# WQI Benchmarking Study Southland Trials - SD564/1, 3 \& 4 

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## Stand Growth Modelling Cooperative in collaboration with WQI Ltd

# RADIATA PINE RESOURCE CHARACTERISATION 

WQI Benchmarking Study

Laboratory Data CollectionSite 3 (Southland Forests)

A Report Prepared for WQI Ltd and made available to the Stand Growth Modelling Cooperative members

## WQI REPORT NO. RES 6

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 

# RADIATA PINE RESOURCE CHARACTERISATION 

WQI Benchmarking Study

Laboratory Data Collection<br>Site 3 (Southland Forests - Longwood, Rowallan, Blackmount)

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Site 3 is a composite of 3 Southland sites, located in Longwood Forest (Trial SD564/1), Rowallan Forest (Trial SD564/3) and Blackmount Forest (SD564/3). In a preliminary study (WQI Prescreening Study) these sites were shown to represent three of the four "lowest density" sites (average outerwood density $361 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ). Fifteen stems were selected to cover the density and diameter range within the 3 plots and felled to yield discs at regular intervals up the tree for wood property assessments.

Discs were prepared in such a way as to give data on a range of wood properties:

1. Wood density (5-ring sample blocks)
2. Shrinkage (5-ring sample blocks)
3. Spiral rain (5-ring sample blocks)
4. Colour
5. Internal checking
6. Resinous features
7. Fibre length
8. SilviScan samples

This report documents some of the findings (1-6 above): the SilviScan and fibre length data for Southland sites will be reported later as they become available.

The sample stems averaged 486 mm DBH and the wood property data confirmed the "low density" classification of the Southland wood and the low density gradient from pith to bark found previously (juvenile wood $-333 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$; mature wood $348 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ in 15 sample trees). Outerwood density values - average $365 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ - explained $78 \%$ of the variation in stem density. These values are significantly lower than those found in the 1979 Southland Wood Properties Survey in randomly selected stands. The acoustic velocity/density relationship was surprisingly poor; $\mathrm{r}^{2}=$ 0.10 . Heartwood averaged $18 \%$ and juvenile wood $53 \%$ in the lower 4 logs. Compression wood averaged $9.2 \%$ of sample disc area. Shrinkage complied with expected trends, but radial values, at around $1 \%$, were deemed low. Spiral grain values increased from around $2^{0}$ at the base of the trees to over $6^{\circ}$ in the upper $50 \%$ of the stems. Seven of the 15 stems showed some internal checking, and all trees had resinous blemishes to a greater or lesser extent.

Summaries of groups of sites will be provided periodically, assessing the overall results to that point. The raw data have been entered into an Access WQI database and will contribute to modelling the effects of site, silviculture and genetics on wood formation.

# WQI BENCHMARKING STUDY 

Site 3 (Southland Forests)

Laboratory Data Collection

## BACKGROUND

A major component of WQI Objective 1 - Radiata Pine Resource Characterisation - is a survey of the existing forest resource, collecting standard wood samples (non-destructive and destructive) from a significant number of well-documented sites and completion of comprehensive analyses of site factors affecting levels and distributions of major wood properties. Previous regional wood quality studies have identified a gradient in various properties, apparently associated with climatic and site effects (Cown, 1979; Cown \& McConchie 1983; Cown \& Ball, 2001). These WQI "benchmarking" studies have been planned to use trials comprising known genetic material, located in diverse environments (1978 Genetic Gains Trials). The actual stand conditions vary somewhat due to priorities of individual forest owners and environmental influences (climate, grazing, etc).

The data will provide comprehensive information on:

- Geo-spatial information on wood quality factors (density, shrinkage, spiral grain, microfibril angle, internal checking, fibre length, resin, etc) and material properties (stiffness, strength, stability, appearance features) to yield new information on geographic and within-tree patterns of variability in major wood characteristics.
- Data on specific environmental influences on wood formation (latitude; elevation; soil type; climate).

Silvicultural effects -stocking; thinning; pruning; fertilising; rotation length - will be examined later in other trials, subject to WQI priorities. The ultimate objective is to create a new archive of the major wood properties known to influence the value of radiata pine wood products, in relation to the major influencing factors, thus providing a valuable asset to WQI shareholders.

The Genetic Gains Trials were established in 1978 with known genotypes (3 open-pollinated commercial seedlots), sited in (now former) state-owned production forests at 22 sites selected to encompass a broad range of climatic and site conditions (Figure 1). Two plot designs were used:

1) Large plots with trees planted at 1111spha and managed under a typical sawlog regime
2) Row plots where trees were planted in single row plots at 833 spha and managed as per the surrounding commercial forest.

Seedlot WN76/2 (GF 14) was selected for this study as being both well represented in the trial and exhibiting relatively good growth. Classified as GF 14 stock, it represents a significant degree of genetic improvement - similar to many current crops - and is available at a relatively mature age (25 years). Now (2003), in addition to varied silviculture due to management policies, several of the trials have been abandoned as research areas due to damage from excessive grazing or severe storms.

Figure 1 - Sites Sampled


A pre-screening phase was considered advisable to check the current condition of the plots, collect outerwood density cores and assess the potential for further sampling by felling representative stems. The work was contracted to Dean Witehera (Quality Forest Management), who visited the 20 remaining trials and assessed 30 trees/trial of WN76/2 (where available), following standard non-destructive assessment techniques. Outerwood increment core sampling for basic density was undertaken, along with measurement of size (DBH over bark) and visual assessment of sample stems for stem form, branch size, internode length, external resin bleeding and suitability for felling. McKinley and Cown (2003) documented the results of the pre-screening assessment. The pre-screening phase gave a broad picture of wood density variation within the trial (Fig. 2) and allowed for selection of 10 crop trees of reasonable stem form for possible felling, covering the wood density and diameter range at each site. The intention was to provide material for more intensive studies of major wood properties and establish within-tree, between-tree and betweensite patterns and relationships between properties. The total number of sites for such intensive study is yet to be established but the intention is to provide as wide a representation of the nation's resource as possible.

Figure 2- Average BH outerwood basic density (mean and standard deviation)


The major findings from the pre-screening study were:
As expected, there was a strong trend for density to decrease southwards. The highest values were found at Aupouri Forest in Northland (494 kg/m ), and the lowest at Longwood Forest in Southland $\left(352 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}\right)$. These are very significant differences between the various sites in this trial and while the overall trend is clear, there are apparent departures due to local site and climate. There is evidence that the wood density values recorded are significantly reduced from those found in the previous national survey of wood properties (1977-82).

Average for other observed characteristics were:

- Breast height diameters (average 480 cm ) ranged from 356 (Eyrewell) to 580 (Longwood and Mohaka).
- Branch index (average 4.3 cm ) - 3.4 cm (Golden Downs) to 5.9 cm (Blackmount).
- Visual stem resin score (average 0.9) - from 0.5 (Ruatoria, Longwood) to 2.0 (Aupouri).


## DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Prior to felling, visual observation of resin were made (McConchie \& Turner, 2002) and the North direction marked at breast height, and a North line marked along the stem after felling. The tree stems were de-limbed and crosscut at a small end diameter of approximately 100 mm . The whole stem length was recorded and a CHH Director HM200 acoustic measure made prior to sectioning the stem into log lengths and discs as per Appendix 2. Further Director acoustic measures were made on all individual logs above the 1.4 m sampling position. Internode lengths down to 0.2 m were measured on the second $\log$, i.e. between sampling heights 5 m to 10 m .

One complete set of discs from all sampling heights $(0 \mathrm{~m}, 1.4 \mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{~m}$ and subsequent 5 m intervals down to a SED of approximately 100 mm ) was removed for basic density, shrinkage and spiral grain assessment by 5 -ring groups (Cown \& McConchie, 1982, 1983; Treloar and Lausberg, 1995). Samples were also prepared for shipment to CSIRO for SilviScan analyses. Prior to sectioning into 5 -ring groups, diameters were recorded over bark, inside bark, for heartwood and juvenile wood (inner 10 rings). Compression wood occurrence per quartile and resinous features were also recorded, along with a total ring count and the number of heartwood rings.

Internal checking analyses were undertaken on all discs up to and including the 10 m sampling height, using the "oven drying method" of McConchie (2000). A bark-to-bark strip centred on the pith and an additional adjacent strip were collected at all heights for SilviScan, wood colour and archive samples. SilviScan samples were prepared according to established procedure (i.e. soaked in ethanol for several weeks with two changes of ethanol) prior to dispatch to CSIRO, Melbourne. Wood colour measurements were made for heartwood and sapwood in the green and air-dry condition using a Minolta CR-200 colorimeter (Dawson et al., 2003).

Two additional sample discs from all trees ( 1.4 m and 20m) were retained for Norske Skog - for kraft pulping and fibre length and width measurement using a Kajaani Fibrelab instrument.

## Results - Site 3 (Southland Forests)

Plot data for the Southland trees, collected during the pre-screening exercise, are tabulated in Appendix 1. Due to the level of malformation and storm damage at each site, insufficient stems of good form remained at any of the individual sites to allow selection of 10 good stems for intensive sampling. Therefore the decision was made to assemble a "Southland composite" by selecting trees from each site, based on the principles of identifying "good" stems across the diameter and wood density range with a mean DBH and density as close as possible to the plot means.

Regarding these 3 sites, Dean commented:
Longwood - Site fairly clean with some ferns, Rangiora and a few windthrown trees; very large trees growing in gaps $>70 \mathrm{~cm}$ DBHOB
Rowallan - Clean site, resin assessment done on wet trees - some difficulties.
Blackmount - Clean site with pine needles; block not thinned; extensive snow damage many broken tops at 10-12m.

Don McConchie (Wood Quality Focus) subsequently visited the sites, and was contracted to arrange tree felling and disc collection for the detailed wood property analyses.

## Tree Stem Characteristics

Appendices 1a,b,c provide the plot information for Longwood, Rowallan and Blackmount forests respectively, as supplied by Dean Witehira. From the total trees assessed in the pre-screening phase, 15 were selected that met the criteria of suitable crop trees as well as covering the outerwood density and diameter range. Table 1 gives all the visually-assessed data from the selected plot trees.

Table 1 - Pre-screening attributes of selected trees

\# $0=$ Nil; 3 = Severe

| BIX <br> Score | Average Branch <br> $(\mathbf{c m})$ | Range | IIX <br> Score | Average <br> Internode <br> Index |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 0 | No branches | $\mathbf{0}$ | 0.3 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 3.0 | 3 cm or less | $\mathbf{1}$ | Nescription or very few internodes $-<40 \%$ of <br> logs made of long internode material |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | 4.5 | $3-6 \mathrm{~cm}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | 0.5 |
| Some internode material $->40 \%$ of |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 7.5 | $6-9 \mathrm{~cm}$ |  |  |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | $>9.0$ | 9 cm or greater |  | logs made of long internode material <br> Long internode material $->70 \%$ of <br> logs made of long internode material |

Outerwood density and DBHOB of the sample stems averaged $365 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ and 575 mm respectively, closely matching the plot values. The butt logs were pruned but assessments of the other logs yielded visual branch assessments averaging 1.9, 2.4 and 2.7 (logs 2-4) which equates to

BIX values of $4.4,5.7$, and 6.6 cm respectively. Many of the 75 stems exhibited some degree of external resin: $51 \%$ rated moderate; $7 \%$ rated severe.

## WOOD PROPERTIES - RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## 1. Increment Cores

Previous research has indicated that as far as wood density is concerned, the Southland forests can be quite variable, but basically cover the lower end of the scale (Cown 1979; Cown \& McConchie, 1983). Juvenile (inner 10 growth rings) and outerwood wood values averaged $360 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ and 425 $\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ respectively. These compared to national averages of about $390 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ and $450 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$. The values represented averages from 36 sites from throughout the whole Southland region unselected seed; ages 19-50 yrs. at time of sampling and from stands at elevations from $5-700 \mathrm{~m}$.

It was apparent from the WQI pre-screening exercise (McKinley \& Cown, 2003) that outerwood wood density levels were indeed low (Blackmount $-359 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$; Rowallan - $371 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$; Longwood $-352 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ). These values are considerably lower than those found in the 1979 survey work (range 395 to $462 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ).

## 2. Disc Properties (diameter, bark, juvenile wood, heartwood, compression wood)

Average disc properties by height are documented in Table 2, with the disc sampling as shown in (Appendix 2). Juvenile wood (inner 10 rings) and heartwood are calculated as the proportion of cross-sectional area of the entire disc. Compression wood was visually assessed by quartile and disc, with Quartile 1 centred on the North line marked on the disc.

Table 2 - Average disc properties by sampling height

| $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Disc } \\ \text { ht. } \\ \text { (m) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { DIB } \\ & (\mathrm{mm}) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Bark } \\ & (\mathrm{mm}) \end{aligned}$ | Total Rings | Heart Wood Rings | Heart Wood (\%)* |  | Compression wood by Quartile |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{N} \\ (\%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{E} \\ (\%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{S} \\ (\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{W} \\ (\%) \end{gathered}$ | Disc (\%) |
| 0 | 540 | 27 | 24 | 8 | 12 | 25 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 5.7 |
| 1.4 | 486 | 23 | 22 | 7 | 17 | 33 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 7.7 |
| 5 | 440 | 13 | 19 | 7 | 23 | 45 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 9.3 |
| 10 | 383 | 8 | 16 | 5 | 22 | 56 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 9.3 |
| 15 | 316 | 7 | 13 | 4 | 19 | 70 | 10 | 13 | 15 | 11 | 13.0 |
| 20 | 267 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 13 | 90 | 9 | 15 | 13 | 10 | 11.7 |
| 25 | 199 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 99 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 7.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Un-weighted average CW |  |  |  | 9.2 |

* Area based

These data on their own are rather meaningless, and will be discussed in more detail after the first 3 sites have been reported. At that point, realistic site comparisons can be made and trends observed.

## 3. Wood Density

Wood density values can be assessed in a number of different ways. Outerwood increment core values were determined for plot sample trees in the course of the pre-screening study, and detailed SilviScan within-ring data (resin-extracted) will be collected at all disc sampling levels for all felled sample stems, giving information similar to past densitometry studies (Cown \& Ball, 2001). In this part of the study, wood density was measured on 5 -ring blocks from the pith outwards at each stem level (unextracted density), as indicated in Appendix 2. The weighted block and disc measurements allowed estimates density for various stem components: juvenile wood ( $333 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ), outerwood ( $348 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ), log and stem basic density $\left(338 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}\right.$ ). The unextracted values (Table 3) are influenced to some degree by the presence of heartwood, particularly with height in the stem, but also potentially between sites to some extent (Cown et al. 1991a). It may be worth noting that the average stem density for the 25 trees felled in the 1979 survey was $410 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ at an average age of 30 yrs (range in current sample $302-381 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ).

Table 3 - Pith-to-bark basic density trends by sampling height

| Disc Ht. |  | nsity | by ring | roup from |  |  | nsity (k |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (m) | 1 to 5 | 6 to 10 | 11 to 15 | 16 to 20 | 21 to 25 | Juv. ${ }^{\text {\# }}$ | Outer | Disc |
| 0 | 396 | 342 | 339 | 355 | 372 | 357 | 352 | 354 |
| 1.4 | 324 | 330 | 335 | 366 | 386 | 329 | 352 | 342 |
| 5 | 315 | 324 | 334 | 363 |  | 321 | 345 | 332 |
| 10 | 327 | 325 | 344 |  |  | 326 | 345 | 333 |
| 15 | 331 | 331 | 346 |  |  | 331 | 346 | 334 |
| 20 | 335 | 341 |  |  |  | 337 |  | 337 |
| 25 | 329 | 339 |  |  |  | 331 |  | 331 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 333 | 348 | 338 |
| Average Stem Density: $338 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |  |  | Range: $302-381 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |

\# Inner 10 growth rings
Unextracted densities are plotted by stem levels in Figure 3.
Figure 3 - Basic wood density (unextracted) - all stem levels


Basic wood density values consistently increase outwards from the pith as has been documented in numerous studies. Juvenile wood density (mostly heartwood) was fairly consistent at most levels at around $330 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ (the exception being the butt disc) - and the outerwood density decreased slightly with height up the stem, reflecting the increasingly younger wood. The relatively high values for juvenile wood for the butt ( 0 m ) disc are simply a reflection of high levels of extractives in the "older" heartwood in these samples. This is very apparent in Fig. 3.

Weighted whole tree density calculated from disc values using Smalian's formula averaged 338 $\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ (range $302-381 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ ). The relationship between BH outerwood density and whole-tree density for all 10 trees is shown in Fig. $4\left(r^{2}=0.78\right)$.

Figure 4 - Basic wood density: breast height/whole stem relationship


The expected high correspondence was confirmed for these trees.
The dynamic stiffness data (CHH director HM 200-Table 4) was examined in relation to average log and stem density (Fig. 5).

Table 4 -CHH Director HM200 log and stem acoustic measures

| Tree | Stem <br> No. <br> Length <br> $(\mathrm{m})$ | Acoustic data (km/s) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Log 1 | Log 2 | Log 3 | Log 4 | Log 5 |  |  |
| C1 | 25 | 2.47 | 2.54 | 2.49 | 2.42 | 2.43 | 2.34 |  |
| C2 | 28 | 2.75 | 2.8 | 2.72 | 2.72 | 2.75 | 2.66 |  |
| C3 | 15 | 2.53 | 2.49 | 2.61 | 2.53 |  |  |  |
| C9 | 24 | 2.51 | 2.54 | 2.53 | 2.48 | 2.48 |  |  |
| C10 | 25 | 2.64 | 2.66 | 2.77 | 2.76 | 2.58 | 2.42 |  |
| C16 | 25 | 2.2 | 2 | 2.22 | 2.26 | 2.28 | 2.2 |  |
| D3 | 22 | 2.92 | 2.78 | 2.96 | 3.01 | 2.9 |  |  |
| D7 | 19 | 2.6 | 2.73 | 2.69 | 2.62 | 2.38 |  |  |
| D12 | 24 | 2.41 | 2.45 | 2.48 | 2.49 | 2.43 | 2.33 |  |
| D13 | 18 | 2.54 | 2.32 | 2.57 | 2.65 | 2.66 |  |  |
| D15 | 23 | 2.72 |  | 2.77 | 2.81 | 2.74 | 2.58 |  |
| D17 | 25 | 2.68 | 2.75 | 2.89 | 2.82 | 2.67 | 2.47 |  |
| D19 | 23 | 2.69 | 2.75 | 2.74 | 2.75 | 2.66 | 2.59 |  |
| E2 | 17 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.64 | 2.44 |  |  |  |
| E30 | 15 | 2.41 | 2.33 | 2.53 | 2.38 |  |  |  |
| Mean | 21.9 | 2.57 | 2.55 | 2.64 | 2.61 | 2.58 | 2.45 |  |

Figure 5 - Relationship between basic density and sound velocity for individual logs and whole stems


Overall, there is a very weak positive relationship, with little indication of trends with log height class or site. There is no obvious reason for this and further analysis of this aspect will await amalgamation of data from several sites.

## 4. Shrinkage

Shrinkage values were measured on all 5 -ring block samples and compared to data previously collected in the course of a national wood properties survey (Cown et al., 1991a). The data are summarised in Tables 5 and 6, and breast height trends plotted in Figures 6a-c. Values are in line with previous results (Cown et al., 1991a). In this case, the tangential values vary much more with stem location than the radial values. The negative values for the tree level longitudinal shrinkage averages reflect the difficulty of accurately detecting very small differences on the 5 -ring block surfaces and possibly some apparent expansion in the longitudinal direction due to grain imperfections. The actual values are very small and do not represent true expansion.

Table 5 - Average air-dry shrinkage by sampling height

| Disc <br> h. <br> $(\mathrm{m})$ | Air-dry shrinkage* (\%) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Longitudinal | Radial | Tangential |
| 0 | 0.01 | 1.3 | 4.0 |
| 1.4 | -0.01 | 1.2 | 3.7 |
| 5 | -0.07 | 1.1 | 3.4 |
| 10 | -0.04 | 1.1 | 3.2 |
| 15 | -0.02 | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| 20 | -0.03 | 1.0 | 2.8 |
| 25 | -0.04 | 1.0 | 2.7 |

* Adjusted to $12 \%$ m.c.

Table 6 - Pith-to-bark air-dry shrinkage trends by sampling height

| Disc ht. <br> (m) | Air-dry shrinkage* (\%) by ring group from pith |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 to 5 | 6 to 10 | 11 to 15 | 16 to 2 | 21 to 25 | 1 to 5 | 6 to 10 | 1 to | 6 to | 1 to 2 |
|  | Longitudinal |  |  |  |  | Radial |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 0.47 | 0.08 | -0.10 | -0.19 | -0.21 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| 1.4 | 0.24 | -0.02 | -0.08 | -0.15 | -0.20 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| 5 | 0.02 | 0.00 | -0.12 | -0.18 |  | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.4 |  |
| 10 | 0.03 | -0.01 | -0.14 |  |  | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.3 |  |  |
| 15 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.08 |  |  | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.3 |  |  |
| 20 | 0.00 | -0.05 | -0.07 |  |  | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.3 |  |  |
| 25 | -0.03 | -0.10 |  |  |  | 1.0 | 1.2 |  |  |  |
| Tangential |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 2.9 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.4 | 4.8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | 2.6 | 3.2 | 3.8 | 4.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 3.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 3.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 4.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | 2.6 | 3.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^1]Figure 6 - Shrinkage (green to $\mathbf{1 2 \%} \mathbf{M C}$ ) for all stem levels
6a: Radial shrinkage

## 5. Spiral Grain

Average spiral grain values are summarised in Table 7 and Fig. 7. Mean angles ranged from about $1.5^{0}$ to $2.5^{0}$ (outerwood in the lower stem) to $6^{0}$ to $7^{0}$ (inner rings above 5 m ) in accordance with previously established broad patterns for the Central North Island (Cown et al. 1991b). More detailed analyses will await data from more sites.

Table 7 - Average pith-to-bark spiral grain patterns by sampling height

| Disc <br> ht. <br> $(\mathrm{m})$ | Spiral grain $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ by ring number from pith |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |  |
| 0 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.6 |  |
| 1.4 | 2.5 | 3.8 | 3.0 | 1.6 | 2.4 |  |
| 5 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 3.9 | 3.0 |  |  |
| 10 | 6.2 | 6.5 | 4.1 |  |  |  |
| 15 | 6.3 | 6.6 | 5.1 |  |  |  |
| 20 | 6.1 | 6.3 |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | 6.9 | 5.6 |  |  |  |  |

Figure 7 - Spiral grain pattern for all stem levels


## 6. Wood Colour

The LAB system of wood colour measurements showed differences in heartwood and sapwood colour with height and radial position within the trees. The heartwood became lighter with height to 5 m (lightness L* values increased), and then declined in lightness to 20 m , with a slight increase in lightness from the inner to outer heartwood (Fig. 8a). The sapwood was lighter in colour that the heartwood, with little change with height and radial position.

The heartwood was redder in colour ( $\mathrm{a}^{*}$ values higher) at the top of the trees, with little change in the green-red colour from the inner to outer heartwood (Figure 8b). The heartwood was redder in colour than the sapwood, which varied little in green-red colour with height and radial position.

The heartwood was yellower in colour ( $b^{*}$ values higher) at the butt of the trees, and in the inner heartwood at the butt (Figure 8c). The yellow colour of the heartwood and sapwood declined from pith to bark ( $b^{*}$ values decreased), with the differences in blue-yellow colour with height diminishing in the outer heartwood and sapwood.

Figure 8 - Colour data for Southland Sites

| 8a) Height and radial patterns of the L* colour co-ordinate (black to white). <br> Radial positions: 1-3 heartwood, 4-6 sapwood. |  | Height |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8b) Height and radial patterns of the $\mathrm{a}^{*}$ colour co-ordinate (green to red). <br> Radial positions: 1-3 heartwood, 4-6 sapwood |  | Height <br> - 0 m <br> - 1.4 m <br> - 5 m <br> - 10 m <br> - 15 m <br> - 20 m |
| 8c) Height and radial patterns of the $b^{*}$ colour co-ordinate (blue to yellow). <br> Radial positions: 1-3 heartwood, 4-6 sapwood. |  | Height <br> - 0 m <br> - 1.4 m <br> - 5 m <br> - 10 m <br> — 15 m <br> - 20 m |

## 7. Internal checking

Within-ring internal checks are often observed at the base of the stem and there have been suggestions that site, climate, genotype and tree age can all have an effect on the levels found (Cown et al., 2003; Beets et al., 2002). At this site, 7 of the 15 felled trees exhibited internal checking (total of 126 checks, or an overall average of just over 8 checks per affected tree for the site). Appendices 3a and 3b give the detailed data by tree number and disc height. Fig. 9 shows a general reduction with stem height and Fig. 10 shows the distribution according to years at BH . Occurrence is spread over about 10 years, with peaks in 1987, 1988 and 1995.

Figure 9 - Internal checks by height (7 trees affected)


Fig. 10 - Internal check by year (BH level)


## 8. Resinous Features

In the field, notes were made of the occurrence of resin pockets, blemishes, needle flecks and green intra-ring checks on the fresh discs. The totals for the Southland sites are given in Table 8. Relatively few defects were present in the 15 stems, and most were found in the lower 5 m . Needle fleck was an exception - occurrence increasing with stem height. However, none of the felled trees was completely free of blemishes.

Table 8 - Resinous features (totals) by height class

| isc Ht <br> $(\mathrm{m})$ | Resin <br> pockets | Resinous <br> patches* | Blemishes | Needle <br> Fleck | Green <br> Int. checks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 3 | 20 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.4 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| 15 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 20 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Totals | 22 | 21 | 24 | 17 | 2 |

* includes resinous latewood

Note: 4 trees had galls and 1 tree had large wet heartwood zone with a pink outer edge

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Trial: SD 564/1 Forest: Longwood Cpt 62 Forest Owner: Southwood Export
Assessor: Dean and William Witehira
QFM No.: 5
Date: 15/4/03

| Trial ID | StandID | Plot\# | Tree\# | DBH | BIX |  |  |  | IIX | Resin | Suitable to Fell (Y/N) | Acceptable <br> Crop Tree <br> $(\mathbf{Y} / \mathbf{N})$ | PSP \# | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Log 1 | Log 2 | Log 3 | Log 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 1 | 556 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | - |  |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 2 | 704 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | y | y | - | Big tree, straight |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 3 | 457 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | y | y | 6 |  |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 4 | 528 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | y | n | - | Broken top 23m, stem damage 10m |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 5 | 511 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Double leader at $18-20 \mathrm{~m}>150>200$ |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 6 | 459 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | n | n | 8 |  |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 7 | 480 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | n | n | 7 | P 2.0 , large defect at 6 m \& 12 m |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 8 | 485 | 0 | 3 | - | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | 5 | Top gone at 12 m |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 9 | 526 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | 4 | P4.0, some flutting in butt |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 10 | 720 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | y | y | 3 | Very nice tree |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 11 | 521 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | n | n | 2 | Broken top 15m, multi leader |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 12 | 699 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 | y | y | 1 | Ramicorn at 9m >150mm |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 13 | 681 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 | y | n | 11 | Broken top 25 m but nice tree |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 14 | 458 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | y | y | 10 | Deformed stem at whorls 1 and 5, nodal swelling |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 15 | 767 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | - | P4.2, big heavy upper branches, adjacent to gap |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 16 | 752 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | y | y | - | Edge tree by gap, big heavy branches |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 17 | 463 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | n | n | 13 | Broken top at 13m, double leader |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 18 | 698 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | y | y | - | Edge tree |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 19 | 606 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | 14 |  |
| SD564/1 | L. wood 62 | 4/11 | 20 | 634 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Triple leader at 18 m |

Trial: SD 564/3 Forest: Rowallan
Date: 15/4/03 Cpt 152

Forest Owner: Rayonier
Comment: Very wet day, very wet trees, difficult to assess resin

| Trial ID | StandID | Plot\# | Tree\# | DBH | BIX |  |  |  | IIX | Resin | Suitable to Fell (Y/N) | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Acceptable } \\ \text { Crop Tree } \\ (\mathbf{Y} / \mathbf{N}) \end{array}$ | PSP \# | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Log 1 | Log 2 | $\log 3$ | Log 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 12 | 1 | 615 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fall edge gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 8 | 2 | 278 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 8 | 3 | 550 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell if fell \#4 tree |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 8 | 4 | 682 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | - | Edge tree by big gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 4 | 5 | 588 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 4 | 6 | 669 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 4 | 7 | 564 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | y | y | - | Edge trial by gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 3 | 8 | 506 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | n | y | - |  |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 3 | 9 | 548 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | n | y | - |  |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 3 | 10 | 401 | 0 | 2 | 3 | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Broken top at 14m |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 7 | 11 | 607 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell into gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 11 | 12 | 565 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell down behind \#13 |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 11 | 13 | 563 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Some sweep, |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 10 | 14 | 603 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell toward gap at edge trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 10 | 15 | 568 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Edge trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 9 | 16 | 331 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | y | y | - | Fell onto \#17 |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 9 | 17 | 445 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell into gap at edge trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 5 | 18 | 555 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | n | y | - |  |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 6 | 19 | 502 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Fell into gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 6 | 20 | 697 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | May fell into gap |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 6 | 21 | 662 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 2 | 22 | 265 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 1 | 23 | 614 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 1 | 24 | 466 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | n | y | - | Inside trial |
| SD564/3 | Row. 152 | 1 | 25 | 512 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | y | y | - | Edge trial |

## Appendix 1c - Pre-screening data - Blackmount

Trial: SD 564/4 Forest: Blackmount Date: 17/4/03 Cpt. 600

Forest Owner: Rayonier Comment: Lots of snow damage throughout trial

| Trial ID | StandID | Plot\# | Tree\# | DBH | BIX |  |  |  | IIX | Resin | Suitable to Fell (Y/N) | Acceptable Crop Tree ( $\mathbf{Y} / \mathbf{N}$ ) | PSP \# | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Log 1 | Log 2 | $\log 3$ | Log 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 9 | 1 | 520 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | y | y | - | P1.8 |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 9 | 2 | 434 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | o | y | y | - | P1.8, fell by \#1 |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 9 | 3 | 277 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - | Damage at 8m, basket whorl 11 m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 9 | 4 | 370 | 2 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - | Ramicorn at $6 \mathrm{~m}>180 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 9 | 5 | 417 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - | Malformed at 9m, broken top |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 10 | 6 | 549 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | ok | n | - | Malformed at 10m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 10 | 7 | 419 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Broken top at 12m, double leader |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 10 | 8 | 419 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - | Broken top at 14m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 10 | 9 | 407 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | n | n | - | Double leader at $2 \mathrm{~m}>350>200$ |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 10 | 10 | 458 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | n | n | - | Broken at 8m, double leader |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 6 | 11 | 318 | 2 | 2 | - | - | 0 | 0 | n | n | - | Broken at 9m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 6 | 12 | 353 | 2 | 3 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - | Double leader 10m, broken out top |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 6 | 13 | 464 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | y | n | - | Double leader 14m, broken out top |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 14 | 301 | 2 | 2 | - | - | 0 | 0 | n | n | - | Double at 11m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 15 | 358 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | 0 | n | n | - | Ramicorn 3m, double leader 12m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 16 | 425 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | n | y | - | Inside trial, nice tree |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 17 | 225 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - | Dead |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 18 | 458 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | n | y | - | Inside trial, nice tree |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 7 | 19 | 455 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 0 | n | n | - | Multiple leaders at 9m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 20 | 300 | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Broken top at 12m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 21 | 255 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | n | n | - |  |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 22 | 289 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 0 | 2 | n | y | - | Lots of resin, double leader 15m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 23 | 283 | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Small |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 24 | 351 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | n | ok | - | Funny top? |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 4 | 25 | 292 | 2 | 2 | - | - | 1 |  | n | n | - | Broken top at 10m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 5 | 26 | 383 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 |  | n | y | - |  |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 5 | 27 | 418 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | n | n | - | Malformed at 7m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 5 | 28 | 361 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 0 | 1 | n | n | - | Broken at 14m, small leader |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 5 | 29 | 255 |  |  |  |  |  |  | n | n | - | Dead top at 10 m |
| SD564/4 | B'mount 600 | 5 | 30 | 425 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | y | y | - |  |

## APPENDIX 2: DISC SAMPLING PLAN



Appendix 3a - Internal Checking - Disc data (7 of 15 stems)


## Appendix 3b - Internal checking - Totals for checked trees (7 of $\mathbf{1 5}$ stems)




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[^1]:    * Adjusted to $12 \%$ m.c.

