



METADATA

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Abstract

This textbook refers to quality and uses of wood that is the main product of productive forests. Wood is a unique biological material utilized to a variety of products and wooden structures. The quality of unprocessed wood (round wood) is considered as a vital prerequisite for the production of qualitative final products after primary and secondary processing. The quality of wood is related to the particular structure and properties of each forest species and to the presence of defects. A special reference is made about the existed close relation of wood structure and chemical composition with quality, behavior and uses of wood. Wood has certain similarities amongst forest species, however significant differences, also, exist differentiating the quality and the degree of suitability of each wood for a variety of uses. The various species

are not equally suitable for all kinds of uses and, hence, every wood species has to be considered and investigated as different material. The good and exact knowledge of wood structure, properties and behavior are necessary in order the selection of wood species for each kind of use to be successful. The presence and intensity of defects lower the quality of wood and have a great significance in the way of wood utilization affecting the degree of wood suitability to certain uses. Moreover, the main characteristics of structure and the properties of most commercial timbers used worldwide as well as their uses are presented. The commercial value of each wood species depends on its availability, quality and suitability for a number of uses. Softwood and hardwood species with significant commercial importance on world basis are included.

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