

TIMBER PRODUCTION 1959-60 GENERAL PURPOSE MILLS

by P. H. Barrett.

General Purpose hardwood mills (under permit) produced some 225,000 loads (68%) of the State's sawn output of 332,509 loads.

In order to compare the performance of mills of varying capacity, the 53 mills studied were grouped into:

18 Major Mills	-	Log Intake	+ 12,000 loads/annum		
22 Med. size Mills	-	Log Intake	6,000 - 12,000	"	"
13 Small Mills	-	Log Intake	1,000 - 6,000	"	"

Figures extracted give an indication of the average and range of performance of the mills in their respective groups. It should be noted that no attempt has been made to segregate mills of similar design operating in comparable bush. The figures are intended only to give a broad picture of the performance of general purpose mills during 1959-60.

The following table sets out in summarised form the results of the brief study:

Information	Mill Capacity		
	Major	Med. size	Small
Through mills - total (loads)	459,700	174,842	33,083
" " - average (")	25,539	7,947	2,545
" " - range (")	13,251-44,332	6,147-10,668	1,096-5,250
sawn output - total (loads)	144,532	59,264	10,499
" " - average " "	8,030	2,694	808
" " - range " "	3,991-14,347	1,858-3,716	393-1,376
Recovery % - av. weighted	31.44	33.90	31.73
" " - range	27.85 - 38.41	26.51-49.61	25.71-45.86
* Input/man-day - av. weighted	99	91	76
" " " - range cu.ft.	81-129	58-156	61-152
* Output/man-day- av. weighted	31.1	30.8	27.1
" " " - range cu.ft.	22.8-41.8	18.3-54.5	18.3-53.7

* Based on number men under mill roof and mill landing.
Assumes every man works 8 hours per day.