

CIRCULAR NO.5/2001

Sub: Timber classification and lotting – reg.

There are code provisions in respect of classification of timber. There are procedures prescribed for stacking of timber. The only code provision for lotting of timber is that each lot should have timber up to 4m³ of one quality class. Beyond this there are no guidelines in various levels and experiences I am made to understand that lotting is the most important operation for sale of timber. **According to the understanding, timber lotting is an operation, which facilitates intelligent decision making on marketing (price). Each lot shall have more or less similar dimension of timbers as well as similar quality.** To operationalise the above principles following guidelines are issued for grouping the timber of a particular quality class for purpose of lotting. Hence forth Depot Officers and Divisional Forest Officers will keep in the guidelines for lotting and their check measurements before auction is conducted.

In the timber classification, each class has width girth range. For lotting purpose smaller grouping is contemplated as under.

I.TEAK

1). Teak Export Class (of and above 185 cm middle girth)

No grouping for lotting is contemplated as each log is treated as single lot.

2). Teak 1st Class (of and above 150 cm up to 184cm middle girth)

Considering the wide range of 35cm middle girth following grouping for lotting is contemplated.

1. 150-164cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 165-174cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
3. 175-184cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

3). Teak 11nd Class (of and above 100 cm up to 149 cm middle girth)

Considering the wide range of 50 cm middle girth following grouping for lotting is contemplated.

1. 100-119cm (timber of 11nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 120-139cm (timber of 11nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
3. 140-149cm (timber of 11nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

4). Teak 111 rd Class (of and above 76 cm up to 99cm middle girth)

Considering the wide range of 24cm middle girth following grouping for lotting is contemplated)

1. 76-89cm (timber of 111nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 90-99cm (timber of 111nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

5). Teak IVth Class (of and above 60cm up to 75cm middle girth)

Considering the range of 16cm middle girth no grouping for lotting is contemplated. How ever, Depot Officers and Divisional Forest Officers will apply their mind to keep similar dimension and quality longs in one lot.

6). Teak below classification (below 60cm middle girth)

No grouping for lotting id contemplated. However, Depot Officers and Divisional Forest Officers will apply their mind to keep similar dimension and quality logs in one lot.

II ROSEWOOD

1). Rosewood Export Class (of and above 185cm middle girth)

No grouping for lotting is contemplated as each log is treated as single lot.

2). Rosewood 1st class (of and above 150cm middle girth, 1st class logs having middle girth of and above 185cm is taken as export quality if such logs have no defects)

Considering the wide range of 35cm and more middle girth, following grouping for lotting is contemplated.

1. 150-164cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 165-174cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

3. 175-184cm (timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
4. 185cm and above with defects ((timber of 1st class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

3). Rosewood 11nd class (of and above 125cm to 149cm middle girth)

Considering the wide range of 25cm middle girth following grouping for lotting is contemplated.

1. 125-137cm (timber of 11nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 138-149cm (timber of 11nd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

4). Rosewood 111rd Class (of and above 75cm to 124cm middle girth)

Considering the wide range of 50cm middle girth following grouping for lotting is contemplated.

1. 75-99cm (timber of 111rd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)
2. 100-124cm (timber of 111rd class A, B, C quality class will be separately grouped for lotting)

5). Rosewood IVth class (of and above 60cm to 74cm middle girth)

Considering the range of 15cm middle girth no grouping for lotting is contemplated. However, Depot Officers and Divisional Forest Officers will apply their mind to keep similar dimension and quality logs in one lot.

6). Rosewood below Specification (below 60 cm middle girth)

No grouping for lotting is contemplated. However, Depot Officer and Divisional Forest Officers will apply their mind to keep similar dimension and quality logs in one lot.

III JUNGLEWOOD

No grouping for lotting is contemplated. However, Depot Officers and Divisional Forest Officers will apply their mind to keep similar dimension and quality logs in one lot. The girth classification is noted as under.

1 st Class	-	of and above 125cm middle girth
11 nd Class	-	logs up to 124cm middle girth

IV. QUALITY FOR TEAK AND ROSEWOOD TIMBER LOGS

As per present classification following quality classes are prescribed

- A- Logs straight and sound without any defects
- B- Fairly straight and sound logs
- C- Defective and crooked logs

The quality classification is simplest. However, the same gives subjectively to the officers who carry out classification. There is not much difficulty to classify A and C class timber logs. However there are difficulties in classifying reasonably B class timber logs. To bring in objectivity in classifying B class timber logs following guidelines in respect of defects in the logs is prescribed. Timber logs having following defects may be put under quality class B.

TIMBER CLASSIFICATION FOR QUALITY CLASS B

1. Knots The knots not exceeding 3 in number and the size of knot less than 10cm in diameter.
2. Split Single split at one end with less than 50cm length.
3. Pin hole up to 50cm along the length
4. Buttressing/
Growing If the mid girth is not less than 2/3 of butt end
5. Tapering If the mid girth is not less than 15% girth at butt end.

Timber logs having more and other defects may be classified under quality class C.

V. OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Unloaded timber logs brought to the Depot will be measured first one by one. Their dimensional and quality classification will be roughly decided by Depot Officer. Only after such decision logs will be dragged and stacked to the specified locations in the Depot (for each class of timber space is to be earmarked and display board to be exhibited.) For stacking Depot Officer will keep the lotting guidelines in mind so that logs are stacked keeping the criteria for lotting. After stacking logs will be taken into stock and at this stage final classification will be decided in respect of each log. After this process lotting will be correctly done as per above guidelines. In no case a log of one lot should be seen in another lot.

Lotting work shall be completely by Depot Officer minimum one week before the notified auction date. Divisional Officer will also check measure majority of the lots at least before five days. He shall spend minimum one full day for check measurement. There shall be time for corrections in classification and lotting process before auction is actually conducted.

All officers involved in timber auctions shall keep in mind that they are doing one of the most important works, where maximization of Government Revenue is involved. As such all diligence and intelligence shall be applied at every stage i.e. classification, stacking, lotting and auction of timber.

The receipt of the Circular shall be acknowledged.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
SOUTHERN CIRCLE-KOLLAM

Copy to all Divisional Forest Officers and Depot Officers for attention and necessary action.

Copy submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests (Regional South) Kollam for favor of information.

Copy submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forest (Protection) Thiruvananthapuram for favor of information.

Copy submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests (WBP) Thiruvananthapuram for favor of information.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Kottayam/Thrissur/Palaghat/ Kozhikode for suggestions please.

Copy to TA/SAA/SS and sections.