

The Outlook for Pine Plantation Management in the South

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Recent changes in acres and ownership of pine plantations in the South will have potentially significant impacts on future markets and management. The first part of the talk will present an overview of the southern timber supply with specific attention to the changing role of pine plantations and the growing importance of Timber Investment Management Organizations (TIMOs). The increasing share of plantations owned by corporations without processing facilities has implications for silviculture. Since more timber is being transferred through open market purchases, the lack of price premiums for quality will affect a larger proportion of supply. The second part of the talk will explore how current markets deter a focus on quality and give some examples of the types of premiums that may be required if these markets were to emerge in the future.

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