WOOD DRYING QUALITY OF BEECH WOOD 25,0 MM IN THICKNESS

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ABSTRACT

Defining the final moisture content distribution across thickness of the beech boards during convective kiln drying has been studied. Boards from beech, 25,0 mm thick, 250 -300 mm wide and 1,80 long have been used as testing materials. The boards have been kiln dried from initial moisture content of 39,23 % to final moisture content of 9,13% for 15 days. In a drying schedule there are four stages: heating, active drying, equalizing and conditioning. The moisture content difference i.e. moisture content gradient between core and surface of the boards is 1,52 %.

It was found that by influence of schedule on moisture content distribution, it was possible for beech boards to achieve the ,"Q " drying quality according to the European Drying Group.

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