

2&3A Oak and Hard Maple Prices Projected to Fall Further and China Carrying Large In-Country Inventories to Dampen Enthusiasm for Lumber Purchases



The Hardwood Leader March, 2015 edition is reporting a continued decrease in the demand for #2&3A Common red oak, white oak, and hard maple and for prices to continue to fall due to the large lumber inventories manufacturers are carrying and imports of flooring climbing. This is what the Hardwood Leader had to say:

“With domestic flooring manufacturers flush with lumber and flooring imports climbing, look for #2&3A

Com Red Oak, White Oak and Hard Maple prices to fall further, and stay depressed into summer.”

In addition, they are predicting demand from China for lumber may not be as large as was hoped. They are reporting China is carrying large lumber inventories and the resulting post-holiday sales have been sluggish. They however, remain optimistic that the 2015 totals will outpace 2014 by 9 to 10%.

“All eyes are on China at the moment, with nearly every forecast hinging on how rapidly and resoundingly its demand emerges from the New Year break. Early indications are that post-holiday sales have not been as robust as expected, and large in-country lumber inventories and lowered outlooks for Chinese economic and housing sector growth have dampened enthusiasm a bit. While it may take a few more months to work through the large volumes shipped last fall and re-ignite Chinese purchasing, we remain optimistic that 2015 totals will still outpace 2014 by 9 or 10%.”

Courtesy of “Market-In-A-Minute”, The Hardwood Leader, March 2015, The Hardwood Leader is a publication of Hardwood Publishing, Inc

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Look for snippets and short articles from The Hardwood Leader in future issue of the Kentucky Wood Industry E-News Letter.