bulletwood	Manilkara bidentata
Class 1	Crabwood	Carapa guianensis
	Yellow Silverballi	Aniba hypoglauca
	Itikiboraballi	Swartzia xanthopetala
	Locust	Hymenaea oblonifolia
	Tatabu	Diplotropis purpurea
	Determa	Ocotea rubra
	Wamara	Eperua grandiflora
	Kabukalli	Goupia glabra
	Shibadan	Aspidosperma album
	Tauroniro	Humiria balsamifera
	Manniballi	Moronobea coccinea
	Washiba	*Tabebuia* sp.
	Hakia	Tabebuia serratifolia
	Dalli	Virola spp.
	Suya	Pouteria speciosa
	Ulu	Trattinickia demerarae
	Simarupa	Quassia simarouba
	Aromata	Clathrotropis branchypetala
	Mora	Mora excelsa
	Morabukea	Mora gonggrijpii
	Hububalli	Loxopterygium sagotii
Class 2	Baromalli	Catostemma commune
	Dukalli	Parahancornia fasciculata
	Kereti Silverballi	Lauraceae spp
	Kurahara	Calophyllum lucidum
	Wabaima	Licaria cannella
	Karohoro	Schefflera decaphylla
	Baradan	Ocotea tomentella
	Ubudi	Anarcadium giganteum
	Kirikua	Iryanthera macrophylla
	Kurokai	Protium decandrum
	Maporokan	Inga alba
	Monkey Pot	Lecythis zabucajo
	Manni	Symphonia globulifera
	Pakuri	Platonia insignis
	Yaruru (Yarula)	Aspidosperma excelsum
	Muneridian	Siparuna spp.
	Wallaba	Eperua grandiflora
Class 3	Burada	Parinari campestris
	Duka	Tapirira marchandi
	Dukaria	Sacoglottis cydonioides
	Fukadi	Terminalia amazonia
	Inyak	Antonia ovata
	Limonaballi	Chrysophyllum pomiferum
	Suradan	Hyeronima alchorneoides
	White Cedar	Tabebuia insignis
	Futui	Jacaranda copaia
	Halchiballi	Pera schomburgkiana
	Haiariballi	Alexa imperatricis
	Huruasa	Abarema jupunba
	Iteballi	Vochysia schomburgkii
	Kakaralli	Eschweilera alata
	Kauta	Licania laxiflora

Glossary of terms

Firewood	Include parts of trees made up into bundles or loads, or cut in a manner in which it is usual to cut wood for burning, and all refuse wood generally, but does not include straight logs or poles of any kind.
Forests	An ecosystem dominated by woody plants, consisting either of closed forest formations, where trees of various stories and undergrowth cover a high portion of the ground, or of open forest with a continuous vegetation cover in which the tree crown exceeds 10%, and includes mangrove forests and any wetlands or open lands within a forest which form an integral part of the ecosystem.
Non-timber forest products	All biological material, other than industrial roundwood, that may be extracted from natural ecosystems, either for commercial purposes, for use within the household or for social, cultural or religious purposes. Also known as non-wood forest products.
SFP	State Forest Permission: A lease, valid for 1 year, for an area up to 20,000 acres (8,094 hectares) of State forest.
Spars	Saplings 6-10 "(15-25 cm) in diameter.
Timber	Includes a tree or any ligneous part of a tree whether standing, fallen or felled, and all wood, whether or not sawn, split, hewn or otherwise cut up or fashioned.
Wattles	Saplings less than 3" (8 cm) in diameter.

Average Quarterly Exchange Rate to the United States (US) Dollar

December 1997	G$114.00=US$1
March 1998	G$149.30=US$1
June 1998	G$147.15=US$1
September 1998	G$152.61=US$1
December 1998	G$164.70=US$1
March 1999	G$174.46=US$1
June 1999	G$176.51=US$1
July 1999	G$177.80=US$1
August 1999	G$178.80=US$1
September 1999	G$179.00=US$1

Source: Bureau of Statistics, Guyana

Metric Conversion Table		
To convert	**From**	**Into m³ multiply by**
Logs	Cft hoppus	0.036
	Cft	0.0283
Mill sawn lumber	Board ft / Board Measure	0.002358
Chainsawn lumber	Board ft / Board Measure	0.002358
Piles	Linear ft	0.02
Poles	Linear ft	0.0067
Posts	Linear ft	0.0057
Paling staves	Pieces	0.00236
Vat staves	Pieces	0.001132
Shingles	Pieces	0.000566
Spars	Linear ft	0.000283
Charcoal	Lbs.	0.0034
Firewood	Cords	2.83

Source: GFC, FA0

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Note:
The Guyana Forestry Commission is responsible for the provision of the domestic statistical data on forestry.