

Australian/New Zealand Standard[®]

Timber—Methods of Test

Method 1: Moisture content

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM/3, Timber Grading, to supersede AS 1080.1—1972, *Methods of testing timber*, Part 1: *Moisture content*.

This revision was undertaken to provide two methods for determining the moisture content of timber given in various Australian and New Zealand specifications for sawn, milled and joinery timber products. The oven-drying method is applicable when accuracy, rather than the time taken to obtain a result, is important; e.g. in the resolution of disputes, calibration of instruments or research work. The electrical resistance method gives less accurate results but can be used for routine monitoring.

This revision has resulted in changes to style, format and expression, which accommodate current editorial practice, and includes the following technical changes:

- (a) For the oven-dry method, forced draught or convection ovens are the preferred method of drying. Microwave ovens are not considered to be a suitable alternative.
- (b) Greater emphasis is placed on the application of apparatus that is not elaborate. The distillation and Karl Fischer titration methods are not included as both require involved laboratory apparatus.
- (c) Clauses on the correct use of resistance type electrical moisture meters are added, and tables for temperature and species correction are introduced.
- (d) Capacitance type meters are not included. They are increasingly used in the industry as they do not mark the timber; however, the factors that affect their use are different to those relevant to electrical resistance meters.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

METHOD

1 SCOPE This Standard describes two methods for determining the moisture content of solid timber.

NOTES:

- 1 For determination of the moisture content of plywood see AS 2098.1.
- 2 For determination of the moisture content of reconstituted wood based panels see AS 2098.3.
- 3 A bibliography is given in Appendix A.

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