

# PHYSICAL, MECHANICAL PROPERTIES AND CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF BRANCH WOOD, AS A SECONDARY RESOURCE, COMPARED TO WOOD FROM STEM

L. GURĂU<sup>1</sup> M. CIONCA<sup>1</sup> O. ZELENIU<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** *One of the most ignored secondary resources, the branches, are insufficiently known and exploited in spite of limited natural reserves. This paper presents a review of the literature with regard to the main physical characteristics, chemical composition and mechanical properties of branch wood compared to stem wood. Those factors are important to further design added value branch products, understand and predict their mechanical and technological performances.*

**Key words:** *wood branches, density, moisture content, chemical composition, mechanical properties.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Dept. of Wood Technology, Transilvania University of Braşov.