

Southland Maple & Cherry Beech Technical Properties

Southland Beech Timber Technical Properties

Lindsay & Dixon markets Southland Beech (*Nothofagus menziesii*) under the names Maple and Cherry Beech.

Southland Beech steam bends easily, is lightweight and easily worked. It is suitable for all interior applications without the need for treatment.

Maple Beech (*Nothofagus Menziesii*)

Traditionally this species has been referred to as Silver Beech in New Zealand. Lindsay & Dixon's supply is from second crop rotation forest with an average age of 75-80 years, the wood has a very consistent lighter colour, similar in appearance to American Maple. To reflect these characteristics and customer preference, Lindsay & Dixon market this species as Southland Maple Beech.

Maple Beech falls under the general classification of a medium density hardwood. Uniformity of density within and between logs is an outstanding feature of our resource.

Cherry Beech (*Nothofagus Menziesii*)

As the name suggests this is a very attractive pink to red coloured timber and is the same botanical species as Maple Beech. This material is carefully selected, steamed under a pressure vacuum and then kiln dried. This process highlights the attractive grain and enhances the colour of the species and ensures good stability in the end product.

General Description

The Beech species are anatomically similar to American Maple, Cherry, Birch and European Beech. There are also distinct similarities to the highly valued European Pearwood in both timber and veneer. Southland Beech has the desirable properties of fine even texture and characteristics of even wearing, good machining, turning and finishing qualities.

Once fully seasoned, Southland Beech is extremely stable, and less prone to wood tension, splitting, warping or collapse than other hardwoods. Beech machines well, with minimal sanding needed to achieve a high quality finish, and also stains, polishes, paints and glues well. Naturally resistant to borer, New Zealand beech also provides an attractive option for architects seeking a chemical free environment.

Seasoning: Southland Beech kiln dries easily with stable results

Physical Properties

Basic Density	450 – 480 kg per m ³
Air Dry Density	550 – 600 kg per m ³
Shrinkage- radial	3.1 – 3.7%
Shrinkage- tangential	5.7 – 6.9%

Mechanical Properties

Modulus of Rapture	79 N per mm ²
Modulus of Elasticity	10200 N per mm ²
Maximum crushing strength	38 N / mm ²
Compression strength perpendicular to grain	5.2 N / mm ²
Share strength parallel to grain	8.6 N / mm ²
Durability	Moderate

General Specification of Sawn Timber (not yet profiled)

Width (mm)	50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 200
Thickness (mm)	25, 32, 40, 50
Squares (mm)	65 x 65, 75 x 75, 100 x 100
Lengths (mm)	900 – 4200 (average: 2400)