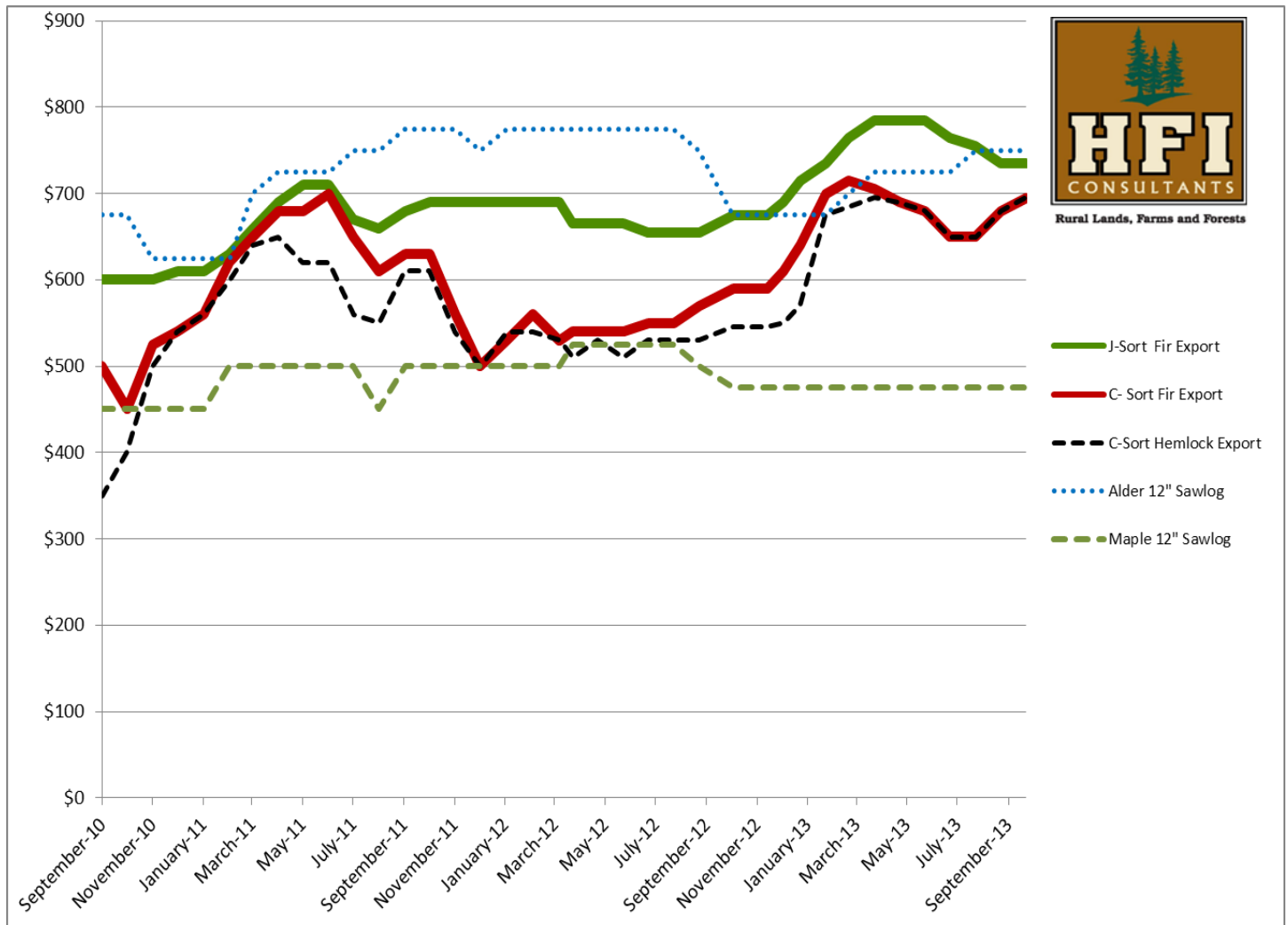


# October 2013 Log Price Trends



The record wet September put a big crimp in the logging operations as logging has slowed due to muddy roads. On the plus side, the lack of log supply has helped drive the prices up for the China logs. Ships schedules must be met and buyers are a little concerned they will be caught short of inventory if the rain keeps up. We are now close to the \$700/MBF mark for both Doug fir and Hemlock China quality logs which is nearing the record high set last January. Those that are set up for winter logging by rocking their haul roads should enjoy good price through the 1st Quarter. Japanese prices are still languishing but the hot China market will force those prices higher too. Red Alder and maple are about the same as is Cedar. Expect a slight improvement in pulp prices this winter.

It is about the end of the spraying season to prepare your site for next years planting. A tree farmers best investment is a good job of site preparation after you log and before you plant. A good site prep spray will save you a lot of money and headaches down the road. The newest chemicals kills weed seeds before they get a chance to grow, letting your first year trees survive with little competition from other plants. Plant 300 trees per acre and they will all grow rather than 400 trees per acre and many struggle to survive!

There is a great article in the Northwest Woodlands Magazine about understanding landowner immunity laws regarding those who may use your forestlands for recreation and get injured. The bottom line in Washington....post signs warning of known hazards and don't charge for entry or give specific invitations. The law gives immunity to landowners for uninvited guests, trespassers, hunters or any users who causally use the property for recreation. However, if a known dangerous condition exists such as a cable across the road, a landowner is not off the hook if it is not posted to that affect.

\*This graph is intended to show market trends. Actual prices may be different at time of harvest.

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