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**ROUND AND SAWN TIMBER -
NOMENCLATURE OF TIMBERS USED IN
EUROPE**

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**Round and sawn timber - Nomenclature of timbers used in
Europe**

Bois ronds et bois sciés - Nomenclature des bois utilisés en
Europe

Rund- und Schnittholz - Nomenklatur der in Europa
verwendeten Handelshölzer

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 25 March 2003.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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Foreword

This document (EN 13556:2003) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 175 “Round and sawn timber”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by **December 2003**, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2003.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

EN 13556:2003 (E)

1 Scope

This European Standard lists commercial hardwood and softwood timbers used in Europe.

2 Nomenclature

2.1 General

The nomenclature is in two tables. Table 1 lists hardwoods (dicotyledons); Table 2 lists softwoods (gymnosperms). For each listed timber the following information is given.

Appendix I of The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) lists species, trading in which is prohibited.

In Table 1 and Table 2 such species are printed in bold and marked 'PROHIBITED SPECIES'.

2.2 The botanical name of species

When a commercial timber is produced by a single species or entirely, or for the most part, by two or three species, the species names are given, e.g. *Aningeria altissima* and *A. robusta*, *Betula pendula* and *B. pubescens*, *Guibourtia demeusei*, *G. pellegriniana* and *G. tessmannii*. When a commercial timber is the product of many species, the entry is the genus and the abbreviation spp., e.g. *Dipterocarpus* spp.

2.3 A four letter code

The first two letters refer to the genus, with a distinctive combination for each genus. The initial letter is always that of the initial letter of the genus and the second, so far as possible, another letter from the generic name, though in some instances this is not possible. The third and fourth letters refer to the species. Where a timber is produced only or principally by one species, distinctive letters from the species name are used. Where two or more species produce the same commercial timber, the designation XX is used. (The designation XX, rather than SP, is used as SP conventionally refers to a single species). Exceptions to this use of XX occur where a genus provides two or more distinctive timbers each provided by more than a single species; in this case the third and fourth letters of the code distinguish these timbers. Examples occur with *Quercus*, where QCXA, QCXE and QCXR are used for American white oak, European oak and American red oak respectively, and *Shorea*, where, among other combinations, SHRB and SHYM are used for red balau and yellow meranti respectively.

2.4 The region of origin of the timber

Indicated in an abbreviated form, using a notation where EU is for Europe, AF Africa, AM(N) North America, AM (C) Central America, AM(S) South America, AS Asia and AP for Australasia and Pacific Islands. An asterisk after the geographical origin indicates that the timber is commercially available from plantation growth elsewhere.

2.5 The standard name

In some instances, the names of well known timbers such as 'oak', 'cedar' or 'pine' with a geographical or other qualification, are used for timbers that have no botanical relationship with those properly so named. Names of this kind are distinguished by quotation marks to indicate that they are not true oaks, cedars or pines.

These names have become firmly established by long use (e.g. 'Tasmanian oak', 'Port Orford cedar', 'Parana pine') and where there is no suitable alternative the established name has been adopted as standard although it is botanically inappropriate. Although such names are used in these instances, this should not be taken as a precedent to justify the acceptance of similar names in future.

The lines in the tables are numbered to link codes and standard names to botanical species in the indexes.

Index A lists codes and line numbers

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