

Copy of Circular No.34/77 on FU (1)3516/77 dt.8-6-77 from the Chief Conservator of Forests to all sub-offices.

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Sub:- Grading of timbers – instructions – regarding.

It has been noticed that grading of logs (Teak, Rosewood and other timber) according to quality also is done, only, in the depots of the Northern Circle. In the other two Circles grading under girth classes only is done. It is essential that a uniform practice is followed in all the Forest Depots of Kerala State in the matter of grading of logs at the point of their disposal.

In modern practice of marketing and merchandising forest produce, logs have to be graded under different criteria and presented for sale. Then only can the real value of the produce based on its quality be obtained and the maximum price realised for the producer. Accordingly, timber logs (round) which were hitherto being classed according to their girth at mid-length, have to be graded on the basis of quality of the wood and also if possible on the length of the logs.

At present Teak and Rosewood logs are classified under girth classes into four classes I, II, III & IV and under quality classes into A & B (in the Northern Circle only) and under length classes into two, lengthy logs and short length logs.

Junglewood logs are classified under girth classes into I & II and under quality into A & B (in Nilambur Division only). There is no classification under length classes for the junglewood logs.

The present practice of clubbing logs of different quality classes in both Teak and Rosewood and Junglewood for sale in Depots is affecting the total revenue collection due to the fact that it is now entirely left to the bidders to assess the value of the produce on the basis of quality and bid for lots mingled with good and defective logs. Only an average value as decided by the bidders is alone obtained.

Govt. of India through the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals are purchasing logs graded under girth, length and quality classes for Teak and hard junglewood. For grading teak hard junglewood under quality class into A & B (Railway quality and Trade quality) they have brought out through the ISI and Railways booklets to guide the selection of such logs. Descriptions of major defects for identification and guide lines to assess their degree of permissibility for classification, and given in details. On the basis of this, Forest Utilisation Officer to Government of India. It is impossible to lay down standards for a natural product like timber strictly based on mathematical calculations and in practice much has to be left to the judgment of individual graders.

Foresters who are in the field should know this book thoroughly and should make use of this knowledge when logging the trees and registering the logs. An inspection of logs in any one of the sale depots at present would reveal that no sort of supervision or quality control is effected in conversion and logging, resulting in the delivery of sometimes absolutely defective logs by the contractors. Quality control at this stage is highly essential and would save payment of unnecessary kolevila to unworthy logs and prevent the erosion of value of good logs by the admixture of these. The quality could be judged only when a log is properly and neatly dressed and presented in an attractive manner at the depots. Modern salesmanship requires that the logs are presented most attractively.

It is, therefore, directed that the following grading should be adopted as standard for the entire State and strictly adhered to with effect from 1-8-77 in all the Depots and stacking site depots.

<u>Under</u>	<u>Teak</u>	<u>Rosewood</u>	<u>Junglewood</u>
Girth	I, II, III, IV	I, II, III, IV	I & II
Length	Short length lengthy & long length	Short length and Lengthy.	Lengthy.
Quality	A, B & C	A, B & C	A & B

The booklets of ISI grading rules for Teak logs I.S.4895-1968 are forwarded herewith for distribution among the Rangers,

Depot Officers, Divl. Forest Officers, Forester etc. With the aid of these grading rules Teak and Rosewood logs may be classified as A & B grade and those logs which do not come under these categories, being very defective, may be included as C Grade. These rules may be made use of for junglewood also for grading A logs and these logs which do not come under this grade may be included in B Grade. There is no C Grade for the junglewood logs. The Booklet of specification for junglewood as followed by the Railways has been indented for and as and when they are received, they will be supplied.

The length classes as specified below may be followed in the case of Teak and Rosewood.

Long length logs	- Above 7.3 M.
Lengthy logs	- 2.5 M to 7.37 M.
Short length logs	- Above 1 M. to below 2.5 M.

There will be only one length-class in the case of junglewood. This Circular may be acknowledged.

(Sd) For Chief Conservator of Forests.

Endt. on A1-14363/77/L.Dis dt.1-8-77.

Copy to all Divl. Forest Officers with spare copies (10 each) for information and attention.

Copy of Circular to all Contract Sections – TR/KT/ML/CH & MR & Sr. Supdt./Adm. Asst: & stock file for information.

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