



美國闊葉木外銷委員會 – 東南亞及大中華區 American Hardwood Export Council - Southeast Asia & Greater China

香港金鐘道89號力寶中心1座2005室
Room 2005, 20/F, Lippo Centre Tower One, 89 Queensway, Hong Kong

Tel 電話 : (852) 2724-0228 Fax 傳真 : (852) 2366-8931

E-mail 電子郵件 : info@ahec-china.org

http 網址 : www.ahec-china.org 或 www.ahec-seasia.org

**AMERICAN
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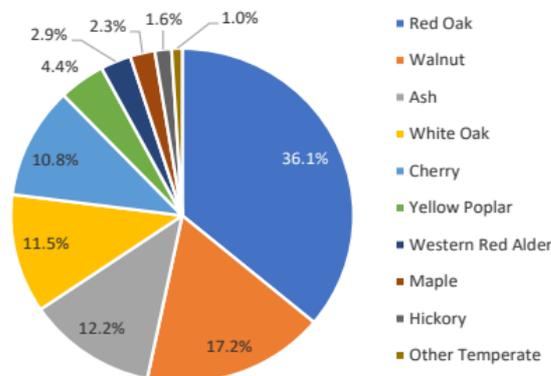
American Hardwood Exports to China Bounces Back

(March, 2021, China) – The year 2020 has been described by American news magazine TIME as the worst year that most people have ever experienced. The COVID-19 epidemic has brought unprecedented new challenges to people and has changed many people's lifestyles and forms of communication. But after experiencing an economic downturn for most of the past year, the entire Asia-Pacific region has begun seeing the dawn of economic recovery in the second half of last year. The fast recovery of the Chinese market has once again shown its "Chinese Speed and Power" to the world. According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, China's economy grew 6.5% in Q4 2020, pushing the annual economic growth rate to 2.3%. This indicates that the "internal cycle" of China's economy has bounced back to its pre-COVID-19 growth rate.

Despite the global pandemic, compared to 2019 U.S. hardwood exports to the Greater China market had begun rebounding in 2020. According to the statistics of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the total export value of US hardwood to the Greater China market raised 1.6% (YoY) to \$1.15 billion, with lumber up 1% (YoY) to \$780.7 million, logs increased 3.2% (YoY) to \$368 million. Hardwood flooring export value to GRCH increased 22.4% (YoY) to \$1.96 million. The consumption among the hardwood products in China including lumber, logs, veneers and flooring were all increased from 2% to 14% (YoY) in value in 2020, and foresee the trend would be persistence.

The most popular US hardwood species in China were red oak, walnut, ash, white oak, cherry and yellow poplar. They generated over \$710.6 million exports and accounted for 92% of the total hardwood lumber exports to China. For the whole year of 2020, China purchased 86.9% of all cherry, 66% of all red oak, 58.5% of ash, 52.9% of walnut and 44.1% of red alder that was exported globally.

Lumber species to China in 2020



"We are optimistic about the demand for US hardwood lumber in the Chinese market for 2021. According to the forecast of the International Monetary Fund, the global economy will grow by 5.5% in 2021, and the Chinese economy will grow by 8.1%," said John Chan, Regional Director of AHEC South East Asia and Greater China. "We expect that the strong growth of the Chinese economy will benefit hardwood consumption in the domestic market. In addition, consumption stimulus led by the demand for interior decoration, the booming real estate market, and China's elimination of import tariffs on American hardwood will drive further growth in market demand."



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“The outlook of US hardwood market in China is very bright in 2021, most species led by American walnut, cherry and red oak are selling well, followed by white oak, ash, tulipwood, maple and hickory which are reported in demand. Overall FAS, #1 common and #2 common of the above-mentioned species are all in demand.” said by a sales manager from one of the AHEC member from Shanghai office.

“Last September at the United Nations General Assembly, China made a commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2060. This was hailed as the most important milestone in global climate policy over the past five years,” Mr. Chan stated. “Chinese real estate developers, architects, interior designers and engineers will increasingly need to incorporate ways to reduce carbon emissions into their projects. We hope that more industry professionals will understand the advantages of American hardwoods for low-carbon and environmental protection. In the future, we believe wood will be essential to more architectural and interior design applications as we protect our environment and strive to live a more sustainable lifestyle.”

About American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC)

American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC), headquartered in Washington DC, USA, is the leading international trade association for the US hardwood industry. AHEC represents the committed exporters among US hardwood companies and all major US hardwood production trade associations. Concentrating on providing architects, designers, traders, processors and end-users with technical information on the range of species, products and sources supply.

The American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) Southeast Asia and Greater China (SEA & GRCH) office was opened in Hong Kong in 1992 to serve and oversee nine Asian markets.

For more details, please visit AHEC Southeast Asia & Greater China website: www.ahec-china.org

Official WeChat: americanhardwood

WeChat QR Code:



Official Weibo: 美国阔叶木东南亚及大中华办事处

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For media inquiries, please contact:

AHEC Southeast Asia & Greater China Office

Tel: (852) 2724 0228

Fax: (852) 2366 8931

Email: info@ahec-china.org