

# Quality Assurance

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This document outlines the CGNF quality assurance (QA) standards and procedures.

The standards and procedures are:

1. Primary standards – Net Volume and Value.
2. Appraisal standards – timber cruising attributes that do not necessarily affect the volume or value, but affect the appraisal.
3. Plot selection.
4. Quality assurance reporting – the sequence for the reporting levels.

## 4.1 Primary Standards

- a. Mature Net Volume Standard – the original cruise must be within +/- **15%** of the check cruise net volume per hectare.
- b. Second Growth Net Volume Standard – the original cruise must be within +/- **12%** of the check cruise net volume per hectare.
- c. Mature Value Standard – the original cruise must be within +/- **20%** of the check cruise value per m<sup>3</sup>. See Table 22 for the old growth selling prices by species and statutory grades.
- d. Second Growth Value Standard – the original cruise must be within +/- **20%** of the check cruise value per m<sup>3</sup>. See Table 21 for the second growth selling prices by species and statutory grades.

The above standards will be reviewed within one year of implementation based on the results of the check cruises.

The net volume and value calculations will be based on the compilation of the original plots in 1.0 hectare and the check plots in 1.0 hectare.

## 4.2 Appraisal Standards

The current standards in Section 3.6 of the most recent *Cruising Manual* will be used. The appraisal requirements are:

- a. Damage coding – greater than or equal to 90% of the fire, down tree and insect damage codes must be correct.
- b. Plot slope - greater than or equal to 90% of the plot slopes must be within +/- 5 slope percent. The average variation of all slopes checked must be within 5 slope %.
- c. Plot Locations - consistent with the standards in section 3.6 of the *Cruising Manual*.
- d. Sounding.

The check cruiser will use an increment borer when they need to confirm the presence of butt rot determined by sounding. The check cruiser will always apply the 0.8 m length deduction when the boring confirms the presence of rot regardless of the thickness of the sound wood collar.

### **4.3 Plot Selection**

Refer to Section 3.6 of the *Cruising Manual* for the details regarding the risk assessment and sampling intensity for check cruising.

In addition, the following minimum standards will apply:

A minimum of 5 full measure plots must be audited in order to reject a cruise (or other types of plots containing at least 20 volume measure trees), unless agreed to by the licensee or consultant.

#### 4.4 Preparing the Quality Assurance Summary

1. Complete a summary report for each check plot and for all the plots checked.
2. Compile the audit sample to determine whether the net volume and value meet the standards. If the net volume and value standards are not achieved, then the cruise will be rejected and the reasons for the excessive variations documented and signed by the check cruiser.

Note that the net factor for a Z-grade piece is called as per the original cruisers estimate and is not subject to audit.

3. The check cruise report will be sent to the cruiser and licensee.

## Selling Price Comparisons

The value standard is based on the average of the Vancouver Log Market selling prices published by Revenue Branch. The average selling prices by maturity and sorts will be used for calculating the selling prices for check cruising purposes and they will be updated June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year based on the average for the previous 12 months. Further investigation is required to analyse the variation in the selling prices over a two-year period to better understand the volatility of the selling prices. If the prices are stable, then an annual roll-up will be sufficient. Table 20 and 21 are based on the 2005 calendar year. The sort prices/m<sup>3</sup> are weighted by the volume used in the selling price determination for each grade within the sort.

**Table 20 Weighted Coast Selling Prices - Mature Grades**

*(\$/Cubic Metre)*

Sort	Alder	Birch	Maple	Cotton-Wood	Cedar	Cypress	Fir	Hem Bal	Spruce	Pine
B, D, F, G					206	360	332	121	290	54
C				36			151			
H, I	75	75	55	36	120	120	118	62	105	45
J					104	64	81	50	64	61
K, L, M					99					
U, X	75	75	55	36	40	39	44	33	37	28
Y	27	27	20	36	10	11	27	29	28	18
Z, N										

**Table 21 Weighted Coast Selling Prices - 2<sup>nd</sup> Growth**

*(\$/Cubic Metre)*

Sort	Alder	Birch	Maple	Cotton-Wood	Cedar	Cypress	Fir	Hem Bal	Spruce	Pine
B, D, F, G					109	360	91	52	52	54
C				36			98			
H, I	75	75	55	36	95	120	88	46	44	47
J					89	64	77	46	64	61
K, L, M					57					
U, X	75	75	55	36	46	39	42	33	34	28
Y	27	27	20	36	10	11	27	29	29	19
Z, N										

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