

Other structural problems the local industry faces are high transportation costs because, due to lack of rivers, wood has to be trucked over land, mostly on small mountain roads.

All of these factors also have had a negative influence on the local production of pulp. In addition, that industry has faced frequent supply problems and often has had to rely on imported materials. These factors explain the high content of recycled fibres used in domestic paper production.

**Table 9: MEXICAN PRODUCTION OF TIMBER (000 m<sup>3</sup>)**

Product	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Scantling <sup>1</sup>	5,508	6,137	5,840	5,807	5,487	5,391
Pulp	2,410	2,664	2,591	2,349	1,954	1,631
Posts & piles	173	149	164	156	139	98
Fuel	454	492	495	443	440	445
Sleepers	413	349	224	133	82	118
	<b>8,958</b>	<b>9,791</b>	<b>9,314</b>	<b>8,888</b>	<b>8,102</b>	<b>7,683</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes boards, packaging wood, carved wood, wood for veneer, wood waste, pieces for sawmills, and veneer and other log products.

Source: *Memoria Económica 1991-1992, CNIF*

The decrease in timber production during 1989, 1990 and 1991 (see Table 9) is due to the long-standing and structural problems of Mexico's forestry sector, described above, and to a lack of policy definitions by the central government, the trade liberalization which has brought about the strong competition of imported wood products and a decrease in technical services for the forestry sector. (Non-timber production in Mexico is illustrated by Table 10.)

**Table 10: MEXICAN PRODUCTION OF NON-TIMBER PRODUCTS (tons)**

Product	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Resins	30,410	44,180	43,443	36,296	32,923	29,797
Fibres	7,394	6,257	6,914	3,047	4,790	2,799
Rhizome	3,912	3,129	1,388	1,081	415	1,391
Wax	2,058	1,387	1,983	1,385	2,205	1,953
Gum	220	392	548	834	415	457
Other	17,055	17,859	52,512	31,445	27,613	40,022
	<b>61,049</b>	<b>73,204</b>	<b>106,788</b>	<b>74,088</b>	<b>68,316</b>	<b>76,419</b>

Source: *Memoria Económica 1991-1992, CNIF*

Local production of pulp is concentrated in seven pulp and eight pulp and paper-producing firms. Mexico's total pulp production capacity was 1.1 million tons in 1991 and has remained constant since 1988. Capacity use in 1991 was 69.1 percent for bleached wood pulp, 76.9 percent for unbleached wood pulp, 77.7 percent for bleached annual plant pulp, 60 percent for unbleached annual plant pulp and 38.6 percent for mechanical wood paste.

Domestic pulp production had an average annual increase between 1982 and 1985 of 2.5 percent, reaching an all time high of 820,416 tons in 1985. In 1986, production fell by 5.8 percent but partially recovered between 1987 and 1988 to reach 809,217 tons. Negative economic conditions both in Mexico and abroad brought about a fall in production for three consecutive years between 1989 and 1991, when production fell to 705,111 tons, a level even lower than the 748,119 tons of 1982.

**Table 11: LOCAL PRODUCTION OF PULP**

	1988 (000 tons)	1988 (%)	1991 (000 tons)	1991 (%)
<b>Chemical Wood Pulp</b>				
Sulphate bleached	183.8	22.7	149.1	21.2
Short-fibre sulphate, bleached	32.3	4.0	32.0	4.5
Sulphate, unbleached	217.1	26.8	178.3	25.3
Subtotal	433.2	53.5	359.4	51.0
<b>Chemical Annual Plant Pulp</b>				
Bleached from sugar cane	245.1	30.3	235.3	33.4
Unbleached from wheat or barley straw	2.1	0.3	1.8	0.2
Subtotal	247.2	30.6	237.1	33.6
<b>Mechanical Wood Pulp</b>	118.1	14.6	108.6	15.4
<b>Other</b>	10.8	1.3	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>809.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>705.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: *Memoria Estadística 1992, CNICP*

Mexico's pulp production is concentrated in bleached sulphate chemical wood pulp which, in 1982, accounted for 31 percent of total production and, in 1991, for 25.7 percent (see Table 11). Bleached chemical pulp from sugar cane bagasse, also an important product, represented 31.7 percent of production in 1982 and 33.4 percent in 1991. Overall, bleached chemical pulp represented 59.1 percent of production as compared to 63 percent in 1982 and 57 percent in 1988. Production of bleached chemical pulp from cotton disappeared in 1984. Unbleached chemical pulp at present only corresponds only to sulphate wood pulp (25.3 per-