

**AVAILABILITY,
SIZES AND PROPERTIES
OF
TIMBERS
IMPORTED INTO
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**



FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION (WA)
103 COLIN STREET, WEST PERTH 6005

December 1980

DOUGLAS FIR
(Pseudotsuga Menziesii)
Also known as Oregon

- Origin: U.S.A. and Canada (West Coast).
- Availability: Readily available. Supplied in unseasoned condition.
- Sizes: 75 x 50 to 300 x 150 in lengths up to 6.0m and occasionally up to 7.2m
- Uses: General construction where long length of large sections are required. Also used in scantling, laminated beams, furniture and panelling.
- Advantages: Available in long length large section sizes, machines well and of uniform light colour.
- Limitations: Unsuitable for exterior work, does not bend well.
- Density: Unseasoned approx. 450 kg/m³
Seasoned approx. 560 kg/m³ (12% M.C.)
- Strength Group: Unseasoned — S5
Seasoned — SD5
- Stress Grade (Structural Grade):
Unseasoned
Select Merchantable — F7
Merchantable — F5
Other grades may be available by arrangement with supplier.
- Durability: Non-durable in exposed conditions or in ground contact.

JELUTONG
(*Dyera costulata*)

Origin:	Malaysia
Availability:	Supplied seasoned in limited quantities.
Sizes:	50 x 25 to 150 x 25 with limited quantities up to 100 x 100. Lengths up to 3.0m occasionally available to 3.6m.
Uses:	Pattern making, mouldings, interior joinery, cabinet work, coffins and drawing boards.
Advantages:	Light and soft, easy to work.
Limitations:	Very soft, non-durable, has large latex tubes that mar appearance.
Density:	Approx. 465 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.)
Strength Group:	Not normally used for structural purposes.
Durability:	Non-durable in ground contact, sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

KAPUR
(*Dryobalanops spp.*)

Origin:	Malaysia, Indonesia
Availability:	Readily available. Generally supplied seasoned but unseasoned sizes are available.
Sizes:	Up to 300 x 50, in lengths up to 6.0m.
Uses:	Joinery, general construction barges and fascias.
Advantages:	Straight grain, seasons readily, strong and stable.
Limitations:	Inclined to dull planer knives due to fibrous nature of the timber.
Density:	Approx. 740 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Unseasoned — S3 Seasoned — SD3
Stress Grade (Structural Grade):	Unseasoned — F11 (Str. 3 AS 2082) Seasoned — F17 (Str. 3 AS 2082)
Durability:	Durable in exposed situations.

KERUING
(*Dipterocarpus spp.*)

Origin:	Malaysia, Phillipines, Thailand, India.
Available:	Not normally stocked in W.A., limited quantities of unseasoned timber available.
Sizes:	50 x 25 to 100 x 50 in lengths 1.8m to 6.0m.
Uses:	General construction timber, suitable for flooring especially industrial flooring.
Advantages:	Strong with straight grain with a few growth imperfections.
Limitations:	The timber gives off a lot of gum; when dressed the grain tends to rise; hard on saws and tools due to silica and gum.
Density:	Unseasoned approx. 700 kg/m ³ Seasoned approx. 850 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.)
Strength Group:	Unseasoned — S3 Seasoned — SD3
Stress Grade (Structural Grade):	Unseasoned — F11 (Str. 3 AS 2082) Seasoned — F17 (Str. 3 AS 2082)
Durability:	Non durable in ground contact, sapwood susceptible to lyctus attack.

MENGGULANG
(*Heritiera simplicifolia*)

- Origin: Malaysia, Sarawak and Indonesia.
- Availability: Limited — not widely stocked in W.A., Supplied in both seasoned and unseasoned condition.
- Sizes: Up to 200 x 38, in lengths to 6.0m.
- Uses: Internal joinery, panelling, plywood veneers, general utility timber.
- Advantages: Easy to work and bend.
- Limitations: Very severe on plane saws and knives when seasoned.
- Density: Approx 705 kg/m³ (12% M.C.)
- Strength Group: Green — S3
Seasoned — SD4
- Stress Grade (Structural Grade):
Unseasoned — F11 (Str. 3 AS 2082)
Seasoned — F14 (Str. 3 AS 2082)
- Durability: Moderate — Suitable for exterior above ground applications, sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

MERAKA ALAN
(*Shorea albida*)
Also known as Alan Batu

Note: This species produces two distinct sorts of commercial material the lighter juvenile wood (480 kg/m³ to 690 kg/m³ at 12% M.C.) is sold as Alan Bunga or Meranti Bunga. Meraka Alan is that part of the wood with a density around 860 kg/m³ at 12% M.C. (i.e. similar density to seasoned Jarrah).

Origin:	Sarawak, Brunei
Availability:	Limited — not widely carried in W.A.
Sizes:	75 x 25 to 250 x 50, in lengths up to 5.4m.
Uses:	General construction, flooring and joinery.
Advantages:	Works easily with handtools, readily accepts glues and polishes when filled.
Limitations:	Difficult to ensure that the timber is of the required density. Alan Bunga is strength Group S6.
Density:	Approx. 860 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Unseasoned — S2 (See Limitations)
Stress Grade (Structural Grade):	Unseasoned — F14 (Str. 3 AS 2082)
Durability:	Moderately durable — unsuitable for use in ground contact. Sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

MERANTI --- LIGHT RED

(*Shorea spp.*)

also known as Phillipine Mahogany

Note: Dark Red Meranti is produced from the same species grouping and has similar properties to Light Red Meranti, however, sizes and availability is limited.

Origin:	Malaysia, Sabah, Indonesia and Philipines.
Availability:	Readily available, usually supplied seasoned.
Sizes:	75 x 25 to 200 x 50, in lengths from 1.8m to 6.0m.
Uses:	Extensively used in furntiure, internal joinery and mouldings.
Advantages:	Light, easy to work, accepts timber stains readily.
Limitations:	Porous nature makes it difficult to obtain a high polish. The species lacks variety of figure.
Density:	Approx. 500 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.) Density is highly variable.
Strength Group:	Seasoned — SD7 (Not normally used for structural purposes).
Durability:	Non-durable — not recommended for external use. Sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

NYATOH
(*Palaquium spp.*, *Payena spp.*)

Origin:	Malaysia
Availability:	Readily available in seasoned condition.
Sizes:	From 50 x 25 to 250 x 50, in lengths up to 6.0m.
Uses:	Furniture, cabinet making, internal joinery, mouldings and panelling.
Advantages:	Close grained, machines well and takes a high polish.
Limitation:	Not suitable for exterior joinery.
Density:	Approx. 670 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Not normally used for structural purposes in W.A.
Durability:	Non-durable in exposed situations, sapwood is susceptible to <i>Lyctus</i> attack.

RAMIN
(*Gonystylus spp.*)

Origin:	Sarawak, Indonesia.
Availability:	Available in limited quantities, generally supplied in seasoned condition.
Sizes:	75 x 25 to 200 x 50 in lengths up to 6.0m. Sizes over 125 x 25 and lengths over 4.5m have limited availability.
Uses:	Extensively used for furniture and cabinet work. Also used for mouldings, internal joinery and plywood.
Advantages:	Machines well, suitable for blond furniture and mouldings because of light uniform colour.
Limitations:	Unsuitable for exterior use, does not bend well.
Density:	Approx. 670 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Not normally used for structural purposes.
Durability:	Non-durable in exposed situations or ground contact, sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

REDWOOD — Californian or Canadian
(*Sequoia sempervirens*)

Origin:	West Coast North America.
Availability:	Limited availability — not generally stocked, Supplied in both seasoned and unseasoned condition.
Sizes:	25 x 25 up to 150 x 150 in lengths to 6.0m.
Uses:	Exterior garden furniture, joinery other uses where high durability is important.
Advantages:	Extremely durable, machines well, and is very stable. Suitable for use in situations of constant exposure to heat or moisture. e.g. sauna baths, cooling towers.
Density:	Approx, 400 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Unseasoned — S5 Seasoned — SD6 (Not normally used for structural purposes).
Durability:	Highly durable in all situations.

TASMANIAN OAK
(also known as Australian Oak)

(Consists of a mixture of a large number of Eucalypt species including Alpine Ash, Mountain Ash and Messmate).

Origin: South Eastern Australia and Tasmania.

Availability: Limited — Not usually stocked.
— Supplied seasoned.

Sizes: 50 x 25 to 100 x 50 (actual dressed sizes are slightly smaller) in lengths to 4.2m.

Uses: Furniture and joinery. Used extensively in Eastern States for house framing and scantling generally.

Advantages: Straight grained and strong, machines well, has uniform light colour and readily accepts polishes and stains.

Limitations: Difficult to obtain long lengths and wide boards.

Density: Approx. 670 kg/m³ (12% M.C.).

Strength Group: Unseasoned — S4
Seasoned — SD4

Stress Grade (Structural Grade):
Structural grades not normally available in W.A.
Seasoned — F14 (Str. 3 AS 2082)

Durability: Moderately durable — Not suitable for ground contact.

TEAK
(*Tectona grandis*)

Origin:	Thailand, Burma, Indonesia.
Availability:	Available from a limited number of suppliers. Supplied seasoned.
Sizes:	100 x 25 to 200 x 50, in lengths from 1.8m to 3.6m.
Uses:	Primarily used for cabinet work and furniture. Also used for general ship-building including decking, and suitable for acid tanks and cooling towers.
Advantages:	A stable, highly durable decorative timber that polishes well and has an attractive figure.
Density:	Approx. 640 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Unseasoned — S4 Seasoned — SD5 (Not normally used for structural purposes in W.A.).
Durability:	Highly durable in all exposed situations, sapwood is susceptible to Lyctus attack.

WESTERN RED CEDAR

(*Thuja plicata*)

Origin:	North America.
Availability:	Limited availability — not generally stocked. Supplied in both seasoned and unseasoned condition.
Sizes:	Up to 150 x 50, in lengths to 4.2m.
Uses:	Well suited as weather boards, fascias external joinery and internal wall panelling. Also used for boat building, shakes and shingles.
Advantages:	Extremely durable, easy to work, light weight, paints and polishes well.
Limitations:	Rather soft and requires careful handling.
Density:	Approx. 370 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Not normally used for structural purposes.
Durability:	Highly durable in all situations including ground contact.

YELLOW PINE — Ponderosa Pine
(*Pinus ponderosa*)

Origin:	North America.
Availability:	Readily available in seasoned condition from major suppliers.
Sizes:	Available in sizes up to 25, 38 and 50 x 150 and occasionally up to 50 x 300 in lengths from 2.4 to 4.8m.
Uses:	Pattern making, cooperage, interior mouldings, toys and furniture. Suitable for most purposes where regularly exposed to but not immersed in water e.g. bench tops.
Advantages:	Light weight, stable and easy to work.
Density:	Approx. 430 kg/m ³ (12% M.C.).
Strength Group:	Seasoned — SD7 (Not normally used for structural purposes).
Durability:	Non-durable, but water resistant, primarily for internal use.