

OPTIMIZATION OF OAK TIMBER DRYING

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Abstract: *Oak is one of the most valuable home-grown species which are used in furniture manufacturing, but also one of the most difficult to dry. Severe drying defects are quite frequent and cause significant material losses, as well as value lowering of the dried timber. This paper presents a SWOT analysis upon the most frequently employed drying methods at present, in order to assist industrial specialists in taking a professional decision when choosing one or the other drying method for this material. Several recommendations concerning the optimization of drying schedules are also formulated.*

Key words: *timber drying, oak, SWOT analysis, optimization.*

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