Objective: 2- Activity 2.3.1
Sawn Timber Grading Rules
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Documents
1. Papua New Guinea Standard for Visual Timber Grading
2. The Papua New Guinea National Sawn Timber Grading Rules
Background

• This two timber grading documents were complied in a way, where it is simple and easy to understand and it can be easily applied by large timber company graders or even small-scale resource owners.

• Major parts of document 1, was developed by Benjamin Vali during his tenure with TFTC and this document has been used as a resource material for training while for document 2, the major component was done by the Forest Industry Councils of PNG. However, the authors did the editing, formulation and compilation of the resource pack which has been circulated to industry via PNGFIA (EO) for comments.

• The main aim of this two training resource pack was to provide the information that can be used to identify sawn timber imperfections and also help to provide knowledge on how to improve the quality of sawn timber using these visual timber grading rules.

• The draft was prepared based on Australian and New Zealand Grading Rules
Document References

The following Australian Standards and The Malaysian Grading Rules For Sawn Hardwood Timber have been utilized in the preparing of document 1 and 2.

• A.S. 1720 SAA Timber Engineering Code.
• A.S. 2082 Visually stress graded hardwood for structural purposes.
• A.S. 2878 Timbers – Classification into strength groups.
This document have three parts;

Part 1: Visual Stress Grading Rules for Timber for Structural and Appearance Purposes

- This grading rules falls into three categories; Structural grading rules, serviceability grading rules and appearance grading rules based on the end use of the timber.

- It lists a range of standard visual stress grades, serviceability grades and appearance grade and requires the grader to be capable of producing at least one of these.
Part 2: Visual Grading Rules for Machined Finished Products

- This grading rules deals with the specification for wood machining imperfections, surface finishes and limitations for natural characteristics.
- It lists a range of select grades and standard grades and requires graders to grade timbers according to this grading rules.
Part 3: Visual Grading Rules for Furniture Timbers

- This grading rules deals with the specification for wood machining imperfections, surface finishes and limitations for natural characteristics.
- It list a range of first grades, second grades and third grade and requires graders to grade timbers according to this grading rules.
This document have three parts;

Part 1: The Cutting System

• This part discusses the cutting system of grading.
• A Cutting is a rectangular portion of a piece of sawn timber that could be obtained if so desired by cross cutting, ripping, or both to improve the quality of the timber.
Part 2: The General Requirements

• This part deals with mis-cut timber in width and thickness and also how to improve the quality of that piece of sawn timber.
Part 3: General Market Specification (GMS)

- This part covers the limitations of defects defined in General Market Specifications.
- These rules are intended primarily for grading boards and planks which are usually resawn before use for a variety of purpose.
Conclusion

• This two documents “Papua New Guinea Standard for Visual Timber Grading” and “The Papua New Guinea National Sawn Timber Grading Rule”, was developed to fulfill Objective 2, Activity 2.3.1.

• The terminology used in these rules is the same for all species; the extent of allowable imperfection will vary, subject to research findings and results and grading standards compared to Australian Standard (AS).

• Some allowances described for identified imperfection may change in the future as more research results become available.

• The draft has been sent to PNGFIA for comments by the Timber Industry.
References