

Manufactured Wax/Sawdust Fireplace Log Activity Levels for 1990

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Introduction

A recommended procedure for compiling emission inventory data for manufactured wax/sawdust fireplace logs along with activity estimates for 1997 and 1999 has been submitted to the U.S. EPA¹. The 1990 activity data for manufactured wax/sawdust fireplace logs along with references is provided here. The 1990 data will permit EPA to recalculate the 1990 fireplace emissions following the same procedures as used with the 1997 and 1999 data so that changes in emissions can be evaluated.

Manufactured Wax/Sawdust Fireplace Log 1990 Activity

The basis for the 1990 activity estimates are surveys covering 52 weeks ending March 1990² and March 1991³, as well as, Duraflame, Inc. sales data⁴. Duraflame, Inc. is the largest manufacturer of wax/sawdust fireplace logs and, it should be noted that, the sales and survey data provided by Duraflame take into consideration all brands of firelogs.

The two surveys covered only grocery outlets, hence the total number of logs sold in each time period was increased to include estimates of the number of logs sold in drug stores and by mass merchandisers. The breakdown among the three store categories for the 1990 time period was estimated as: Grocery outlets (65%), Drug stores (10%) and Mass merchandisers (25%). The weight distribution of firelogs during 1990 was estimated as: 6 lb. (34%), 5 lb. (32%) and 3.5 lb. (34%). The total wet weight was calculated for both the 52 weeks ending March 1990 and the 52 week ending March 1991 time periods. To adjust to the 1990 calendar year, the total wet weight for the time period ending March 1990 was multiplied by 0.33 and added to 0.67 times the total wet weight for the time period ending March 1991. Once the total wet weight for the calendar year 1990 was calculated, it

was converted to dry weight by multiplying by 0.98 (see reference 1).

The surveys conducted for the 52 weeks ending March 1990 and March 1991 only reported total national data and did not contain regional data such as did the survey for the September 1998 to September 1999 time period used to develop the 1997 and 1999 activities. Based on best professional judgement, it is believed that the regional distribution during the 1990 calendar year was very similar to that shown by the survey for the September 1998 to September 1999 time period and it was used to calculate the regional distribution for 1990.

The manufactured wax/sawdust fireplace log activity levels, nationally and by region, for 1990, are shown in Table 1. For comparisons purposes, the activity levels for 1997 and 1999, as calculated in reference 1, are also shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Dry Weight Wax/Sawdust Fireplace Logs

Region	1990 (tons)	1997 (tons) ¹	1999 (tons) ¹
National	112,243	242,055	252,875
Northeast	12,796	27,567	27,015
Midwest	9990	21,649	22,668
South	40,969	88,257	93,749
West	48,152	103,758	108,844

1. See reference 1

References

1. Houck, J.E., 2001, Recommended Procedure for Compiling Emission Inventory Data for Manufactured Wax/Sawdust Fireplace Logs, report to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC.
2. The Arbitron Company, 1990, Total U.S. Firelog Sales Data, report to Duraflame, Inc., Stockton, CA.
3. Information Resources, 1991, Total U.S. Firelog Sales Data, report to Duraflame, Inc., Stockton, CA.
4. Sarah Solarie, 2001, personal communication, Duraflame Inc., Stockton, CA.

5. Information Resources, 1999, Infoscan Standard Region Profile for Firelog Sales, report to Duraflame, Inc., Stockton, CA.