

COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Canadian Wood Pellet Production and Feedstock Supply

Your company has been invited to participate in a short two-part survey about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canadian wood pellet producers. The present questionnaire (September 2020) will be followed by a second questionnaire in December 2020. Companies are asked what has happened to their mills feedstock supply and wood pellets production since March 2020 and what their company projects for the mid-term future. We remind you that the questionnaire needs to be filled for each mill using the unique link sent for that purpose.

Feedstock (wood fibre) supply

1. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, feedstock prices for my mill have:

- Significantly decreased (more than 20%) compared to the prices anticipated before March 2020
- Moderately decreased (between 5% and 20%) compared to the prices anticipated before March 2020
- Remained about the same ($\pm 5\%$) compared to the prices anticipated before March 2020
- Moderately increased (between 5% and 20%) compared to the prices anticipated before March 2020
- Significantly increased (more than 20%) compared to the prices anticipated before March 2020

2. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, the feedstock mix for 2020 for my mill was expected to:

- Remain the same as for 2019
- Include more non-sawmill residues (e.g. roundwood, harvest residues) than 2019
- Include less non-sawmill residues (e.g. roundwood, harvest residues) than 2019
- Do not know / unsure

3. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, the feedstock mix for my mill:

- Remained the same as expected before March 2020
- Includes more non-sawmill residues (e.g. roundwood, harvest residues) than expected before March 2020
- Includes less non-sawmill residues (e.g. roundwood, harvest residues) than expected before March 2020
- Do not know / unsure

4. Please explain why the amount of non-sawmill residues used at your mill changed.

5. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, the overall availability of feedstock for my mill:

- Remained the same
- Increased
- Decreased
- Do not know / unsure

Transport logistics

6. Has transportation of material inputs or finished products at your mill been disrupted at all since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know / unsure

7. Which aspects of transporting material inputs of finished products has been disrupted? (Please select all that apply)

- Transporting feedstocks in to my facility
- Transporting other inputs in to my facility
- Transporting wood pellets out from my facility to bulk storage / port
- Transporting wood pellets out of the bulk storage / port to the final destination
- Other (please describe)

8. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the access to transportation services for shipping raw materials:

- Remained the same
- Improved
- Worsened
- Do not know / unsure

9. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the access to transportation services for shipping finished products:

- Remained the same
- Improved
- Worsened
- Do not know / unsure

Operations

10. Has your mill experienced any COVID-19 related labour shortages since the pandemic outbreak in March 2020?

No

Yes (please describe)

11. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, did your mill have to close?

No

Yes

12. How long did your mill close?

Less than 1 week

1 to 4 weeks

5 to 10 weeks

More than 10 weeks

Do not know / uncertain

13. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, has your mill reduced its production?

Yes

No

14. Please estimate the percentage reduction in the overall wood pellet production from March 2020 to now (100% reduction corresponding to complete closure over the entire period).

15. Why was there a reduction in production? (select all that apply)

Due to lockdown measures

Because of labour shortages

Because of declining end-use demand

Other (please specify)

16. How did your mill adapt to the impacts of the COVID-19 in their operations?

No changes

Additional health and safety measures (e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning of work areas and surfaces)

Reorganized staffing levels because of social distancing requirements or other reasons

Investment in equipment or machinery to replace labour

Other (please describe)

Government Support

17. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, my mill benefited from the following measures adopted by the federal government (please check all that apply)

Wage subsidies

Subsidies to cover additional costs incurred because of COVID-19

Deferral of income taxes or sales tax

Access to credit through loans, loan guarantees or emergency financing

Other (please specify)

18. Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in March 2020, my mill benefited from the following measures adopted by the provincial government (please check all that apply)

Wage subsidies

Subsidies to cover additional costs incurred because of COVID-19

Deferral of income taxes or sales tax

Access to credit through loans, loan guarantees or emergency financing

Other (please specify)

Pellet types and contracts

19. What type of wood pellet does your mill mainly produce?

Industrial pellets (power generation)

Heating pellets (stoves and boilers)

Both types in relatively equal proportions

20. Does your company fulfill mostly long-term or short-term contracts?

Short term

Long-term

Mix of both

Other (please specify)