Sample supplied by Trend Timbers (Sydney)

WOOD NAME: Rose Alder

BOTANICAL NAME: Caldcluvia australiensis, Synonyms: Ackama australiensis and Ackama quadrivalvis.

OTHER COMMON NAMES: Pencil Cedar, Feathertop.

TREE DESCRIPTION: Rose Alder is a medium to large rainforest hardwood growing between Innisfail and Cooktown, and is also on the Atherton Tablelands in North Queensland. It reaches heights of 30 metres (100 feet) and diameters of up to 0.75 metres (2 feet, 6 inches).

COLOUR: The colour of the heartwood is light to deep pinkish-brown, sometimes with a purplish tint.

GRAIN AND TEXTURE: The grain is usually straight, though sometimes interlocked, the texture is fine and uniform.

DENSITY: Average air dry density is 600 kg/m^3

STABILITY: Rose Alder should be moderately stable in service.

DURABILITY: The heartwood is classed as being non-durable. The sapwood is reported to be somewhat resistant to attack by Lyctus borer.

WORKING PROPERTIES: Rose Alder is a moderately hard timber of medium weight. It can be worked with hand and machine tools relatively easily with only a moderate resistance to cutting and slight blunting effect. It has a somewhat brittle nature and for this reason it is not suitable for steam bending. Screw holding ability is good but care is needed in nailing to avoid splitting. Glues well. The wood can be worked to a fine finish due to its fine texture and it takes finishes well. It is used for plywood, interior joinery and small wooden articles including, turnery, shoe heels and brushware.