

Alabama Forest Owners' Association, Inc.
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Lakepoint State Park Resort, Eufaula, Alabama

The Pine Straw Industry in Alabama

Leh Bass
President Alabama Pine Straw
Association



In Georgia Pine Straw is an \$81,000,000
a year business

Why Not In Alabama ???????

We Need To Get Organized in
Alabama !!!!!

Welcome to the Alabama Pine Straw Association

- Pine straw sales provide an opportunity for owners of pine forests to generate income from a natural renewable resource their pine trees are producing every day. With proper management and preparation a productive stand of longleaf pines can generate up to \$200 per acre per year and a loblolly stand can generate \$100 per acre per year.
- www.alabamapnestrassoc.com

The Alabama Pine Straw Market

- All we know is that the majority of straw used in landscaping in Alabama is coming out of Georgia and Florida.
- Ms. Janice Dyer is currently conducting a survey to determine what the Alabama Market is.
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Contractors

Markets

Landowners

Benefits For Landowners

- Early cash flow – Age 7-10 Loblolly, 9-11 Longleaf
- Reduce fire hazard
- Park-like aesthetics
- Creates cash flow that can be re-invested in management which grows timber and straw faster
- Operable on small acreages

Long Leaf Straw Management

Expense/ac

- \$300 Establishment
- \$30 Burn age 3
- \$75 Spray age 9
- \$75 Spray age 22
- \$100 Fertilize age 23
- \$75 Spray age age 31
- \$100 Fertilize age 32

Revenue/ac

- \$50 Straw age 10,12,14,16,18,20
- \$250 Thin age 21
- \$100 Straw age 25,27,29
- \$400 Thin age 30
- \$100 Straw age 33,35,37,39
- \$2,500 Harvest age 40

- 5% Real Rate of Return ,Dr. David Leband AUSFWS

What Do I Have To Do To Get My Pine Straw Ready For Sale ?

Have a clean understory

This may require spraying brush the year before harvest.

This will also remove competitive vegetation and invasive plants which will improve the health of the pine stand.





Debris such as limbs
and cones must be
removed

Baling Takes Very
Little Capital
Investment

Some landowners
may want to bale
their own straw

Networking With Contractors

- Labor intensive
- Transportation
- Herbicide applicators
- Certified Contractors



Networking With Markets

Straw grown on local landowners

Local contractors

Certified invasive free straw

www.alabmapinestraw.com

