

Notes on the Pricing of Timber from Timber Merchants

Ernie Campbell (Foundation member of the WWA) - 1999

Picture a cubic meter of Honduras Mahogany – you are given the price, say of R10 200- per m³ (cubic meter). Now this does not mean much to the average man who wants to know the price of a board of Mahogany approximately 2m long by 150mm wide by 25mm thick. Here is a quick method of working out the cost of a board of this size – you will need a calculator:

If the price is R10200- per cubic meter, then a running meter of the board will cost $R10200- / 266.6 = R38-26$ – very accurate. (/ means divided-by)

The figure of 266.6 is derived by dividing the cross sectional area of a cubic meter by the cross-sectional area of the above board. This gives $(1000\text{mm} \times 1000\text{mm}) / (150\text{mm} \times 25\text{mm}) = 266.6$.

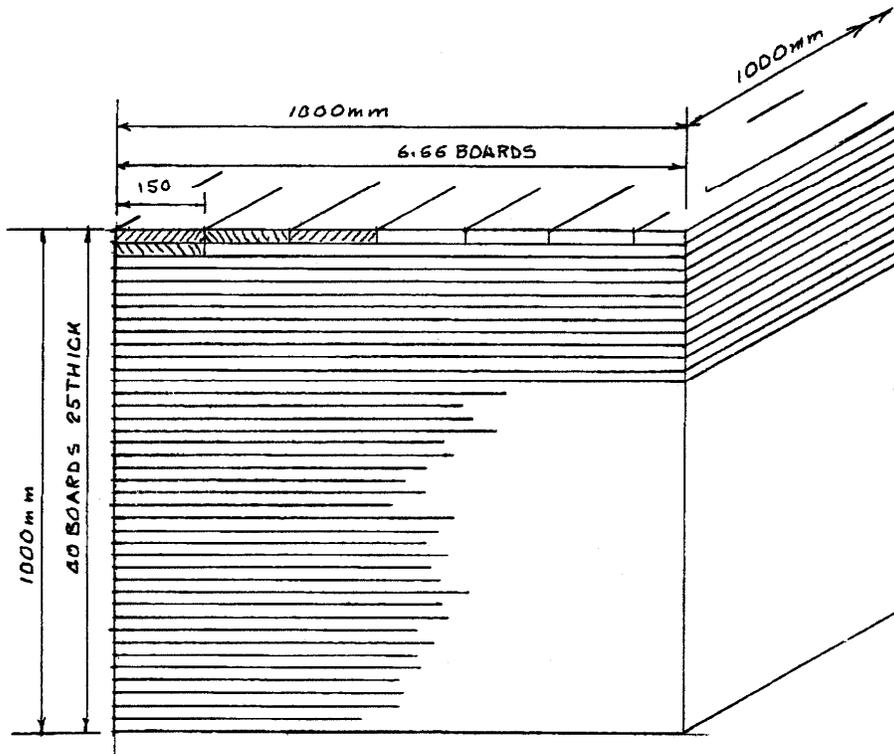
Hence if the board is 2m long, then the price will be $2 \times R38-26 = R78-52$. See the sketch.

Similarly, if the wood costs R10600- per cube, is 38mm thick and we want to find out the price per meter at 150mm wide, then we calculate a factor of 175.44. This factor is calculated by $(1000 \times 1000) / (150 \times 38) = 175.44$. The price per meter is then $R10600- / 175.44 = R60-42$.

Another example would be 50mm x 150mm wood – we have a factor of 133.3. As before, we calculate this from $(1000 \times 1000) / (150 \times 50) = 133.3$. So for a quoted price of R10750- per cube, the price of the board is $R10750 / 133.3 = R80.64$ per meter.

Of course VAT must be added and if required, the cost of planing. Some timber merchants do not offer this facility. If the buyer has no transport, then this will be extra.

When preparing a shopping list for solid timber, I have found that it is best to work out the number of square meters required for each thickness: 25mm, 38mm, etc. Remember, a square meter of 25mm material is $25 / 1000 = 1/40$ or 0.025 of a cubic meter. Similarly 38mm is 0.038 of a cube and 50mm is 0.050 of a cube.



ONE CUBIC METRE OF TIMBER
MADE UP WITH 25mm BOARDS.
ONE LAYER OF BOARDS = ONE SQ. METRE.
 \therefore COST OF $1m^2 = \frac{1}{40}$ TH. OR 0.025 OF $1m^3$.

ON PRICING OF TIMBER FOR W.W.A.

ERNIE

Survey

Following the visit from Skills to Furnish International, the committee has compiled a questionnaire to gauge interest in courses that could be offered.

Please indicate your area of interest in following a training program in the following areas and at what level, by circling one number in each row in the table below.

Name:			
	<u>Level</u>		
<u>Area</u>	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
Hand Skills	1	2	3
Wood Machining	1	2	3
Cabinet Making	1	2	3
Wood Finishing	1	2	3
Upholstery	1	2	3
Wood Turning	1	2	3
Other – specify:			

Wood Turning is not offered by SFI. Alternative arrangements will be looked at.

The information will be indicative of what interest there is. Once more details of the content of the courses are known, we will set up a program.

Please hand this page in at the next meeting to the secretary (Roger Matthews).
Alternatively, post this page to:

WWA Survey,
PostNet Suite 337,
Private Bag X30500,
Houghton 2041