



## Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association

### Commitment to Sustainable Forestry Practices

The Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association (SCMA) has a long-standing commitment to sustainable forestry practices in the harvesting and manufacture of cypress timber resources, which is detailed in the SCMA's bylaws, as follows:

*"It is the objective of this association to encourage the highest and best use of cypress resources as well as to ensure the sustainability of those resources through proper forest management and stewardship. We believe the harvesting of cypress trees exclusively or primarily for the production of mulch is incompatible with this objective. As an organization, our goal is to ensure that the cypress resource that we depend on will provide beneficial products to the public, and that this goal will be accomplished in an environmentally sound manner."*

Membership in the SCMA is limited to firms and corporations that agree with these objectives and that utilize the cypress resource primarily for the manufacture, further processing, or distribution of solid wood or veneer products with the intent to sell. As such, not all cypress manufacturers and producers are eligible for SCMA membership.

Harvesting cypress is an essential forest management practice, including sustaining forest succession, biodiversity, and forest health. The SCMA promotes harvesting cypress at a rate that is sustainable in relation to growth and natural elimination. A reality of sustainable forest management is that growing trees need sunlight, soil, and nutrients, and they grow more rapidly when older, larger, and more mature trees do not crowd them. In addition, harvesting also helps prevent the spread of disease, pests, and wildfires, which disrupt the natural role trees play in the carbon cycle.

As much of the land that cypress producers harvest is privately owned, member companies carry out their commitment to sustainable forestry by:

- Following science-based standards in silviculture practices and sustainability goals.
- Using Best Management Practices in the harvesting of cypress timber.
- Harvesting timber within these guidelines to utilize the cypress resource in the marketplace without compromising the resource for future generations.
- Complying with federal, state, and local regulations and laws in the harvesting of cypress timber and the manufacture of lumber.
- Using efficient manufacturing techniques that utilize virtually every part of a cypress log, either as lumber or a by-product.

The SCMA has verified the sustainability of the cypress resource through data that is publicly available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service. The most recent Forest Inventory Assessments show that more cypress grows each year than is harvested by a rate of 2.34 to 1 in its 13-state growing region. These findings have been reviewed by the Forest Service's Southern Research Station.

The SCMA is proud to promote cypress as one of the world's greatest renewable, sustainable, and legally harvested resources. For more information, please visit [www.CypressInfo.org](http://www.CypressInfo.org).



SOUTHERN  
CYPRESS  
MANUFACTURERS  
ASSOCIATION

\*Using the USDA Forest Service's EVALIDator tool, the growth-to-removal ratio (G:R) for cypress is 2.34 +/- .59 (sample error at a 65% confidence interval) cubic feet. The G:R at a 95% confidence interval is 2.34 +/- 1.19.