



NH Division of Forests and Lands
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Timber Harvesting Law Fact Sheet

Deceptive Forestry Business Practices (RSA 227-J:15)

Buying and selling forest products can be confusing. It is important that all parties involved have a clear understanding of how the wood will be measured, what the prices are, and how payment will be made. A person is guilty of a class B felony if the loss is greater than \$1,000 or otherwise guilty of a misdemeanor if that person, in the course of buying or selling of a forest product: (as defined under RSA 227-G:4, VII):

- Uses or possesses for use a false weight or measure, or any other device for falsely determining or recording any quality or quantity as provided under RSA 438; or
- Sells, offers, or exposes for sale or delivers less than the represented quantity of any forest product or service; or
- Takes or attempts to take more than the represented quantity of any forest product or service when as buyer the person furnishes the weight or measure; or
- Sells, offers, or exposes for sale adulterated or mislabeled commodities; or
- Does not remunerate the owner of the timber for the value of the forest products pursuant to a written contract; or
- Does not furnish the owner, upon written request, with all scale slips to verify the amount of the forest products removed from the owner's property.

Furthermore, a person is guilty of a misdemeanor if he or she:

- Fails to provide a written contract to the owner, prior to the cutting from the owner's property any forest products which are subject to a notice of intent to cut as defined in RSA 79:10.
- The contract shall be signed by both parties, specify the remuneration for the forest products to be cut, and the time in which remuneration shall be made.

Do you need more information on:

- Log scaling or forest product pricing, please contact the Forestry Information Center at 1-800-444-8978
- Deceptive forestry business practices, please contact the Division of Forests and Lands at (603) 271-2217