Standard Test Methods for Small Clear Specimens of Timber

INTRODUCTION

The need to classify wood species by evaluating the physical and mechanical properties of small clear specimens has always existed. Because of the great variety of species, variability of the material, continually changing conditions of supply, many factors affecting test results, and ease of comparing variables, the need will undoubtedly continue to exist.

In the preparation of these methods for testing small clear specimens, consideration was given both to the desirability of adopting methods that would yield results comparable to those already available and to the possibility of embodying such improvements as experience has shown desirable. In view of the many thousands of tests made under a single comprehensive plan by the U.S. Forest Service, the former Forest Products Laboratories of Canada (now Forintek Canada Corp.), and other similar organizations, the methods naturally conform closely to the methods used by these institutions. These methods are the outgrowth of a study of both American and European experience and methods. The general adoption of these methods will tend toward a world-wide unification of results, permitting an interchange and correlation of data, and establishing the basis for a cumulative body of fundamental information on the timber species of the world.

Descriptions of some of the strength tests refer to primary methods and secondary methods. Primary methods provide for specimens of 2 by 2-in. (50 by 50-mm) cross-section. This size of specimen has been extensively used for the evaluation of various mechanical and physical properties of different species of wood, and a large number of data based on this primary method have been obtained and published.

The 2 by 2-in. (50 by 50-mm) size has the advantage in that it embraces a number of growth rings, is less influenced by earlywood and latewood differences than smaller size specimens, and is large enough to represent a considerable portion of the sampled material. It is advisable to use primary method specimens wherever possible. There are circumstances, however, when it is difficult or impossible to obtain clear specimens of 2 by 2-in. cross section having the required 30 in. (760 mm) length for static bending tests. With the increasing incidence of smaller second growth trees, and the desirability in certain situations to evaluate a material which is too small to provide a 2 by 2-in. cross-section, a secondary method which utilizes a 1 by 1-in. (25 by 25-mm) cross section has been included. This cross section is established for compression parallel to grain and static bending tests, while the 2 by 2-in. cross-section is retained for impact bending, compression perpendicular to grain, hardness, shear parallel to grain, cleavage, and tension perpendicular to grain. Toughness and tension parallel to grain are special tests using specimens of smaller cross section.

The user is cautioned that test results between two different sizes of specimens are not necessarily directly comparable. Guidance on the effect of specimen size on a property being evaluated is beyond the scope of these methods, and should be sought elsewhere.

Where the application, measurement, or recording of load and deflection can be accomplished using electronic equipment and computerized apparatus, such devices are encouraged, providing they do not lower the standard of accuracy and reliability available with basic mechanical equipment.
1. Scope

1.1 These methods cover the determination of various strength and related properties of wood by testing small clear specimens.

1.1.1 These methods represent procedures for evaluating the different mechanical and physical properties, controlling factors such as specimen size, moisture content, temperature, and rate of loading.

1.1.2 Sampling and collection of material is discussed in Practice D 5536. Sample data, computation sheets, and cards have been incorporated, which were of assistance to the investigator in systematizing records.

1.1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI values are given in parentheses and are provided for information only. When a weight is prescribed, the basic inch-pound unit of weight (lbf) and the basic SI unit of mass (Kg) are cited.

1.2 The procedures for the various tests appear in the following order:

- Photographs of Specimens
- Control of Moisture Content and Temperature
- Record of Heartwood and Sapwood
- Static Bending
- Compression Parallel to Grain
- Impact Bending
- Troughness
- Compression Perpendicular to Grain
- Hardness
- Shear Parallel to Grain
- Cleavage
- Tension Parallel to Grain
- Tension Perpendicular to Grain
- Nail Withdrawal
- Specific Gravity and Shrinkage in Volume
- Radial and Tangential Shrinkage
- Moisture Determination
- Permissible Variations
- Calibration

1.3 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:
- D 198 Methods for Static Tests of Timbers in Structural Sizes
- D 2395 Test Methods for Specific Gravity of Wood and Wood-Base Materials
- D 3043 Methods of Testing Structural Panels in Flexure
- D 3500 Test Method for Structural Panels in Tension
- D 4442 Test Methods for Direct Moisture Content Measurement of Wood and Wood-Base Materials
- D 4761 Test Method for Mechanical Properties of Lumber and Wood-Base Structural Material
- D 5536 Practice for Sampling the Forest Trees for Determination of Clear Wood Properties
- E 4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines

3. Summary of Methods

3.1 The mechanical tests are static bending, compression parallel to grain, impact bending toughness, compression perpendicular to grain, hardness, shear parallel to grain (Note 1), cleavage, tension parallel to grain, tension-perpendicular-to-grain, and nail-withdrawal tests. These tests may be made on both green and air-dry material as specified in these methods. In addition, methods for evaluating such physical properties as specific gravity, shrinkage in volume, radial shrinkage, and tangential shrinkage are presented.

Note 1—The test for shearing strength perpendicular to the grain (sometimes termed “vertical shear”) is not included as one of the principal mechanical tests since in such a test the strength is limited by the shear resistance parallel to the grain.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 These methods cover tests on small clear specimens of wood that are made to provide the following:

4.1.1 Data for comparing the mechanical properties of various species,

4.1.2 Data for the establishment of correct strength functions, which in conjunction with results of tests of timbers in structural sizes (see Methods D 198 and Test Method D 4761), afford a basis for establishing allowable stresses, and

4.1.3 Data to determine the influence on the mechanical properties of such factors as density, locality of growth, position in cross section, height of timber in the tree, change of properties with seasoning or treatment with chemicals, and change from sapwood to heartwood.

5. Photographs of Specimens

5.1 Four of the static bending specimens from each species shall be selected for photographing, as follows: two average growth, one fast growth, and one slow growth. These specimens shall be photographed in cross section and on the radial and tangential surfaces. Fig. 1 is a typical photograph of a cross section of 2 by 2-in. (50 by 50-mm) test specimens, and Fig. 2 is the tangential surface of such specimens.

6. Control of Moisture Content and Temperature

6.1 In recognition of the significant influence of temperature and moisture content on the strength of wood, it is highly desirable that these factors be controlled to ensure comparable test results.

6.2 Control of Moisture Content—Specimens for the test in the air-dry condition shall be dried to approximately constant weight before test. Should any changes in moisture content occur during final preparation of specimens, the specimens shall be reconditioned to constant weight before test. Tests shall be carried out in such manner that large changes in

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1 These methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D7 on Wood and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D07.01 on Fundamental Test Methods and Properties. Current edition approved May 15, 1994. Published July 1994. Originally published as D 143 – 22 T. Last previous edition D 143 – 83.


3 Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.01.
moisture content will not occur. To prevent such changes, it is desirable that the testing room and rooms for preparation of test specimens have some means of humidity control.

6.3 Control of Temperature—Temperature and relative humidity together affect wood strength by fixing its equilibrium moisture content. The mechanical properties of wood are also affected by temperature alone. When tested, the specimens shall be at a temperature of 68 ± 6°F (20 ± 3°C). The temperature at the time of test shall in all instances be recorded as a specific part of the test record.

7. Record of Heartwood and Sapwood

7.1 Proportion of Sapwood—The estimated proportion of sapwood present should be recorded for each test specimen.

8. Static Bending

8.1 Size of Specimens—The static bending tests shall be made on 2 by 2 by 30 in. (50 by 50 by 760 mm) primary method specimens or 1 by 1 by 16 in. (25 by 25 by 410 mm) secondary method specimens. The actual height and width at the center and the length shall be measured (see 22.2).

8.2 Loading Span and Supports—Use center loading and a span length of 28 in. (710 mm) for the primary method and 14 in. (360 mm) for the secondary method. These spans were established in order to maintain a minimum span-to-depth ratio of 14. Both supporting knife edges shall be provided with bearing plates and rollers of such thickness that the distance from the point of support to the central plane is not greater than the depth of the specimen (Fig. 3). The knife edges shall be adjustable laterally to permit adjustment for slight twist in the specimen (Note 2).

**Note 2**—Details of laterally adjustable supports may be found in Fig. 1 of Methods D 3043.

8.3 Bearing Block—A bearing block of the form and size of that shown in Fig. 4 shall be used for applying the load for
primary method specimens. A block having a radius of 1 1/2 in.
(38 mm) for a chord length of not less than 2 in. (50 mm) shall
be used for secondary method specimens.

8.4 Placement of Growth Rings—The specimen shall be
placed so that the load will be applied through the bearing
block to the tangential surface nearest the pith.

8.5 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continu-
ously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable
crosshead of 0.10 in. (2.5 mm)/min (see 22.3), for primary
method specimens, and at a rate of 0.05 in. (1.3 mm)/min for
secondary method specimens.

8.6 Load-Deflection Curves:

8.6.1 Load-deflection curves shall be recorded to or beyond
the maximum load for all static bending tests. The curves shall
be continued to a 6 in. (150 mm) deflection, or until the
specimen fails to support a load of 200 lbf (890 N) for primary
method specimens and to a 3 in. (76 mm) deflection or until the
specimen fails to support a load of 50 lbf (220 N) for secondary
method specimens.

8.6.2 Deflections of the neutral plane at the center of the
length shall be taken with respect to points in the neutral plane
above the supports. Alternatively, deflection may be taken
relative to the tension surface at midspan. However, take care
to ensure that vertical displacements which may occur at the
reactions are accounted for.

8.6.3 Within the proportional limit, deflection readings shall
be taken to 0.001 in. (0.02 mm). After the proportional limit is
reached, less refinement is necessary in observing deflections,
but it is convenient to read them by means of the dial gage (Fig.
3) until it reaches the limit of its capacity, normally approxi-

FIG. 3 Static Bending Test Assembly Showing Method of Load Application, Specimen Supported on Rollers and Laterally Adjustable
Knife Edges, and Method of Measuring Deflection at Neutral Axis by Means of Yoke and Dial Attachment (Adjustable scale mounted on
loading head is used to measure increments of deformation beyond the dial capacity.)

FIG. 4 Details of Bearing Block for Static Bending Tests
8.6.4 The load and deflection of first failure, the maximum load, and points of sudden change shall be read and shown on the curve sheet (Note 3) although they may not occur at one of the regular load or deflection increments.

Note 3—See Fig. 5 for a sample static bending data sheet form.

8.7 Description of Static Bending Failures—Static bending (flexural) failures shall be classified in accordance with the appearance of the fractured surface and the manner in which the failure develops (Fig. 6). The fractured surfaces may be roughly divided into “brash” and “fibrous”, the term “brash” indicating abrupt failure and “fibrous” indicating a fracture showing splinters.

8.8 Weight and Moisture Content—The specimen shall be weighed immediately before test, and after the test a moisture section approximately 1 in. (25 mm) in length shall be cut from the specimen near the point of failure. (see 21.1 and 22.1).
9. Compression Parallel to Grain

9.1 Size of Specimens—The compression-parallel-to-grain tests shall be made on 2 by 2 by 8 in. (50 by 50 by 200 mm) primary method specimens, or 1 by 1 by 4 in. (25 by 25 by 100 mm) secondary method specimens. The actual cross-sectional dimensions and the length shall be measured (see 22.2).

9.2 End Surfaces Parallel—Special care shall be used in preparing the compression-parallel-to-grain test specimens to ensure that the end grain surfaces will be parallel to each other and at right angles to the longitudinal axis. At least one platen of the testing machine shall be equipped with a spherical bearing to obtain uniform distribution of load over the ends of the specimen.

9.3 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.003 in./in. (mm/mm) of nominal specimen length/min (see 22.3).

9.4 Load-Compression Curves:

9.4.1 Load-compression curves shall be taken over a central gage length not exceeding 6 in. (150 mm) for primary method specimens, and 2 in. (50 mm) for secondary method speci-
mens. Load-compression readings shall be continued until the proportional limit is well passed, as indicated by the curve (Note 4).

NOTE 4—See Fig. 7 for a sample compression-parallel-to-grain data sheet form.

9.4.2 Deformations shall be read to 0.0001 in. (0.002 mm).

9.4.3 Figs. 8 and 9 illustrate two types of compressometers that have been found satisfactory for wood testing. Similar apparatus is available for measurements of compression over a 2 in. (50 mm) gage length.

9.5 Position of Test Failures—In order to obtain satisfactory and uniform results, it is necessary that the failures be made to develop in the body of the specimen. With specimens of uniform cross section, this result can best be obtained when the ends are at a very slightly lower moisture content than the body. With green material, it will usually suffice to close-pile the specimens, cover the body with a damp cloth, and expose the ends for a short time. For dry material, it may sometimes be advisable to pile the specimens in a similar manner and place them in a desiccator, should the failures in test indicate that a slight end-drying is necessary.

9.6 Descriptions of Compression Failures—Compression failures shall be classified in accordance with the appearance of the fractured surface (Fig. 10). In case two or more kinds of failures develop, all shall be described in the order of their occurrence; for example, shearing followed by brooming. The failure shall also be sketched in its proper position on the data sheet.

9.7 Weight and Moisture Content—See 8.8.

9.8 Ring and Latewood Measurement—When practicable, the number of rings per inch (average ring width in millimetres) and the proportion of summerwood shall be measured over a representative inch (centimetre) of cross section of the test specimen. In determining the proportion of summerwood, it is essential that the end surface be prepared so as to permit accurate latewood measurement. When the fibers are broomed over at the ends from sawing, a light sanding, planing, or similar treatment of the ends is recommended.

10. Impact Bending

10.1 Size of Specimens—The impact bending tests shall be made on 2 by 2 by 30 in. (50 by 50 by 760 mm) specimens. The actual height and width at the center and the length shall be measured (see 22.2).

10.2 Loading and Span—Use center loading and a span length of 28 in. (710 mm).

10.3 Bearing Block—A metal tup of curvature corresponding to the bearing block shown in Fig. 4 shall be used in applying the load.

10.4 Placement of Growth Rings—The specimen shall be placed so that the load will be applied through the bearing block to the tangential surface nearest the pith.

10.5 Procedure—Make the tests by increment drops in a Hatt-Turner or similar impact machine (see Fig. 11). The first drop shall be 1 in. (25 mm), after which increase the drops by 1 in. increments until a height of 10 in. (250 mm) is reached. Then use a 2 in. (50 mm) increment until complete failure occurs or a 6 in. (150 mm) deflection is reached.
10.6 **Weight of Hammer**—A 50 lbf (22.5 kg) hammer shall be used when, with drops up to the capacity of the machine (about 68 in. (1.7 m) for the small Hatt-Turner impact machine), it is practically certain that complete failure or a 6 in. (150 mm) deflection will result for all specimens of a species. For all other cases, a 100 lbf (45 kg) hammer shall be used.

10.7 **Deflection Records**—When desired, graphical drum records (Note 5) giving the deflection for each drop and the set, if any, shall be made until the first failure occurs. This record will also afford data from which the exact height of drop can be scaled for at least the first four falls.

**FIG. 7 Sample Data Sheet for Compression-Parallel-to-Grain Test**

**Note 5**—See Fig. 12 for a sample drum record.

10.8 **Drop Causing Failure**—The height of drop causing either complete failure or a 6 in. (150 mm) deflection shall be observed for each specimen.

10.9 **Description of Failure**—The failure shall be sketched on the data sheet (Note 6) and described in accordance with the directions for static bending in 8.7.

**Note 6**—See Fig. 13 for a sample impact bending data sheet form. Fig. 14 shows a sample data and computation card.

10.10 **Weight and Moisture Content**—See 8.8.
11. Toughness

11.1 A single-blow impact test on a small specimen is recognized as a valuable and desirable test. Several types of machines such as the Toughness, Izod and Amalser have been used, but insufficient information is available to decide whether one procedure is superior to another, or whether the results by the different methods can be directly correlated. If the Toughness machine is used, the following procedure has been found satisfactory. To aid in standardization and to facilitate comparisons, the size of the toughness specimen has been made equal to that accepted internationally.

11.2 Size of Specimen—The toughness tests shall be made on 0.79 by 0.79 by 11 in. (20 by 20 by 280 mm) specimens. The actual height and width at the center and the length shall be measured (see 22.2).

11.3 Loading and Span—Center loading and a span length of 9.47 in. (240 mm) shall be used. The load shall be applied to a radial or tangential surface on alternate specimens.

11.4 Bearing Block—An aluminum tup (Fig. 15) having a radius of 3/4 in. (19 mm) shall be used in applying the load.

11.5 Apparatus and Procedure—Make the tests in a pendulum type toughness machine (Note 7) (See Fig. 15). Adjust the machine before test so that the pendulum hangs vertically, and adjust it to compensate for friction. Adjust the cable so that the load is applied to the specimen when the pendulum swings to 15° from the vertical, so as to produce complete failure by the time the downward swing is completed. Choose the weight position and initial angle (30, 45, or 60°) of the pendulum, so that complete failure of the specimen is obtained on one drop. Most satisfactory results are obtained when the difference between the initial and final angle is at least 10°.

Note 7—Many pendulum-type toughness machines are based on a design developed and used at the USDA Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin.

11.6 Calculation—The initial and final angle shall be read to the nearest 0.1° by means of the vernier (Fig. 15) attached to the machine (Note 8).

Note 8—See Fig. 16 for sample data and computation sheet for the toughness test.

The toughness shall then be calculated as follows:

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T = wL(\cos A_2 - \cos A_1)
\]  

(1)
Crushing
This term shall be used when the plane of rupture is approximately horizontal.

Wedge Split
The direction of the split, that is whether radial or tangential, shall be noted.

Shearing
This term shall be used when the plane rupture makes an angle of more than 45 deg with the top of the specimen.

Splitting
This type of failure usually occurs in specimens having internal defects prior to test and shall be the basis for culling the specimen.

Compression and Shearing Parallel to Grain
This failure usually occurs in cross-grained pieces and shall be the basis for culling the specimen.

Brooming or End-Rolling
This type of failure is usually associated with either an excess moisture content at the ends of the specimen, improper cutting of the specimen, or both. This is not an acceptable type of failure and usually is associated with a reduced load. Consideration should be given to remedial conditions when this type of failure is observed.

FIG. 10 Types of Failures in Compression

where:
T = toughness (work per specimen, in. · lbf (Nm),
w = weight of pendulum, lbf (N),
L = distance from center of the supporting axis to center of gravity of the pendulum, in. (m),
A_1 = initial angle (Note 9), degrees, and
A_2 = final angle the pendulum makes with the vertical after failure of the test specimen, degrees.

Note 9—Since friction is compensated for in the machine adjustment, the initial angle may be regarded as exactly 30, 45, or 60°, as the case may be.

11.7 Weight and Moisture Content—The specimen shall be weighed immediately before test, and after test a moisture section approximately 2 in. (50 mm) in length shall be cut from the specimen near the failure (see 21.1 and 22.1).

12. Compression Perpendicular to Grain

12.1 Size of Specimens—The compression-perpendicular-to-grain tests shall be made on 2 by 2 by 6 in. (50 by 50 by 150 mm) specimens. The actual height, width, and length shall be measured (see 22.2).

12.2 Loading—The load shall be applied through a metal bearing plate 2 in. (50 mm) in width, placed across the upper surface of the specimen at equal distances from the ends and at right angles to the length (Fig. 17). The actual width of the bearing plate shall be measured (see 22.2).
12.3 Placement of Growth Rings—The specimens shall be placed so that the load will be applied through the bearing plate to a radial surface.

12.4 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.012 in. (0.305 mm)/min (see 22.3).

12.5 Load-Compression Curves:

12.5.1 Load-compression curves (Note 10) shall be taken for all specimens up to 0.1 in. (2.5 mm) compression, after which the test shall be discontinued. Compression shall be measured between the loading surfaces.

NOTE 10—See Fig. 18 for a sample compression-perpendicular-to-grain data sheet form.

12.5.2 Deflection readings shall be taken to 0.0001 in. (0.002 mm).

12.6 Weight and Moisture Content—The specimen shall be weighed immediately before test, and after test a moisture section approximately 1 in. (25 mm) in length shall be cut adjacent to the part under load (see 21.1 and 22.1).
13. Hardness

13.1 Size of Specimens—The hardness tests shall be made on 2 by 2 by 6 in. (50 by 50 by 150 mm) specimens. The actual cross-sectional dimensions and length shall be measured (see 22.2).

13.2 Procedure—Use the modified ball test with a “ball” 0.444 in. (11.3 mm) in diameter for determining hardness (Fig. 19). The projected area of the ball on the test specimen is 1 cm². Record the load at which the ball has penetrated to one half its diameter, as determined by an electric circuit indicator or by the tightening of the collar against the specimen.

13.3 Number of Penetrations—Two penetrations shall be made on a tangential surface, two on a radial surface, and one on each end. The choice between the two radial and between the two tangential surfaces shall be such as to give a fair average of the piece. The penetrations shall be far enough from the edge to prevent splitting or chipping (Note 11).

NOTE 11—See Fig. 20 for a sample data and computation sheet for hardness test.

13.4 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.25 in. (6 mm/min) (see 22.3).
13.5 Weight and Moisture Content—The specimen shall be weighed immediately before the test, and after the test a moisture section approximately 1 in. (25 mm) in length shall be cut (see 21.1 and 22.1).

14. Shear Parallel to Grain

14.1 This section describes one method of making the shear-parallel-to-grain test that has been extensively used and found satisfactory.

14.2 Size of Specimens—The shear-parallel-to-grain tests shall be made on a 2 by 2 by 2 1/2 in. (50 by 50 by 63 mm) specimens notched in accordance with Fig. 21 to produce failure on a 2 by 2 in. (50 by 50 mm) surface. The actual dimensions of the shearing surface shall be measured (see 22.2).

14.3 Procedure—Use a shear tool similar to that illustrated in Fig. 22, providing a 1/8 in. (3 mm) offset between the inner edge of the supporting surface and the plane of the adjacent edge of the loading surface. Apply the load to and support the specimen on end-grain surfaces. Take care in placing the specimen in the shear tool to see that the crossbar is adjusted, so that the edges of the specimen are vertical and the end rests evenly on the support over the contact area. Observe the maximum load only.

14.4 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.024 in. (0.6 mm)/min (see 22.3).

14.5 Test Failures—The failure shall be sketched on the datasheet (Note 12). In all cases where the failure at the base of the specimen extends back onto the supporting surface, the test shall be culled.

NOTE 12—See Fig. 23 for a sample data and computation sheet for the tangential-shear-parallel-to-grain test.

14.6 Moisture Content—The portion of the test piece that is sheared off shall be used as a moisture specimen (see 21.1 and 22.1).
15. Cleavage

15.1 Size of Specimens—The cleavage tests shall be made on specimens of the form and size in accordance with Fig. 24. The actual width and length at minimum section shall be measured (see 22.2).

15.2 Procedure—The specimens shall be held during test in grips as shown in Figs. 25 and 26. Observe the maximum load only.

15.3 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.10 in/ (2.5 mm)/min (see 22.3).

15.4 Sketch of Failure—The failure shall be sketched on the data sheet (Note 13).

Note 13—See Fig. 27 for a sample data and computation sheet for the cleavage test.

15.5 Moisture Content—One of the pieces remaining after failure, or a section split along the surface of failure, shall be used as a moisture specimen (see 21.1 and 22.1).

16. Tension Parallel to Grain

16.1 One method of determining the tension-parallel-to-grain strength of wood is given in the following procedure.

16.2 Size of Specimens—The tension-parallel-to-grain tests shall be made on specimens of the size and shape in accordance with Fig. 28. The specimen shall be so oriented that the direction of the annual rings at the critical section on the ends of the specimens, shall be perpendicular to the greater cross-sectional dimension. The actual cross-sectional dimensions at minimum section shall be measured (see 22.2).

16.3 Procedure:

16.3.1 Fasten the specimen in special grips (Fig. 29). Deformation shall be measured over a 2 in. (50 mm) central gauge length on all specimens. Take load-extension readings until the proportional limit is passed.

16.3.2 Read deformations to 0.0001 in. (0.002 mm).

16.3.3 Fig. 29 illustrates gripping devices and a type of extensometer that have been found satisfactory.

16.4 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.05 in (1 mm)/min (see 22.3).

16.5 Sketch of Failure—The failure shall be sketched on the data sheet (Note 14).

Note 14—See Fig. 30 for a sample tension-parallel-to-grain-data and computation sheet.

16.6 Moisture Content—A moisture section about 3 in. (76 mm) in length shall be cut from the reduced section near the failure (see 21.1 and 22.1).

17. Tension Perpendicular to Grain

17.1 Size of Specimens—The tension-perpendicular-to-grain tests shall be made on specimens of the size and shape in accordance with Fig. 31. The actual width and length at minimum sections shall be measured (see 22.2).

17.2 Procedure—Fasten the specimens during test in grips as shown in Figs. 32 and 33. Observe the maximum load only.

17.3 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.10 in. (2.5 mm)/min (see 22.3).

17.4 Sketch of Failure—The failure shall be sketched on the data sheet (Note 15).

Note 15—See Fig. 34 for a sample data and computation sheet for the tension-perpendicular-to-grain test.

17.5 Moisture Content—One of the pieces remaining after failure or a section split along the surface of failure, shall be used as a moisture specimen (see 21.1 and 22.1).

18. Nail Withdrawal

18.1 Nails—Nails used for withdrawal tests shall be 0.0985 in. (2.5 mm) in diameter (Note 16). Bright diamond-point nails shall be used. All nails shall be cleaned before use to remove any coating or surface film that may be present as a result of manufacturing operations. Each nail shall be used once.

Note 16—A fivepenny common nail meets this requirement. If difficulty is experienced with high-density woods in pulling the nails without breaking the heads, a sevenpenny cement-coated sinker nail with coating removed by use of a suitable solvent, may be used.

18.2 Preparation of Specimens—Nails shall be driven at right angles to the face of the specimen to a total penetration of 1 1/4 in. (32 mm). Two nails shall be driven on a tangential surface, two on a radial surface, and one on each end. The choice between the two radial and two tangential surfaces shall be such as to give a fair average of the piece. On radial and tangential faces, the nails shall be driven a sufficient distance from the edges and ends of the specimen to avoid splitting. In general, nails should not be driven closer than ¼ in. (19 mm) from the edge or ½ in. (38 mm) from the end of a piece. The two nails on a radial or tangential face should not be driven in line with each other or less than 2 in. (50 mm) apart.

18.3 Procedure—Withdraw all six nails in a single specimen immediately after driving. Fasten the specimens during the test in grips as shown in Figs. 35 and 36. Observe the maximum load only (Note 16).
18.4 Speed of Testing—The load shall be applied continuously throughout the test at a rate of motion of the movable crosshead of 0.075 in. (2 mm)/min (see 22.3).

18.5 Weight and Moisture Content—The specimen shall be weighed immediately before driving the nails. After the test, a moisture section approximately 1 in. (25 mm) in length shall be cut from specimen (see 21.1 and 22.1).

19. Specific Gravity and Shrinkage in Volume (Note 17)

Note 17—See Fig. 37 for sample nail-withdrawal test data sheet form.

19.1 Size of Specimens—The specific gravity and shrinkage in volume tests shall be made on green 2 by 2 by 6 in. (50 by 50 by 150 mm) specimens. The actual cross-sectional dimensions and length shall be measured (see 22.2).

19.2 Procedure:

19.2.1 Obtain both specific gravity and shrinkage-in-volume determinations on the same specimen. Make these determinations at approximately 12% moisture content and at the oven-dry condition (Test Methods D 2395).

19.2.2 A carbon impression of the end of the green specimen may be made on the back of the data sheet (Note 18). In like manner, a carbon impression of the same end may be made after the specimen has been conditioned.
20. Radial and Tangential Shrinkage

20.1 Size of Specimens—The radial and tangential shrinkage determinations shall be made on green 1 by 4 by 1 in. (25 by 100 by 25 mm) specimens cut from 1 by 4-in. (25 by 100-mm) boards, edge grain and flat grain, respectively.

20.2 Initial Measurement—The length of all specimens shall be measured.

20.3 Weight—The specimen shall be weighed when green and after subsequent oven-drying (see 21.1).

20.4 Drying:

20.4.1 The green specimens shall be open-piled and allowed to air-season under room conditions to a uniform moisture content of approximately 12 %.

20.4.2 After weighing and measuring, the specimens shall then be open-piled in an oven and dried at 103 ± 2°C until approximately constant mass is attained (Test Methods D 4442).

20.5 Final Measurement—Measurements of mass and length shall be made on the oven-dry specimens (see Note 18).

NOTE 20—See Fig. 40 for a sample data and computation sheet for the radial and tangential-shrinkage test.

20.6 Method of Measurement—Fig. 41 illustrates the method of making the radial and tangential shrinkage measurements. An ordinary micrometer of required accuracy is suitable for this work (see 22.2).

21. Moisture Determination

21.1 Selection—The sample for moisture determinations of each test specimen shall be selected as described for each test.

21.2 Weighing—Immediately after obtaining the moisture sample, all loose splinters shall be removed and the sample shall be weighed (see 22.1).

21.3 Drying—The moisture samples shall be open-piled in an oven and dried at a temperature of 103 ± 2°C until approximately constant mass is attained, after which the oven-dry mass shall be determined.

21.4 Moisture Content—The loss in mass, expressed in percent of the oven-dry mass as determined, shall be considered the moisture content of the specimen.

22. Mass and Permissible Variations

22.1 Mass—The mass of test specimens and of moisture samples shall be determined to an accuracy of not less than 0.2 %.

22.2 Measurements—Measurements of test specimens shall be made to an accuracy of not less than 0.3 %, except that in no case shall the measurements be made to less than 0.01 in. (0.25 mm). However, measurements of radial and tangential shrinkage specimens shall be made to the nearest 0.001 in. (0.02 mm).

22.3 Testing Machine Speeds—The testing machine speed used should not vary by more than 25 % from that specified for a given test. If the specified speed cannot be obtained, the speed used shall be recorded on the data sheet. The crosshead speed shall mean the free-running or no-load speed of crosshead for testing machines of the mechanical drive type and the loaded crosshead speed for testing machines of the hydraulic loading type.

23. Calibration

23.1 All apparatus used in obtaining data shall be calibrated at sufficiently frequent intervals to ensure accuracy (Practices E 4).

24. Precision and Bias

24.1 Statements of precision and bias for the tests have not yet been developed.
### FIG. 20 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Hardness Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STICK NO</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>MOIST. %</th>
<th>SURFACE</th>
<th>TANGENTIAL</th>
<th>END</th>
<th>SURFACE</th>
<th>TANGENTIAL</th>
<th>END</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
<th>SKETCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23-V-D</td>
<td>6.02 x 1.99 x 1.99</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>475.4</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-E-B-C</td>
<td>6.04 x 1.99 x 1.99</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### FIG. 21 Shear-Parallel-to-Grain Test Specimen

**Metric Equivalents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in.</th>
<th>0.254</th>
<th>50.8</th>
<th>25.4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mm</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### 25. Keywords

25.1 clear specimens; small clear specimens; timber; wood
FIG. 22 Shear-Parallel-to-Grain Test Assembly Showing Method of Load Application Through Adjustable Seat to Provide Uniform Lateral Distribution of Load
FIG. 23 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Shear-Parallel-to-Grain Test

FIG. 24 Cleavage Test Specimen
NOTE 1—Two pieces included in one set:
One piece with shank 8 in. long.
One piece with shank 5½ in. long.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric Equivalents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 1/8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIG. 25 Cleavage Test Assembly

FIG. 26 Design Details of Grips for Cleavage Test
FIG. 27 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Cleavage Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STICK NO</th>
<th>CLEAVAGE FLAT</th>
<th>CLEAVAGE AREA</th>
<th>MAXIMUM LOAD</th>
<th>LOAD PER INCH OF LENGTH</th>
<th>MOISTURE CONTENT</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
<th>SKETCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22-N-6-0</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>3.03 x 2.004</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-N-6-0</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>3.03 x 2.007</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIES: PACIFIC SILVER FIR  
STATION: MATHILDE  
SHIPMENT NO: 1651  
DATE: JAN. 17, 1951  
TESTED BY:  
TEMP: 75°  
REL. HUMIDITY: 64%  
MEASURED BY:  
WEIGHED BY:  
MACHINE NO: 4269  
MACHINE SPEED: 0.1150  
LABORATORY NO: REFORMA-46A  
COST CHARGE: D-2-006  
SEASONING: GREEN  
PROJECT: SIR 11.

D 143 – 94 (2000)
FIG. 28 Tension-Parallel-to-Grain Test Specimen

Metric Equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in</th>
<th>3/16</th>
<th>1/4</th>
<th>3/8</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2 1/2</th>
<th>3 1/4</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>17 1/2</th>
<th>18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mm</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D 143 – 94 (2000)
FIG. 29 Tension-Parallel-to-Grain Test Assembly Showing Grips and Use of 2 in. (50-mm) Gage Length Extensometer for Measuring Deformation
FIG. 30 Sample Data Sheet for Tension-Parallel-to-Grain Test

FIG. 31 Tension-Perpendicular-to-Grain Test Specimen
FIG. 32 Tension-Perpendicular-to-Grain Test Assembly

Note 1—Two pieces included in one set:
One marked A.
One marked B.
Scale-Full Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric Equivalents</th>
<th>in.</th>
<th>mm</th>
<th>in.</th>
<th>mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>114</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIG. 33 Design Details of Grips for Tension-Perpendicular-to-Grain Test
**FIG. 34 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Tension-Perpendicular-to-Grain Test**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stick No.</th>
<th>Tension Surface</th>
<th>Tension Area L&quot; x W&quot;</th>
<th>Maximum Load LB</th>
<th>Tensile Strength PSI</th>
<th>Moisture Content %</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
<th>Sketch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22-N-6-D</td>
<td>R.</td>
<td>0.98 x 2.011</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-N-6-D</td>
<td>T.</td>
<td>1.00 x 2.001</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Metric Equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in.</th>
<th>mm</th>
<th>in.</th>
<th>mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>5/16</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>7/16</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1 3/16</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>1 7/16</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3 1/16</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7 1/2</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIG. 35 Design Details of Grip for Nail Withdrawal Test

FIG. 36 Nail Withdrawal Test Assembly Showing Specimen in Position for Withdrawal of Nail Driven in One End of the Specimen
**FIG. 37 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Nail Withdrawal Test**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STICK NO</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>COST SP</th>
<th>RADIAL SURFACE</th>
<th>TANGENTIAL SURFACE</th>
<th>END SURFACE</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
<th>SKETCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23-N-5</td>
<td>C6.05X1.996X1.989</td>
<td>326.8, 77.7, 46.8</td>
<td>180, 210, 105</td>
<td>175, 200, 110</td>
<td>178, 202, 108</td>
<td>182, 165, 92</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-N-7</td>
<td>C6.09X1.996X1.994</td>
<td>241.5, 47.5, 91.6</td>
<td>180, 175, 110</td>
<td>185, 155, 75</td>
<td>182, 165, 92</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SPECIFIC GRAVITY AND VOLUMETRIC SHRINKAGE**

**SPECIES**: Pacific Silver Fir

**PROJECT**: Skil.

**COST CHARGE**: 01:3-005

**LABORATORY NO.**: 2838004-0951

**SHIPMENT NO.**: 1651

---

**STICK NO.** | **DIMENSIONS** | **SEASONING** | **DATE** | **MOIS PER INCH** | **SAP** | **SUMMER WOOD** | **WEIGHT** | **MOISTURE** | **VOLUME** | **SPECIFIC GRAVITY** | **WEIGHT PER CU.FT.** | **VOLUMETRIC SHRINKAGE** |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
22-N-4-C | 60.5 x 200 | GREEN | 1-9-81 | 18 | 0 | 201.3 | 34.3 | 393.8 | 38.1 |
22-S-5-C | 60.3 x 200 | GREEN | 1-9-81 | 17 | 0 | 223.1 | 55.5 | 392.6 | 36.6 |

**REMARKS**

---

**NOTE**: Use back of sheet for carbon impressions.

* Based on original volume (green, air-dry or kiln-dry).

**FIG. 38 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Specific Gravity and Shrinkage-in-Volume Test**
FIG. 39 Specific Gravity and Shrinkage-in-Volume Test Set-Up
## D 143 – 94 (2000)*

**FIG. 40 Sample Data and Computation Sheet for Radial- and Tangential-Shrinkage Tests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STICK NO.</th>
<th>NOM. MIL.</th>
<th>SIZING DIRECTION</th>
<th>SEASONING</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RINGS PER INCH</th>
<th>SYP</th>
<th>THICKNESS WOOD</th>
<th>WIDTH</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>MOISTURE</th>
<th>SHRINKAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 - 2 - CD</td>
<td>1 X 1 X 4</td>
<td>H.</td>
<td>GREEN</td>
<td>12/26/30</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.997</td>
<td>35.50</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AIR-DRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.784</td>
<td>22.50</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OVEN-DRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.828</td>
<td>22.50</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 2 - CD</td>
<td>1 X 1 X 4</td>
<td>T.</td>
<td>GREEN</td>
<td>12/26/30</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.995</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AIR-DRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.802</td>
<td>28.50</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OVEN-DRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.802</td>
<td>28.50</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIG. 41 Radial- and Tangential-Shrinkage Test Assembly

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