



TASK: Characteristics of timber

Your trainer may ask you to complete this task as an assessment exercise. You may either answer the questions in writing, or record your own voice in an audio file.

Choose four species of timber that you work with. (If you don't handle four different species in your workplace, you may go to a local timber yard, or even include furniture or other timber items you have access to.)

For each species:

1. Record the following details in the table below:
 - (a) Standard trade name
 - (b) Botanical name
 - (c) Hardwood or softwood – that is, whether the timber is 'pored' or 'non-pored'
 - (d) Description of growth rings – colour, how distinctive they are, distance between the rings (if they are well marked)
 - (e) In-ground durability class – natural durability of the heartwood when in ground contact (and not preservative treated)
 - (f) Above ground durability class – natural durability of the heartwood when outdoors and above ground (and not preservative treated)
 - (g) Green density – density in kilograms per cubic metre when green
 - (h) Air dried density – density in kilograms per cubic metre when dried to 12% moisture content
2. Take one or more photos, showing the grain and other features that are characteristic of the species. You may submit digital or print photos. If you don't have access to a camera, you should do your own line drawings of the most distinctive features of the species, and describe in words what you've drawn.

Species 1	
(a) Standard trade name	
(b) Botanical name	
(c) Hardwood or softwood	
(d) Description of growth rings	
(e) In-ground durability	
(f) Above-ground durability	
(g) Green density	

Selecting timber

Characteristics of timber

(h) Air dried density	
-----------------------	--

Species 2

(a) Standard trade name	
(b) Botanical name	
(c) Hardwood or softwood	
(d) Description of growth rings	
(e) In-ground durability	
(f) Above-ground durability	
(g) Green density	
(h) Air dried density	

Species 3

(a) Standard trade name	
(b) Botanical name	
(c) Hardwood or softwood	
(d) Description of growth rings	
(e) In-ground durability	
(f) Above-ground durability	
(g) Green density	
(h) Air dried density	

Species 4

(a) Standard trade name	
(b) Botanical name	
(c) Hardwood or softwood	
(d) Description of growth rings	

Selecting timber

Characteristics of timber

(e) In-ground durability	
(f) Above-ground durability	
(g) Green density	
(h) Air dried density	

Sign-off

Name		Signature		Date	
-------------	--	------------------	--	-------------	--