
What's in a name?

We often get a call or customer come in asking for Maple. Which one? Many timbers are known by the same common name. The garden variety Maple seen at timber yards is from Asia and is also known as Meranti. There are a number of species in the Shorea family that are lumped together and sold as Maple. We also have Canadian Rock Maple which is in the Acer family. Totally unrelated to the Asian timbers and yet called the same thing. Sometimes knowing the botanical is necessary to define clearly the timber you are searching for. Ash is another good example. True Ash is a Fraxinus. This family is found in Europe and America. When the English arrived in Australia they found timbers vastly different to those they were used to. Instead of developing all new common names they tagged many of our trees with the same names from the old country. What we know as Victorian Ash is in fact a group of Eucalypts that grow in NSW, VIC and TAS. Because it has a similar appearance to true Ash the name was applied. The more correct common names for some of the species sold as Ash and Tas Oak include Mountain Ash, Alpine Ash, Messmate and Manna Gum. Usually the species are mixed and can be difficult to separate. The mix depends on the mill the timber comes from. It is easy to get confused with common names and sometimes the errors can be costly. If you are in any doubt and need clarification on any of our products feel free to ask and we can advise.

Volume 4, Issue 3

New flooring adhesive

Many of you would be aware we distribute a number of adhesives by Kleiberit. This German company is a world leader in adhesive technology and produces products suited to nearly every application. We have had great success in our own workshop with their glues and now we are about to launch a new flooring adhesive. The 567 parquet and flooring adhesive will stick timbers, particle board etc. We will be launching this product shortly with a presentation by Kleiberit. If you would like to attend the launch please contact us to express your interest. The date will be advised shortly.

New Stock.

I mentioned last month that decking stocks were good. Well we have sold off quite a bit since then and have had some more arrive. Currently we still have mixed hardwood, Merbau and Cypress on hand. We can of course supply both kiln dried and green sawn hardwood as fantastic options for the frame work. How long since you saw 100 x 100 Jarrah? We received a pack this month. First one since 1990 for me. This size is very rare as it takes several years to dry and the losses are high. I don't expect this stock to last too long so if you are interested come in and have a look soon. Other sizes of Jarrah have arrived including 300 x 50, 150 x 38 and 150 x 25. Our stocks of abrasives have been replenished with more flat sheets through to 1200grit now in stock. Glues and oil stocks are also very good and we have a few specials running currently on 500ml interior and BBQ trolley oil.

We have some fantastic fiddleback Qld Maple. This timber is really good and was milled around 60 years ago. If you are seeking something special this may be it.

That's it for another month. Regards *Shaun*.