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# TIMELY INFORMATION

## Forestry & Wildlife Sciences

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### Costs for Common Forestry Practices in Alabama

**Mathew Smidt and Mark Dubois**  
**Extension Foresters**

The table below summarizes average costs for seven common forestry practices in the U.S. South. Costs were derived from a survey of forestry professionals in private forestry firms and public agencies located in 12 southern states. We believe the results provide a reasonable representation of existing costs for the various forestry practices in Alabama. Costs for individual nonindustrial private forest landowners will depend on a number of factors, especially local availability of vendors. The size of area to be treated by a certain practice may also influence costs with larger areas generally costing less when costs are expressed on a per acre basis. All costs are weighted by acreage and are reported on a per acre basis. More detailed cost information on specific forestry published in the *Forest Landowner from Mathew Smidt and Mark Dubois*.

#### 2004 South wide Average Costs for Common Forestry Practices

<b>Forestry Practice</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Mechanical Site Preparation	(\$/Acre)
Shear	92.37
3-n-1 Plow	121.40
Subsoil	106.68
All Types	105.27
Chemical Treatments and Aerial Application	
Site Preparation	86.46
Early Release	63.89
Mid Rotation Release	65.18
All Types	69.45
Planting <sup>2</sup>	
All Types	49.61
Prescribed Burning	
Ground After Chemical Site Preparation	25.94
Mid – Rotation	16.21
All Types	21.08
Fertilization <sup>3</sup>	
All Types	50.08
Timber Cruising	
All Types	3.32
Timber Marker	
All Types	14.62

adapted from: Mathew Smidt and Mark Dubois. Cost and Costs Trends for Forestry. Forest Landowner. March/April, 2005

Includes the cost of chemical, but not burning  
 Does not include the cost of seedings  
 Includes the cost of fertilizer

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