

Standard Grading Rules for Southern Pine Lumber

Management of Change Form



Background Information

Name of Person Requesting the Change: Multiple

Date of Requested Change: 4Q2024

Request Title: Radius Edge Decking (Section 420) Clarifications - Pitch Pockets & Pitch Streaks

Printed Date: 2Q25

Change Category

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposal to align with National Grading Rule | <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal to align with SPIB governance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal to align with ALSC Enforcement Regs | <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal based Resource Monitoring Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal to align with PS 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade Rule - Addition |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Editorial change to existing content | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade Rule – Removal |

Description of Proposed Change

There is a need to clarify that equivalent areas are allowable when grading pockets and pitch streaks in both Premium and Standard grades of Radius Edge Decking.

Rationale

Radius Edge Decking, while not an NGR-regulated product, utilizes NGR language/sizes to describe the allowable pocket (“medium”) and allowable pitch streak sizes (1/6 nominal width x 1/3 length) in both Premium and Standard grades. The NGR allows equivalent areas when grading these defects, but this is not made clear in the language of section 420.

Proposal

Add the phrase, “with equivalent areas being permissible” at the end of each defect description.

Supporting Information

Example of proposed modified text (Section 422, Premium R.E.D):

Pitch Pockets and **Bark Pockets** – medium (1/16" in width and 12" in length, or 1/8" in width and 8" in length, or 3/8" in width and 4" in length), **with equivalent areas being permissible**

Pitch Streaks – 1/6 nominal width by 1/3 length, **with equivalent areas being permissible**

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Supporting Information (Continued)

NGR Pocket and Pitch Streak definitions:

730 PITCH STREAK - Is a well-defined accumulation of pitch in the wood cells in a streak. Pitch streaks are described as follows, with equivalent areas being permissible: (a) Very small pitch streak $\frac{3}{8}$ " in width and 15" in length. (b) Small pitch streak $\frac{1}{12}$ the width and $\frac{1}{6}$ the length of the piece. (c) Medium pitch streak $\frac{1}{6}$ the width and $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the piece. (d) A large pitch streak is not over $\frac{1}{4}$ the width by $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the surface. (e) A very large pitch streak is over $\frac{1}{4}$ the width by $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the surface. (f) A pitch seam is a shake or check which contains pitch.

734 POCKET - A well-defined opening between the rings of annual growth which develops during the growth of the tree. It usually contains pitch or bark. Pockets are described as follows with equivalent areas being permissible: (a) Very small pocket - $\frac{1}{16}$ " in width and 3" in length, or $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and 2" in length. (b) Small pocket - $\frac{1}{16}$ " in width and 6" in length, or $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and 4" in length, or $\frac{1}{4}$ " in width and 2" in length. (c) Medium pocket - $\frac{1}{16}$ " in width and 12" in length, or $\frac{1}{8}$ " in width and 8" in length, or $\frac{3}{8}$ " in width and 4" in length. (d) A large pocket is not over 4 square inches in area. (e) A very large pocket is over 4 square inches in area. (f) A closed pocket has an opening on one surface only. (g) A through or open pocket has an opening on opposite surfaces, and the through opening is considered the same as a through hole of equal size.

END FORM