

State of Forest-based Industries

The forest-based industries in the State of Delaware represents less than 1 percent of the manufacturing sector's annual payroll and represents 3 percent of the manufacturing sector's employment.

	Annual Payroll (Thousand Dollars)	Employment
Forest-based Industry*	\$4,272	969
Total Manufacturing	\$1,666,898	33,470

Source: Census Bureau 2006

* Forest-Based Industries consists of all industries that use wood as a part of the finished product.

Project Spotlight

During the last 4 years of the Wood Education and Resource Center's activities, the Center provided \$20,300 that was matched with \$20,813 from a partner for one project.

Project Title:

Management Strategies for Utilizing Hardwood Sawdust as Poultry Bedding



WOOD EDUCATION
AND RESOURCE CENTER

The Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) is administered by the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. WERC's mission is

to facilitate networking and information exchange with the forest products industry, in order to enhance opportunities that sustain forest products production. WERC's programs support managerial and technical innovation that keep businesses competitive, and provide state-of-the-art training, technology transfer, and applied research. The center consists of offices, training facilities, and a rough mill in Princeton, WV, and serves the 35 States in the eastern hardwood region of the United States.

www.na.fs.fed.us/werc/



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Many concentrated poultry-producing areas of the United States including the Delmarva Peninsula have shortages of quality pine-based bedding materials. Yet, there are often ample supplies of cost-effective hardwood sawdust (HW) that could supplement this deficit. However, the poultry industry has been reluctant to use HW due to periodic mold-induced respiratory health concerns.

A demonstration was implemented to evaluate management strategies for utilizing HW as poultry bedding, specifically yellow-poplar sawdust and white oak sawdust. In addition, a screened composted material derived from grindings from land clearings was also evaluated. The study suggests that yellow-poplar sawdust may be a viable alternative to traditional pine sawdust. Under conditions of this demonstration, using a mold inhibitor or placing bedding materials in storage had no influence on mold populations and chick health. Results for the composted bedding material suggest it had no detrimental effects on broiler performance, but some of the physical and microbial properties of this type of bedding may need to be modified.

Detailed information about this project along with a final report can be found at the WERC website location: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/werc/projects.shtm>.



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