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THE TAPROOT

WEST WIND HARDWOOD INC

Volume 19
October 2008

By: Shelley Nielsen

Forest Facts:

Two-thirds of British Columbia's land base – 60 million hectares (149 million acres) – is forested.

British Columbia harvests a fraction of one per cent of its forests each year.

Quote of the Month:

Summer's lease hath all too short a date.

William Shakespeare
From Sonnet XVII, 1609

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Latest New

Firring up Business in Seattle

Jan Nielsen (photographer) and Dominic Loiacono attended The Buildex 2008 Trade Show in Seattle, Washington (October 1-2 2008). West Wind Hardwood was showcasing our Solid and Engineered Douglas-fir flooring, as well as our Oli-Natura line of wood finishes. Summing up the tradeshow experience is Jan's comment, *"Lots of interest, good new contacts, and a beautiful city. We will be back."*

Specials

Tennessee Cedar

Internet Special $3.00/BDFT

Tennessee Cedar is a species of juniper native to eastern North America; from southeastern Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, east

Latin name:
Juniperus virginiana family Cupressaceae

Other names:
Virginian Pencil Cedar, Aromatic Cedar, Eastern red cedar.

of the Great Plains. Although commonly called cedar, it is a juniper not a true cedar.

The fine-grained, soft brittle pinkish- to brownish-red heartwoodis fragrant, very light and very durable, even in contact with soil; offering some rot resistance. Because the aromatic wood is avoided by moths it is in demand as lining for clothes chests and closets, often referred to as cedar closets and cedar chests. It was once a premier wood for pencils, and if correctly prepared, it makes excellent English style longbows, flatbows, and sinewed bows.

Contact with the leaves or wood can produce a mild skin rash in some individuals.

Of Interest

Culturally Modified Trees

Definition of CMT:

A CMT is a tree that has been altered by native people as part of their traditional use of the forest. Non-native people also have altered trees, and it is sometimes difficult to determine if an alteration (modification) is of native or non-native origin. There are no reasons why the term "CMT" could not be applied to a tree altered by non-native people. However, the term is commonly used to refer to trees modified by native people in the course of traditional tree utilization. There are many kinds of CMTs in British Columbia. Examples include trees with bark removed, stumps and felled logs, trees tested for soundness, trees chopped for pitch, trees with scars from plank removal, and trees delimbed for wood. Some kinds are

common; others infrequent.

People encountering CMTs are encouraged to make a record of their findings. However, care should be taken to not damage, move, or in any other way impact a CMT or CMT site which may be protected under provisions of the Heritage Conservation Act without the appropriate permit.

Coastal British Columbia consists of the Coast Mountains and the land and islands to the west. Tree use was a part of virtually every aspect of traditional aboriginal life on the Coast. More than a dozen species of trees were used, the most important of
these being the western red cedar. The importance of trees and tree products in the traditional cultures of the Coast is well known and documented in a number of widely available sources.

Burwood Islets - Broughton Archipelago
August 2008

Feature Sto

CARB's: Don't Look Here for Diet Tips.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB), as part of the California Environmental Protection Agency, is setting standards for composite wood products; falling under the airborne toxic control measure (ATCM). California aims to cut greenhouse-gas emissions in the state; setting stringent standards commonly accepted as North America's point of reference.

The mission of CARB is to promote and protect public health, welfare and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering the effects on the economy of the state. Some of their goals include public protection from exposure to toxic air contaminants, the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases

and innovative approaches for complying with air pollution rules and regulations.

The ATCM applies to all hardwood plywood (HWPW), particle board (PB), and medium density fiberboard (MDF), including thin MDF (≤ 8 mm), and finished goods that contain these products that are sold, offered for sale, supplied, used or manufactured for sale in California. The ATCM applies to manufacturers, distributors, importers, fabricators, and retailers of these products, as well as third party certifiers of manufacturers.

Currently, our suppliers of Hydro-tek and Aqua-tek meranti marine plywood have CARB certification (PTC6/CARB-ATCM/MOO1-HWP001). Our primary Russian Birch suppliers for 5x5 have passed their chamber test about 30 days ago and should be receiving certification within the next two weeks, and our primary supplier for Italian Poplar has also passed their chamber tests and should receive their certificate within the next 45 days.

For more information on composite wood (ATCM) please check: http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm.

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THE TAPROOT

WEST WIND HARDWOOD INC

Volume 20
December 2008

By: Shelley Nielsen

Forest Facts:

The **arbutus** is very important to local indigenous cultures. The Saanich used arbutus bark and leaves for medicinal purposes. Straits Salish legend has it that the arbutus provided an anchor against the great flood. Another legend informs us that if the arbutus were to disappear, the Earth would fly apart.

The Salish honour the arbutus tree as their *Tree of Knowledge* because it knows how to find the sun.

According to British Columbia's Big Tree Registry, the largest Arbutus in British Columbia is located on Thetis Island. The circumference at breast height of this specimen is 6.64m. The tree is 35.54m tall and has a crown spread of 25m.

Quote of the Month:

Adults are always asking kids what they want to be

Latest News

Specials

Picking the pieces - *Clearly* a good deal

Building a coffee table, armoire or kitchen cabinets? Or simply needing some good stock in hand?? These prices are too good to pass up.

Clear Cherry Shorts: $3.95 /bfm

Clear Maple Shorts: $3.95 /bfm

Clear Oak Shorts: $3.00 /bfm

Call us at 1-800-667-2275 or email us to place your order.

Of Interest

Spirit of Wood Festival

The Mountain Festival Society is proud to present the Spirit of Wood Festival – an interactive, educational and fun-filled celebration of everything wood! The Spirit of Wood Festival takes place on February 14, 2009 at Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall and Harris Road Park.

Activities include a Wood Showcase and sale featuring local & regional artists, interactive activities, kid's make-and-take stations, chainsaw carving demonstrations, live entertainment and more.

For more information, call 604-460-8300 or email or visit the web page

when they grow up because they are looking for ideas.
Paula Poundstone

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Feature Sto

HOME GROWN - BC WOODS

West Wind Hardwood is proud of our home grown western woods, and would like to share the 'wealth' of forest species with you. There are many choices of fine local BC woods. The diverse softwood and hardwood tree species that grow in British Columbia, allow for a variety of quality wood products in a range of grades. Some of these species are not commercially harvested, but are to be valued in limited quantities.

Red Alder: Known as Western and Oregon alder. The 'red' name comes from the fact that the inner bark turns orange-red when exposed to air. It is one of British Columbia's most important woods. Traditionally used for bowls; it is great for furniture and flooring.

Arbutus: Known as Madrone. It is described as one of the most beautiful boradleaf flowering evergreen deciduous tress, but it is not commercially harvested as it is difficult to season, and warps & checks easily. With care, it can be used for special projects. See the comments in our **Forest Facts**.

Pacific Yew

Arbutus Bark

Western Red Cedar: Known as the Tree of Life, it is British Columbia's official tree. This is a highly valued tree for good reason. Traditionally the wood was used for canoes, totem poles and daily utensils. The fiber produced cloths, baskets and nets. Today, we value the wood for interior paneling, outdoor furniture, decking and cedar strip canoes.

Yellow Cedar: Known as cypress and Alaska yellow cedar, it is not a true cedar. It is commonly used in boat building; with poor steam bending qualities it works well with hand or machine tools.

Cottonwood: Known as Poplar and Balsam. It is named for its resin that has a sweet, balsam odour, and is the tallest of all BC's broad leafed trees. It is commonly used for furniture framing, interior joinery and toys. Lower grades are used for crates and pallets and as pulpwood.

Douglas-fir: Known as Coast Douglas-fir and Oregon pine. It is named after Scottish botanist, David Douglas, who introduced many of BC's conifers to Europe. We at West Wind Hardwood absolutely love this wood. It creates richly coloured flooring and panelling, and is a superb boat wood. Larger timbers are used for heavy-duty construction such as wharfs and

trestles.

Sitka Spruce Bark

Fir Cones - Broughton Archipelago

Western Hemlock: Known as Pacific or West Coast hemlock. It is an important food source for deer and elk, and valued for doors, windows and architectural millwork.

Bigleaf Maple: Known as Pacific or Western maple. It is the largest and fastest growing maple in Canada, and is well named as its leaves are enormous with stems often as long as the leaf. Traditionally it was used for dishes, pipes and paddles; while the inner bark used for rope and baskets. The young shoots were eaten and sap used to make maple syrup. Today we see it used for furniture and musical instruments; especially when selected for its high-figure. The flowers are edible and can be used in salads.

Garry Oak: According to legend, carrying an acorn from the Garry oak helps preserve a youthful appearance. The Garry oak is the only native oak in British Columbia. There is limited commerical harvest and is under protection in some areas; there is some value for flooring and boat construction. Greenhouse experiments have shown that it is a good host for the gourmet truffle.

Lodgepole Pine: Known as Shore, Black, Scrub and Coast pine. It is British Columbia's only native two-needled confier and is found widespread through the province. This pine is susceptible to mountain pine beetle attacks, and to mistletoe invasion, rust and root rot; and is marketed as "*denim pine*". Traditionally, the pitch was used as a base for medicines, poultices and chewed to relieve sore throats. Today, the pine is used in plywood, paneling, furniture and fence posts.

Western White Pine: Known also as silver pine, it is named after the light colour of its wood. It has straight even grain wood with a variety of uses for crates, caskets, matches and paneling/plywood. It is favoured by carvers.

2nd Growth Forest on East Redonda Island

Culturally Modified Western Red Cedar

Sitka Spruce: Known as Coast spruce. It is the largest of BC's spruces, and some indigenous tribes consider Sitka spruce to have magical powers. It is prized for shipbuilding, musical instruments and airplane construction.

Western Yew: Known as Pacific yew. It's English counter-species is thought to have been used for Robin Hood's bow. It is Shelley's absolute favourite wood - no question!! It ages to a beautiful rich cognac colour. There is limited commercial harvest; current forestry practices do not utilize the yew tree and often only the bark is harvested for the cancer-treating 'Taxol'. It was traditionally used for bows, paddles and snowshoe frames.

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THE TAPROOT

WEST WIND HARDWOOD INC

Volume 21
February 2009

By: Romina Falbi Franzoni

Forest Facts:

More than Beaches, Tequila & Mariachi.

- One quarter(55 million hectares) of Mexico's total land area is classified as forest.
- Mexico is home to 50% of all known pine species and 135 species of oak; 48 more than both Canada and USA combined.
- Around 80% of Mexico's forests are owned and managed by local communities.
- Rural communities collect a wide variety of non-timber products, such as edible mushrooms, fibers for construction and handicrafts, and medicinal plants.
- About 34 million hectares currently have timber harvest plans; 502, 656 hectares have been certified under the FSC standards.

Quote of the Month:

Friendship is
a plant of slow growth
and must undergo
and withstand
the shocks of adversity

Latest New

Romina Falbi-Franzoni is the newest addition to the West Wind Hardwood Family. During her co-op term, she will be working in the front office, as she wants to see the inner workings and dynamics of a small business.

Romina was born in Mexico City and finds that Victoria offers her a truly different atmosphere than here home town. She however misses her two Chihuahuas: Sarabi and Valentina. She is currently attending Camosun College and planning to transfer to Royal Roads University for their Bachelor of Commerce program.

Specials

Oli-Natura Oil & Wax Finishes.
Oil & Wax finishes enhance a wood's innate beauty and highlight its natural grain. Its warmth and authenticity creates a pleasing, calm ambiance not seen traditionally in North American floor finishes.

These finishes are made largely from renewable resources: natural vegetable oils and nature related raw materials, Experience the quality of a naturally superior product. Find out more.

Use this coupon to get 10% off the regular price of our Oli-Natura Finishes:

Of Interest

Sylvain L'Etoile began his career in carpentry when he was 18 years old. He found his true passion in the carpentry world to be stairs. "...curved, spiral or straight...they are my favorite thing to build." He enjoys the challenges and creativity of high-end wood projects.

Here are a few examples of his work

before it is entitled to the appellation.

George Washington

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and eye for detail.

Sylyain can be reached at sylletoile@shaw.ca or 250-216-5001.

Oak Curved Stair Case

Front Entrance

Bookcase and Fireplace

Feature Sto

The Lacey Act: Then and Now

The Lacey Act
The Lacey Act is the oldest American wildlife protection statute. It was first enacted in 1900 with the propose of combating hunting practices to supply commercial markets, the killing of birds for feather trade, the shipment of unlawfully killed game and the transportation of illegally captured or prohibited animals across state lines.

On May 2008, the Lacey Act was modified to extend the protection to a wider variety of plants. This new addition to the act (section 8204) makes it illegal to traffic or commercialize, between states or internationally, any illegally source plants or plant products.

The Lacey Act and the Wood Industry:
The new amendments to the Lacey Act directly impact the wood industry because it prohibits the commercialization of any wood and other forest products that are harvested illegally. These new laws were implemented to help prevent illegal logging activities that tend to be harmful; activities that impoverish forest communities, destroy forests, watersheds and habitat, depress global timber prices, unfairly competes with legal production and trade and puts money in pockets of criminals.

Lacey Act Timeline:
The law stated that the declaration requirements would become effective in late 2008, but the US Government has stated that it will not enforce the requirements until the spring of 2009. The government will be publishing updates regarding the phase-in of the declaration requirements.
The New Requirements:
When the new act begins to be enforced, importers will be required to declare the scientific name(s) of any timber contained in the shipment, the value of the importation, the quantity of the wood product and the name of the country or countries from which the timber originated.

Importers will need to obtain this information from their suppliers, and the suppliers will need to keep track of this information on file. The law does

allow, at least initially, for exporters to list multiple likely countries of origin and/or possible species of the wood if that information is unknown. Shipments of wood that do not have the appropriate documentation at the time of entry into the United States would be deemed inadmissible.

Consequences:
The consequences for offenders who knowingly violate the law are considerable, and include civil and criminal penalties, as well as, the seizure and forfeiture of the product. Penalties range from $250 to to an excess of $500,000 with a possibility of jail sentence for knowingly sourcing, or failing to exercise due care when sourcing, products that contain illegal timber or plants.

What It All Means?
These new regulations represent a severe increase in paperwork for most companies since they will have to maintain a much broader paper trail for all wood products sold or shipped into the United States. This may become especially difficult for companies who are not in direct contact with suppliers or who are simply reselling manufactured good (especially goods not initially intended for the USA).

Apart from the increased paper trail and documentation and the possible necessity to keep wood segregated, especially if using various suppliers, a financial cost will likely be seen. Even before this new act came into effect, the implications could be felt. For example real teak (not plantation) is one of the wood species that is affected by this law. Teak has seen its price almost double in the last two years and it is becoming much harder to find as it is now near impossible to import.

Who knows what will be next?