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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS  
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA



Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 354,328 M ft. in March, 1954 as compared with 368,997 M ft. in March, 1953 a decrease of 4.0 p.c. from the previous year but an increase of 16.5 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 66.5 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 1.0 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 33.5 p.c. showed a decrease of 9.4 p.c. Shipments in March, 1954 totalled 369,269 M ft., as compared with 329,407 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 12.1 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 12.8 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 10.7 p.c. Total shipments for March increased by 22.6 p.c. over the February figure of 301,166 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of March, 1954 amounted to 519,696 M ft., as compared with 439,531 M ft. at the end of March the previous year and 527,255 M ft. at the end of February of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 292,660 M ft., while Interior mills showed 227,036 M ft.

Page 4 gives the final estimates of the production of sawn lumber (excluding sawn ties) for British Columbia and provinces East of the Rockies for 1952, and revised estimates for 1953 and the first two months of 1954. Similar revised monthly estimates of sawn lumber production for all provinces (except Newfoundland), are contained in the March issue of the Monthly report entitled "Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies".

Summary Figures

Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for February and March, 1953 and 1954. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 357,545 M ft. in February 1953 to 368,997 M ft. in March, 1953 and from 304,063 M ft. in February, 1954 to 354,328 M ft. in March, 1954. Shipments totalled 301,166 M ft. in February 1954 and 369,269 M ft. in March, 1954 as compared with 295,284 M ft. in February and 329,407 M ft. in March of 1953. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 448,835 M ft. in February, 1953 to 439,531 M ft. in March and decreased from 527,255 M ft. in February, 1954 to 519,696 M ft. in March of this year.

Production

Table 2 gives particulars of lumber and tie production for Coast mills and Interior mills separately, and also shows separately the production of lumber and ties, by species. Production of sawn lumber in Coast mills amounted to 235,062 M ft. in March 1954 as compared with 115,595 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 582 M ft. in March as

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compared with 3,089 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 66.5 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in March, 1954 as compared with 64.5 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during February, 1954 and 1953 respectively, were 70.6 and 61.2 p.c.

### Shipments

Table 3 gives details of lumber and tie shipments, by months, for Coast mills and Interior mills separately. Shipments by truck, by rail and waterborne are shown for each Canadian province, to points in the United States, to the United Kingdom and to other countries, for all mills reporting. Total estimated shipments of non-reporting mills are also given. It is to be noted, however, that some lumber originally reported as having been shipped to points in British Columbia may have been re-shipped to other provinces or exported by the purchasers and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 254,777 M ft. in March of 1954 and 213,504 M ft. in February, 1954 as compared with 225,948 M ft. in March, 1953 and 196,150 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior Mills shipped 114,492 M ft. and 103,459 M ft. in March, 1954 and 1953 and 87,662 M ft. and 99,134 M ft. in February 1954 and 1953. Of all shipments actually reported for March, 33.8 p.c. went to points in Canada, 35.8 p.c. to points in United States 21.4 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 9.0 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 46.0 p.c. of the total, while 36.1 p.c. went by rail, and 17.9 p.c. by truck.

### Stocks

Table 4 gives particulars of stocks of lumber and ties at sawmills by months. It distinguishes between stocks sold but not shipped and stocks unsold, and between stocks at Coast and Interior mills, by species. Total stocks at Coast mills in February and March, 1954 amounted to 308,460 M ft. and 292,660 M ft. as compared with 270,543 M ft. and 270,745 M ft. in February and March of 1953. Interior mills stocks decreased from 178,292 M ft. in February to 168,786 M ft. in March, 1953 but increased from 218,795 M ft. in February to 227,036 M ft. in March, 1954. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 30.9 p.c. of the total in March, 1954 as compared with 26.8 p.c. in March, 1953 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 86.2 and 85.2.

### Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of February and March, 1953 and 1954 for Coast mills only. Similar information is not collected from Interior mills and no attempt has been made to estimate orders on hand of non-reporting mills on the Coast. Destination and mode of shipments are shown in this table, which also gives total lumber purchases reported by some mills. Total orders on hand at the end of March, 1954 amounted to 298,885 M ft. as compared with 333,311 M ft. in March, 1953. Orders on hand at the end of February, 1954 and 1953 amounted to 317,068 M ft. and 350,049 M ft. respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 8,488 M ft. in March, 1954 and 6,475 M ft. in March, 1953 as

compared with 4,671 M ft. in February, 1954 and 4,634 M ft. in February, 1953.

#### Active Mills Reporting

Table 6 gives the number of active mills reporting each month for the Coast and Interior of British Columbia. The mills reporting for March accounted for 82.4 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1951 compared with 75.5 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for February, 1953 and 1954 were 74.1 and 81.8 respectively. It is hoped that the compilation will eventually include all mills in the 500,000 feet and over classification.

The co-operation of the British Columbia Lumber Manufacturers' Association, Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association and Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association in the collection of these statistics is gratefully acknowledged.



Final Estimates of Canadian Production of Sawn Lumber for 1952,  
and Revised Estimates for 1953, and First Two Months, 1954.

Month	Year	British Columbia			East of Rockies	Total Canada <sup>x</sup>
		Coast	Interior	Total		
January	1952	194,678	77,694	272,372	180,769	453,141
	1953	212,006	92,810	304,816	216,436	521,252
	1954	175,679	48,233	223,912	184,348	408,260
February	1952	196,819	92,745	289,564	240,343	529,907
	1953	217,009	135,448	352,457	271,130	623,587
	1954	213,200	85,663	298,863	225,600	524,463
March	1952	211,367	102,206	313,573	269,382	582,955
	1953	235,459	128,003	363,462	303,449	666,911
April	1952	223,096	67,988	291,084	129,840	420,924
	1953	214,800	74,030	288,830	164,392	453,222
May	1952	243,610	104,493	348,103	282,392	630,495
	1953	214,635	92,843	307,478	354,313	661,791
June	1952	116,438	141,789	258,227	415,826	674,053
	1953	212,099	127,874	339,973	448,696	788,669
July	1952	9,334	164,706	174,040	409,692	583,732
	1953	189,890	138,401	328,291	410,803	739,094
August	1952	222,158	162,410	384,568	375,040	759,608
	1953	203,270	143,817	347,087	365,134	712,221
September	1952	230,100	152,481	382,581	295,610	678,191
	1953	223,249	126,619	349,868	256,912	606,780
October	1952	237,966	154,335	392,301	202,936	595,237
	1953	222,772	79,229	302,001	165,223	467,224
November	1952	198,344	103,825	302,169	106,458	408,627
	1953	209,773	55,695	265,468	92,240	357,708
December	1952	191,598	96,279	287,877	141,416	429,293
	1953	213,441	56,132	269,573	134,579	404,152
12 months	1952 <sup>x</sup>	2,275,508	1,420,951	3,696,459	3,049,704	x 6,746,163
	1953	2,568,403	1,250,901	3,819,304	3,183,307	x 7,002,611
2 months	1954	388,879	133,896	522,775	409,948	x 932,723

x Production in the Yukon and N.W.T. (6,331 M ft. b.m.) and Newfoundland (55,100 M ft. b.m.) not included in the 1952 quantities; 1953 quantities not yet available.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia Sawmills, March, 1954

	March		February		3 months	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	169,634	167,557	144,511	154,999	420,104	464,514
Hemlock .....	63,532	71,397	55,629	67,430	176,815	206,502
Balsam Fir .....	1,679	1,985	1,155	1,064	3,355	3,834
Red Cedar .....	41,688	41,652	39,104	34,845	107,290	108,621
Spruce .....	58,845	65,863	51,184	76,776	139,387	192,223
White Pine .....	4,415	4,423	2,284	5,420	9,479	14,616
Ponderosa Pine .....	2,845	3,528	1,426	2,708	5,195	8,267
Lodgepole Pine .....	3,777	4,047	3,010	4,858	8,345	12,090
All other softwoods .....	7,581	7,936	5,629	8,324	15,811	22,295
Total Softwoods .....	353,996	368,388	303,932	356,424	885,781	1,032,962
Red Alder .....	114	303	49	535	206	1,099
Maple .....	133	180	45	478	236	813
Birch .....	49	57	18	34	79	126
Cottonwood .....	36	69	19	74	70	197
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods .....	332	609	131	1,121	591	2,235
Total Production .....	354,328	368,997	304,063	357,545	886,372	1,035,197
<b>SHIPMENTS</b>						
To: Points in Canada .....	109,049	103,742	82,376	95,986	244,096	277,231
Points in U.S.A. ....	115,445	120,543	95,263	98,689	278,775	310,219
United Kingdom .....	69,069	43,808	59,375	41,701	160,256	129,284
Other countries .....	28,973	22,701	27,908	21,634	72,810	57,836
Shipments reported .....	322,536	290,794	264,922	258,010	755,937	774,570
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	46,733	38,613	36,244	37,274	105,557	106,834
Total Shipments .....	369,269	329,407	301,166	295,284	861,494	881,404
<b>STOCKS ON HAND</b>						
	March		February			
	1954	1953	1954	1953		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir .....	218,579	194,738	221,020	199,946		
Hemlock .....	78,940	84,738	92,158	82,085		
Balsam Fir .....	1,947	1,957	2,232	1,124		
Red Cedar .....	56,058	46,548	55,936	44,490		
Spruce .....	116,867	80,060	113,332	87,944		
White Pine .....	13,560	8,481	12,428	8,843		
Ponderosa Pine .....	14,717	9,552	9,240	9,851		
Lodgepole Pine .....	5,467	3,227	7,517	3,422		
All other softwoods .....	13,184	9,477	13,165	10,434		
Total softwoods .....	519,319	438,778	527,028	448,139		
Red Alder .....	137	234	71	209		
Maple .....	103	317	65	269		
Birch .....	76	92	48	70		
Cottonwood .....	61	110	40	148		
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	3	-		
Total hardwoods .....	377	753	227	696		
Total Stocks .....	519,696	439,531	527,255	448,835		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn,  
March, 1954

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft.b.m.	M ft. b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<b>Lumber</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	120,950	4,646	125,596	23,149	18,227	41,376
Hemlock .....	58,832	1,224	60,056	2,493	974	3,467
Balsam Fir .....	472	75	547	495	637	1,132
Red Cedar .....	39,946	669	40,615	689	384	1,073
Spruce .....	5,077	208	5,285	29,214	24,338	53,552
White Pine .....	2,537	51	2,588	702	1,103	1,805
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	31	31	1,538	1,270	2,808
Lodgepole Pine .....	9	2	11	1,516	2,057	3,573
All other softwoods...	13	30	43	2,398	4,369	6,767
Total softwoods ...	227,836	6,936	234,772	62,194	53,359	115,553
Red Alder .....	5	107	112	-	2	2
Maple .....	53	79	132	-	1	1
Birch .....	7	15	22	10	17	27
Cottonwood .....	-	24	24	-	12	12
All other hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	65	225	290	10	32	42
Total, softwoods and hardwoods..	227,901	7,161	235,062	62,204	53,391	115,595
<b>Ties</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	556	21	577	718	1,367	2,085
Hemlock .....	-	5	5	-	4	4
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce .....	-	-	-	-	8	8
White Pine .....	-	-	-	-	22	22
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	-	-	-	6	6
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	-	193	193
All other softwoods...	-	-	-	585	186	771
Total, softwoods...	556	26	582	1,303	1,786	3,089
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods..	556	26	582	1,303	1,786	3,089
Lumber and Ties	228,457	7,187	235,644	63,507	55,177	118,684



Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, March, 1954

	By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Water- borne	Total Shipments
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia .....	41,508	2,357	3,170	47,035
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....	-	-	-	-
Alberta .....	-	3,117	xxxxxx	3,117
Saskatchewan .....	-	2,000	xxxxxx	2,000
Manitoba .....	-	1,396	xxxxxx	1,396
Ontario .....	-	6,766	1,465	8,231
Quebec .....	-	1,698	516	2,214
New Brunswick .....	-	396	399	795
Nova Scotia .....	-	244	-	244
Prince Edward Island .....	-	77	-	77
Newfoundland .....	-	203	-	203
Total for Canada .....	41,508	18,254	5,550	65,312
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports .....	-	300	339	639
Atlantic Ports .....	-	715	47,164	47,879
Other points, by rail .....	-	39,130	xxxxxx	39,130
Total for U.S.A. ....	-	40,145	47,503	87,648
United Kingdom .....x	-	2,623	64,113	66,736
Other countries .....x	-	-	28,973	28,973
Destination or carrier not specified .....	-	-	-	-
Total shipments reported ....	41,508	61,022	146,139	248,669
Estimated shipments				
non-reporting mills .....	-	-	-	6,108
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....	-	-	-	254,777
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia .....	16,104	2,598	-	18,702
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....	-	-	-	-
Alberta .....	354	6,874	xxxxxx	7,228
Saskatchewan .....	-	5,288	xxxxxx	5,288
Manitoba .....	-	4,490	xxxxxx	4,490
Ontario .....	-	7,051	-	7,051
Quebec .....	-	978	-	978
New Brunswick .....	-	-	-	-
Nova Scotia .....	-	-	-	-
Prince Edward Island .....	-	-	-	-
Newfoundland .....	-	-	-	-
Total for Canada .....	16,458	27,279	-	43,737
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports .....	-	-	-	-
Atlantic Ports .....	-	222	-	222
Other points, by rail .....	-	27,575	xxxxxx	27,575
Total for U.S.A. ....	-	27,797	-	27,797
United Kingdom .....x	-	199	2,134	2,333
Other countries .....x	-	-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified .....	-	-	-	-
Total shipments reported .....	16,458	55,275	2,134	73,867
Estimated shipments of				
non-reporting mills .....	-	-	-	40,625
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....	-	-	-	114,492
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills  
March, 1954

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
Sold(but not shipped)						
Douglas Fir .....	105,947	4,004	109,951	5,969	5,177	11,146
Hemlock .....	52,028	1,054	53,082	75	258	333
Balsam Fir .....	-	65	65	4	169	173
Red Cedar .....	28,794	574	29,368	147	102	249
Spruce .....	5,396	179	5,575	5,464	6,433	11,897
White Pine .....	3,507	44	3,551	1,976	297	2,273
Ponderosa Pine ....	-	27	27	2,903	337	3,240
Lodgepole Pine ....	-	2	2	154	594	748
All other softwoods	371	25	396	80	1,204	1,284
Total, softwoods ..	196,043	5,974	202,017	16,772	14,571	31,343
Red Alder .....	-	92	92	-	1	1
Maple .....	-	68	68	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	13	13	10	5	15
Cottonwood .....	-	20	20	-	3	3
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods.	-	193	193	10	9	19
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .	196,043	6,167	202,210	16,782	14,580	31,362
Unsold						
Douglas Fir .....	40,987	1,792	42,779	22,401	32,302	54,703
Hemlock .....	19,014	472	19,486	4,430	1,609	6,039
Balsam Fir .....	2	29	31	623	1,055	1,678
Red Cedar .....	22,692	257	22,949	2,856	636	3,492
Spruce .....	2,462	80	2,542	56,714	40,139	96,853
White Pine .....	2,145	20	2,165	3,716	1,855	5,571
Ponderosa Pine ....	160	12	172	9,178	2,100	11,278
Lodgepole Pine ....	-	1	1	1,007	3,709	4,716
All other softwoods	226	10	236	3,759	7,509	11,268
Total, softwoods ..	87,688	2,673	90,361	104,684	90,914	195,598
Red Alder .....	-	41	41	-	3	3
Maple .....	3	30	33	-	2	2
Birch .....	-	6	6	13	29	42
Cottonwood .....	-	9	9	9	20	29
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	3	86	89	22	54	76
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .	87,691	2,759	90,450	104,706	90,968	195,674
Sold and Unsold	283,734	8,926	292,660	121,488	105,548	227,036



Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of March, 1954 and  
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	March		February	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
<u>For shipment to points in British Columbia</u>				
Local .....	14,303	11,856	10,827	9,776
Coastwise and Interior .....	4,118	6,028	3,808	5,943
Total .....	18,421	17,884	14,635	15,719
<u>For shipment by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces .....	9,808	15,821	8,431	14,018
Eastern Provinces .....	15,049	21,440	19,114	21,475
United States of America .....	33,836	42,709	34,148	43,460
Total .....	58,693	79,970	61,693	78,953
<u>For waterborne shipment to:</u>				
California .....	420	982	370	600
U.S. Atlantic Ports .....	44,009	71,406	56,441	65,165
Eastern Canada .....	335	2,476	2,502	530
Exports Markets .....	177,007	160,593	181,427	189,082
Total .....	221,771	235,457	240,740	255,377
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND .....	298,885	333,311	317,068	350,049
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
	8,488	6,475	4,671	4,634

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

<u>March, 1954</u>				
	March		February	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Coast ..... No.	96	102	86	96
Interior ..... No.	182	220	175	216
Total, British Columbia No.	278	322	261	312

A few returns received after compilations were closed have been omitted.

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